

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING FOR INSTITUTIONAL COLLABORATION  
BETWEEN  
INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY KHARAGPUR (IITKGP)  
AND  
DWIGHT LOOK COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY (TAMU)**

**Preamble**

Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur (IITKGP) is a reputed institution of higher learning situated at Kharagpur, India, 721302.

The Dwight Look College of Engineering at Texas A&M University (TAMU) located in College Station, Texas, USA is consistently ranked among the nation's top public programs.

IITKGP and TAMU have agreed for institutional collaboration in education and research. The primary objective is to promote interaction and collaboration between faculty, staff and students of the two institutions through visits and faculty exchange programmes, carry out academic and research programmes, joint supervision of doctoral and masters students. 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 may be updated with the development of formal Memoranda of Agreement.

**Coordination**

Professor Debjyoti Banerjee shall be the Coordinator from TAMU and Professor Souvik Bhattacharyya shall be the Coordinator from IITKGP. The participants and Coordinators may change from time to time as decided by appropriate authority of the respective institutions.

**Scope of Cooperation**

The following areas of cooperation have been identified under this agreement.

- (i) **Faculty exchange programme:** The two parties will explore opportunities for interaction among members of faculty as well as creating Visiting Faculty positions. The total duration of visits from each side is expected to be approximately equal. Each such visit shall require approval of the respective institutions.
- (ii) **Student programme:** The two parties agree to consider hosting short term visiting students at the respective institutions.

- (iii) Joint research projects: The two parties will explore opportunities of undertaking joint research projects and may seek research funding from external funding agencies. Each such research proposal shall require approval of the respective institutions.
- (iv) Coordinated graduate degree programme: Dual PhD/Masters programmes may be explored and formulated, possibly in association with other reputed academic, research or industrial organisations. A detailed document related to such programmes will be required and approved by the competent authorities of both the institutions, before implementation.
- (v) Joint academic activities and events: IITKGP and TAMU may formulate joint academic activities such as short course, seminars, workshops or conferences based on mutual interests and available expertise in both the institutions. They may also share and carry out joint research in technology for distance and computer-based learning.

The areas of cooperation may be revised by mutual consent. However, specific programmes, activities and projects may require separate agreements detailed out and documented as annexures to this MoU.

### **Financing**

The two institutions may consider allocating seed money to initiate this partnership. In addition they may also approach their own governments, international funding agencies and industries. Special attention may be given to obtain funded projects from industry as well as from alumni to support such collaborations.

There are no financial obligations for the contract partners as a result of this contract. However, both will seek to raise third-party (external) funds to finance the activities that arise as a result of this contract. All costs shall be borne by the visitor or otherwise as mutually agreed on by both institutions.

### **Legal Status**

This document is a statement of intent to foster genuine and mutually beneficial cooperation and is not legally binding on both the parties. 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 in writing the MoU, intimation will have

to be sent at least six months in advance. However, specific commitments made prior to such intimation shall be honoured by both the partners.

M.K. Banks

M. Katherine Banks, Ph.D., P.E.  
Vice Chancellor and Dean of Engineering  
Dwight Look College of Engineering  
Texas A&M University, College Station  
Texas, USA

Date : 7-21-15

N.K. Anand

N.K. Anand, Ph.D., P.E.  
Executive Associate Dean of Engineering

Date: July 17, 2015

Souvik Bhattacharya

Prof. Souvik Bhattacharyya  
Deputy Director and  
Professor of Mechanical Engineering  
IIT Kharagpur, Kharagpur, India

Date : July 17, 2015

Siddhartha Mukhopadhyay

Prof. Siddhartha Mukhopadhyay  
Dean, AA&IR and  
Professor of Electrical Engineering  
IIT Kharagpur, Kharagpur, India

Date: July 17, 2015

Maria Claudia Alves Baudier

Maria Claudia Alves Baudier  
Director for Engineering International Programs

Date: 07/15/2015

Debjyoti Banerjee

Debjyoti Banerjee, Ph.D., P.E.  
Associate Professor,  
Department of Mechanical Engineering

Date: 07/15/2015