MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

BETWEEN

DURBAN UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY, South Africa
and
Afe Babalola University, Ado Ekiti, Nigeria

1. Introduction

In the pursuit of excellence in scholarship and dissemination of knowledge to generate reciprocal benefit within a framework of openness, fairness, and equity, that will serve both the partners, the Durban University of Technology, South Africa and the Afe Babalola University, Ado Ekiti (ABUAD), Ekiti State, Nigeria hereby sign a Memorandum of Understanding (“MoU”) for Academic Collaboration. The Durban University of Technology and the Afe Babalola University, Ado Ekiti (ABUAD) are hereinafter referred to as the “Parties”. Through this MoU, the parties express their intention, in principle, to facilitate and develop a meaningful and mutually beneficial relationship, and to encourage the development of new collaborative undertakings.

The two parties have mutually agreed to the following:

2. Purposes

The aim of this MoU is to provide for cooperation on academic activities of the two institutions that will strengthen mutual understanding, foster friendly co-
operation, and to promote sustainable and productive academic collaboration and exchange between faculty, students and research of both the parties in integrated learning programs.

3. Activities Envisaged

In pursuit of the aim of the MoU, the two institutions may develop specific activities to implement the mutual understanding set forth in this agreement. These shall in every case be subject to mutual consent and the availability of adequate resources, and shall be set forth in supplementary agreement protocols.

The Parties hereby agree to undertake to promote, within the framework of the provisions of the respective governments’ regulations applying in each of the institutions, the following activities:

3.1 Academic Collaboration

3.1.1 Research collaboration, including joint research projects in areas of mutual interest.
3.1.2 In so far as research can be promoted by a period of residence at the partner university, both universities agree to appropriately support members of the partner university. Each will ensure that visiting academics are integrated well into existing research terms and, if possible make working space available to them.
3.1.3 Exchange of faculty members and research personnel. The number, timing and duration of such exchanges may vary according to the needs of the particular program (refer to particular departmental MoU – if relevant).
3.1.4 Exchange of academic information and materials, publications, research databases, and courseware.
3.1.5 Sharing of library resources such as research papers, indices, books and magazines on relevant subjects where possible and appropriate.
3.1.6 Sponsoring and conducting joint conferences, seminars, colloquia, training programs, workshops and other academic meetings on matters of mutual interest.
3.1.7 Extending invitations for attending scholarly and technical meetings and assisting in making arrangements for attending national and international conferences.
3.1.8 Offering of joint or each partner’s programme on mutual agreement.

3.2 Exchange of Students

3.2.1 Each institution may exchange students upon mutual agreement, for a period not exceeding one year.

3.2.2 The home institution will screen student applications and recommend students to the host institutions for an invitation.

3.2.3 Students will perform duties in the relevant academic department as agreed upon by the departmental supervisor.

3.2.4 Transcripts of result will be provided to the home institution soon after the completion of the exchange.

3.2.5 Each student will register and pay tuition and required fees at the home institution. The host institution will waive tuition if the student follows the agreed upon academic program, which may include limited choices made at the host institution even after commencement of the exchange, negotiated with the host/contact person.

3.2.6 Students enrolled at the host institution will be subject to the same rules and regulations as local students. Students will be eligible for all the services and rights normally provided to local enrolled students.

3.2.7 Each student will be responsible for arranging the necessary relevant immigration requirements (e.g. a study permit).

3.2.8 Students are responsible for cost of accommodation, international and local travel in host country, books, equipment, health insurance and other expenses arising out of the exchange.

3.2.9 The host institution may refer an exchange student for language assessment if necessary/applicable.

4. General considerations

4.1 The terms of, and the necessary resources for, such joint activities and exchange programs shall be discussed and mutually agreed upon in writing by both parties through the liaison officers specified by the parties prior to the initiation of the particular activity or program.

4.2 Each party should approve any funding for such activities internally. The parties may also go for external funding. The final approval of any project is subject to the approval of both institutions and will be dependent, in part, upon the availability of guaranteed support funds.
4.3 It is the intention of the institutions that all research derived from the collaborative efforts of the two parties will be the joint property of both parties, proportionate to the parties respective contributions, unless otherwise specified in a particular departmental MoU or the specific institutional policies on Intellectual Property.

4.4 The activities under the MoU will be undertaken by specific appointees from each institution.

5. Communication between the Institutions

Both institutions shall communicate with each other on a need to basis, through their respective International Relations offices. The contact persons for the Durban University of Technology is Dr Lavern Samuels, for the Afe Babalola University, Ado Ekiti (ABUAD) is Professor Ayodele Ajayi

6. Duration of the Agreement

The agreement shall take effect upon approval by both parties, shall be effect for an initial period of five years. If the two institutions agree, it shall be renewed for an additional period of five years upon an official exchange of letters. This process shall be used to renew the agreement for each five-year period.

7. Amendments to the Agreement

Any amendment of and/or modification to the MoU will require the written approval from both parties.

8. Cooperation monitoring and progress report

The agreement shall operate as both disciplines specific and interdisciplinary projects by individual and collective members of each institution. The institutions` representatives as stated in will be responsible for the collection of written reports on any projects relevant to the cooperation.

9. Specific Partner Memoranda of Understanding (MoU)
Cooperation goals and objectives for each project must be clearly stated with clearly defined target dates and financial obligations from each partner in separate Memoranda of Understanding between collaborative partners.

10. Financial Obligation

No financial obligation is presupposed on either party. Each partner will take care of its own financial obligation, except by mutual agreement.

11. Termination

Either party may terminate the agreement at any time after consultation and mutual agreement with three months prior written notice. The said termination would not affect the faculty or students from either institutions participating in a current exchange, thus enabling them to complete the agreed duration of their participation.

Signed on behalf of the
Durban University of Technology

Professor Sibusiso Moyo
Deputy Vice Chancellor:
Research Innovation and Engagement

Signed on behalf of the
Afe Babalola University, Ado Ekiti (ABUAD)

Professor Damilola S. Olawuyi, SAN
Deputy Vice Chancellor
Academic, Research, Innovation, and Strategic Partnerships

As witness

Name: Prof Fulufhelo Netswera
Position: Executive Dean: FMS
Date: 26-06-2021

As witness

Name: Prof. Ademola Azeez
Position: Provost, CSMS
Date: 30/06/2021
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