Memorandum of Understanding on the Double Degree Program between The Graduate School of Science, Hokkaido University and College of Science, National Cheng Kung University

Under the Academic Exchange Agreement and the Memorandum of Understanding on Student Exchange concluded on January 23, 2013, between the Hokkaido University and National Cheng Kung University, the Graduate School of Science, Hokkaido University and College of Science, National Cheng Kung University implement the double degree program on the doctoral level as follows.

1. Double degree program

The double degree program (hereinafter referred to as a "DD program") shall be a program in which academic degrees are separately conferred on students participating in a DD program (hereinafter referred to as "DD students") who have completed educational programs on the doctoral level provided by each institution based on an inter-university exchange agreement and satisfied the requirements for completion of each institution.

2. Application and admission of the students

Students who will participate in the DD program will be selected initially by the home institution. The institution hosting such students (hereinafter referred to as a "host institution") shall screen the selected students and make final admission decisions in each case. In principle, an application for the DD program shall be made by the deadline set by each institution.

3. Student status

DD students shall be enrolled in both institutions as regular students, and must complete the enrollment procedures by the date set by the host institution.

4. Entrance examination, matriculation and tuition fees

DD students shall continue to pay tuition and other related fees to their home institution. The host institution will waive fees for entrance examination, matriculation and tuition for the DD students from the other institution.

5. Other expenses

Travel, accommodation and other expenses shall be borne by the students and their sponsors, but this shall not preclude an application for scholarships provided by independent organizations.

6. Requirement for completion of a program

DD students shall take study courses and fulfill the requirements for completion of the graduate program at both institutions to obtain an academic degree from each respective institution.

7. Research supervision system

Each institution shall select a chief supervisor and sub-supervisor(s) for the DD students upon consultation prior to accepting the DD students. Supervisors of the host institution shall actively supervise the students regarding credit accumulation and research, and report on their status of enrollment and research progress to the home institution. The period of research supervision at the host institution is one year as a general rule. However, this period may be altered upon approval by both institutions.

8. Dissertation

When applying for an academic degree at the host institution, as a general rule, DD students shall write a thesis in English. However, with the approval of supervisors at the host institution, academic thesis may be written in a language other than English. In this case, the DD students shall submit its abstract in English.

9. Screening of the dissertation

Both institutions shall actively encourage acceptance of faculty member(s) from the other institution as screening committee member(s) when reviewing the dissertation at each institution. In principle, examiners' travel and other expenses shall be borne by the students' home institution. A TV conference system and other similar systems may be used in academic thesis review as needed.

10. Academic grade and credit approval

Each institution agrees to provide to the other documentation of course work completed by the students and appropriate academic information on their performance. Units passed at one institution can be accepted for credits at the other institution. The number of credits earned at each institution can be mutually counted as the number of credits required for completion at each institution.

11. Health insurance

DD students shall purchase the health insurance required by the host institution. The costs of any health insurance required, as well as any medical expenses not covered by such insurance, will be the personal responsibility of the DD students.

12. Safety management for DD students

During the period of student's stay at the host institution, both institutions will work cooperatively to ensure the safety of the students.

13. Duration of the Memorandum of Understanding

This Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) will be effective from the date of signing by both parties and remain in force for the same period as that of the Academic Exchange Agreement between Hokkaido University and National Cheng Kung University. This MoU may be terminated by six months' advance notice in writing to the other. In the event of termination of this MoU, both institutions shall provide all support services stated above for the DD students until the end of their programs.

14. Revision of the MoU

This MoU may be revised by a written agreement signed by both institutions.

15. Miscellaneous

In addition to the provisions set forth in this MoU, details for the implementation of the DD program may be separately determined upon consultation of both institutions.

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