

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING FOR INSTITUTIONAL
COLLABORATION**

BETWEEN

INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY KHARAGPUR

Kharagpur, West Bengal, INDIA

AND

THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA

Tuscaloosa, Alabama USA

Preamble

The Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur (IIT-KGP) and The Board of Trustees of The University of Alabama (UA) through its affiliate The University of Alabama wish to create a long-term institutional partnership in education and research. The primary objectives are to promote contact and collaboration between faculty, staff, and students, carry out joint research programs, and promote exchange experiences in education and research. The partnership also aims at enhancing the technological, social and cultural relations of both countries, states, and regions. This document presents a general framework for such a partnership. It also proposes some specifically identified areas of cooperation.

Coordination

Professor Samit Roy of UA's College of Engineering, Department of Aerospace Engineering and Mechanics, shall be the Coordinator from UA and Professor Bhrigu Nath Singh of IIT-KGP's Department of Aerospace Engineering shall be the Coordinator from IIT-KGP. The coordinators may change from time to time as decided by competent authority of the respective institutions.

Scope of Cooperation

The following have been identified as possible areas of cooperation for the partnership. In all cases specific programs will require a separate agreement.

- (i) Exchange of information and experience: Representatives of both partners should arrange joint meetings as and when needed to exchange experiences in education and research and to prepare joint projects. A joint seminar/workshop/conference/short-term course may be held once in two years to present the results of this partnership.
- (ii) Faculty and student exchange programs: The partners will examine the possibility of creating Visiting Faculty positions at the respective institutions for faculty exchange. The partners will also examine the possibilities for student movement between the institutions, such as international summer/winter term (ISWT) or winter/summer training/programs or short certificate courses) as well as for semester long study. A

detailed agreement on this (including credit transfer issues) will be discussed. Any such agreement must be ratified by the highest academic bodies of the two institutions before this program starts.

- (iii) Cooperative research projects: The two partners 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.
- (iv) Coordinated graduate degree program: A dual integrated MS-PhD/M. Tech-PhD program with stress on research in areas of mutual interest will be explored and discussed.
- (v) Continuing and distance education: IIT-KGP and UA will explore and discuss a dual distance education program 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.

Detailed agreements on the above possible areas of cooperation (including credit transfer issues) will be discussed and prepared. Any such agreements must be ratified by the highest academic bodies of the two institutions before any of the programs listed above starts.

Intellectual Property

Each institution will adhere to the intellectual laws of its nation. Intellectual property developed during the visit of an exchange student/researcher/faculty/staff will be governed by the rules of the host institution unless otherwise specified. The two institutions shall jointly own results of clearly defined collaborative projects and exchange programmes. This joint ownership also entitles each party to explore commercialization. However, transfer of jointly developed technology and associated sharing of revenue shall be governed by a separate agreement.

Furthermore, if one institution receives any information from the partner under a clearly defined non-disclosure agreement, all necessary and reasonable care will be taken to protect the intellectual property received.

Financing

The two institutions will try to develop a funding pool from various external sources to carry out this partnership. They will not only try to arrange some possible funding from their own resources, but also vigorously approach their own governments, international funding agencies and industries. Special attention will be given to obtain funded projects from industry to support this collaboration. Funding from alumni will also be solicited for some of the programs.

The institutions shall try to set up endowment funds for Visiting Faculty positions.

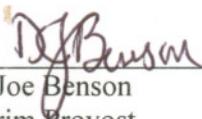
Legal Status

This document is a statement of intent to foster genuine and mutually beneficial cooperation and is not legally binding on either party. Any disputes shall be resolved through mutual discussion.

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 terminate the MOU, written notice must be given at least six months in advance. However, specific commitments made prior to such notice shall be honoured by both the partners.

On Behalf of The University of Alabama:

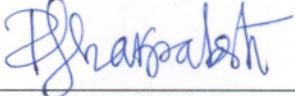

Dr. Joe Benson
Interim Provost

Date:

3/30/15



On Behalf of the Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur


Prof. P. P. Chakrabarti
Director

Date:

05/03/2015

Director
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Kharagpur - 721302, India