PRATT
NEWS

DR. S. M. MATTA APPOINTED ACTING DEAN
AT PRATT INSTITUTE

BROOKLYN, N.Y. (July 29, 1991) --Dr. S. M. Matta, a pioneer in library automation, has been appointed Acting Dean of the School of Information and Library Science at Pratt Institute, effective June 1, 1991.

Before MARC and before the term "library automation" entered the vocabulary of librarians, Dr. Matta's research in 1965, known as "The Matta Report", provided a blueprint for replacing massive card catalogs with a computer-based catalog at the New York Public Library - Research Libraries.

In 1973, Dr. Matta published a report proving that Books in Print was not "The Index" to Publishers Trade List Annual. Since then, the publishing industry has saved millions of dollars by abandoning the printing of specifically designed catalogs for the R.R. Bowker Co.

Dr. Matta's research established the MILCS network (1975) serving libraries in the New York Metropolitan area. Today the MILCS data base includes more than 20 million holdings and is used by hundreds of libraries. Dr. Matta's surveys in library automation have covered most public libraries in New York State.

As a United Nations consultant in information and records management, Dr. Matta has written numerous reports and designed projects for several governments in the Persian Gulf including Abu Dhabi, Dubai, Qatar, and the United Arab Emirates. Dr. Matta has been a tenured professor at Pratt School of Information and Library Science since 1975.

Pratt Institute educates more than 3,500 undergraduate and graduate students from 47 states and 70 countries in its schools of Art and Design; Architecture; Engineering; Information and Library Sciences; and Liberal Arts and Sciences. In addition, over 4,000 students attend Pratt's School of Professional Studies. Founded in 1887, Pratt is locatead on a 25-acre campus in the historic Clinton Hill section of Brooklyn, N.Y.

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