Draft Template of

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING FOR INSTITUTIONAL COLLABORATION BETWEEN INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY KHARAGPUR (IITKGP), AND UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI CATANIA, Catania, ITALY (UNICT)

Preamble

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

UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI CATANIA, Catania, ITALY (UNICT) is the oldest University in Sicily (Italy).

IITKGP and **UNICT** 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 exchange programmes, carry out "**joint academic and research programmes", "joint supervision of doctoral and masters students"**on a 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 may be updated from time to time.

Coordination

Professor Rosolino Cirrincione shall be the Coordinator from **UNICT** and **Professor Manish A. Mamtani** 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 exchange programme: The two parties agree to participate in student exchange programme at the respective institutions. Visits under such programmes may be for a short duration, such as summer/winter terms or short courses, or for a longer duration not exceeding two semesters. For visits exceeding two semesters separate approvals

will be needed. A detailed proposal document on this (including credit transfer issues) has to be approved by the highest academic bodies of the two institutions before implementation.

(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: Joint PhD/Masters programmes may be explored and formulated, possibly in association with other reputed academic, research or industrial organizations. 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 **UNICT** 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 may require separate agreements detailed out and documented as annexures to this MoU.

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 institute unless otherwise specified. The two institutions shall jointly own results of clearly defined collaborative projects and exchange programmes. 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, necessary and reasonable care will be taken to protect the intellectual property received.

Financing

The two institutions will consider allocating seed money to initiate 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 such collaborations.

The parties through the respective competent institutions will provide the faculty, doctoral students, graduates and students with the necessary conditions for a prosperous and comfortable stay. Travel, mission, housing and insurance costs, as well as any other financial profile, will be subject to specific regulations within the individual collaboration programs

that will be agreed upon. Both universities undertake to seek funding and other forms of support for students and teachers who will participate in the exchange.

Legal Status

Any disputes shall be resolved through mutual discussion. Any academic dispute on the interpretation and implementation of this agreement may be subject to examination by an Academic Commission consisting of a representative of each party and one chosen by common accord.

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 with written agreement.
In case one partner wishes to terminate 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.

Prof. Francesco Basile
Rector
Università degli Studi di Catania
IL PRORETTORE
Prof. Giancarlo Magnano San Lio

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Date : 11/1/2018

Prof. Partha Pratim Chakrabarti
Director
Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur
Kharagpur, India

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Date : 31/1/18