OFFICE MEMORANDUM

To: All College Community

From: Dr. Victor G. Alicea, President

Date: December 7, 2015

Subject: Passing of Mrs. Blanca Cedeno, Wednesday, December 2, 2015
- First Chairperson of the Board of Trustees

It is with the deepest regret that I inform you of the passing of Mrs. Blanca Cedeno, one of the founders of Boricua College and the first Chairperson of the Board of Trustees.

Mrs. Cedeno participated in the creation of many Puerto Rican organizations, including the Puerto Rican Research and Resources Center in Washington, D.C.

In 1973, I was appointed as Director of the Center after the departure of the first director, and from that position and the support and leadership of Mrs. Blanca Cedeno, and others, we founded Universidad Boricua, later Boricua College.

During the decades of the 50's, 60's and 70's Blanca Cedeno was a public servant, champion of the rights of all New York citizens, especially Puerto Ricans, who were underserved by the public systems of New York City. During her years as a Commissioner of the Housing Authority, she worked tirelessly to ensure the "Projects" remained quality housing for all New Yorkers who lived there, including such notables as the Honorable Supreme Court Judge Sonia Sotomayor.

Most important, Blanca was a modern woman who was able to balance her civic duty and professional life with raising a family. Many of the thousands of women that have graduated from Boricua College, follow in Blanca's great footsteps.

May we all be worthy of her legacy, and the patience and fortitude of her husband Adrian.

Blanca, I bid you my warmest goodbye,

Sincerely,

Victor G. Alicea, Ph.D.
President