

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

BETWEEN

**INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, KHARAGPUR (IIT-KGP),
INDIA
AND
RHEIN-WAAL UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES, GERMANY**

Preamble

IIT-KGP and Rhein-Waal University have agreed for a long-term institutional collaboration in education and research. The primary objective is to promote contact and collaboration between faculty, staff and students, carry out joint research programmes including joint supervision of research students on a strictly reciprocal basis. The relationship also aims at enhancing the technological, social and cultural relations of both countries/states/regions. This document presents a general framework for such a relationship. It also includes some specifically identified areas of cooperation, which shall be updated from time to time.

Participation and Coordination

The partnership shall initially be between the following:

- For Rhein-Waal University of Applied Sciences:
 - Faculty of Technology and Bionics
 - Faculty of Life Sciences
 - Faculty of Society and Economics
 - Faculty of Communications and Environment
- For IIT-KGP :
 - Department of Agricultural & Food Engineering
 - Department of Biotechnology
 - Department of Mechanical Engineering
 - Electronics and Communication Engineering
 - School of Medical Science and Technology
 - Material Science Centre

Professor Dr. -Ing. Thorsten Brandt and Mr. Goutam Saha shall be the Coordinator from Rhein-Waal University and Professor Rintu Banerjee shall be the Coordinator from IIT-KGP. The participants and Coordinators may change from time to time as decided by appropriate authority of the respective institutions.

Areas of Cooperation

The following have been identified as possible starting points of the partnership. The areas of cooperation can be further increased by the mutual consent. In many cases specific programmes will require other agreements to be separately detailed out and documented.

- (i) Faculty exchange programme: The two parties will examine the possibility of creating equal number of Visiting Faculty positions at respective institutions for faculty exchange. The total duration of faculty visits from each side will be approximately equal over a two-year period.
- (ii) Research student exchange programme: The two parties agree to participate in an International research students programme by creating an equal number of doctoral positions at the respective institutions. These students will be supervised jointly by one supervisor each from each of the institutions and will spend a minimum of six months to a maximum of two years at the foreign institution.
- (iii) Undergraduate Student exchange programme: Such visits will be formulated both for short term (like summer/winter training or short certificate courses) as well as for semester-wise registration. A detailed document on this (including credit transfer issues) will be examined and prepared. This has to be ratified by the highest academic bodies of the two institutions before this programme starts.
- (iv) Cooperative research projects: The two parties will define joint collaborative research projects between faculty and/or research groups. Collaborating faculty will approach various funding agencies to submit joint project proposals. Focus will be given to industry-funded projects and those funded by international agencies.
- (v) Coordinated graduate degree programme: Based on the experience gained through exchange of research students under (ii), a joint integrated PhD programme with stress on research in areas of mutual interest may be explored and formulated. A detailed document on this will be prepared and ratified by the highest academic bodies of the two institutions before this programme starts.
- (vi) Continuing and distance education: IIT-KGP and Rhein-Waal University will formulate a joint distance education programme based on the expertise available in both institutions. They will also share and carry out joint research in technology for distance and computer-based learning.

Intellectual Property

Each institution will adhere to the intellectual laws of their respective nations. Intellectual property developed during the visit of an exchange student will be governed by the rules of the host institute unless otherwise specified by an alternate agreement. The two institutions shall jointly own results of clearly defined collaborative projects and Research Student exchange programmes. This joint ownership entitles each party to commercialize and create derivatives independently. Whenever one institution receives any information from the partner under a clearly defined non-disclosure agreement, necessary steps will be taken to protect the intellectual property received.

Financing

The two institutions will allocate seed funds to carry out this partnership. In addition they will also approach their own governments, international funding agencies and industries. Special attention will be given to obtain funded projects from industry as well as from alumni to support this collaboration.

Both institutes will provide tuition fee waivers to the exchange students. The host institute will arrange for accommodation and food at reasonable cost to exchange students and faculty. Travel costs are the responsibility of the traveling party. However, various external funding sources could be explored either independently or jointly.


Validity

This agreement is valid for an initial period of five years and becomes effective from the date it is signed by the partners. The partnership period may be extended by mutual consent. In case one partner wishes to cancel the contract, intimation will have to be sent by June of that year. In that case the agreement will terminate at the end of year i.e. 31st December.



Prof. Dr. Marie-Louise Klotz
President, Rhein-Waal University of
Applied Sciences,
Kleve, Germany

Date: 2013/02/27


27.2.13

Prof. S. K. Som
Director (Officiating),
Indian Institute of Technology,
Kharagpur, India

Date: 27. 2. 13.