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Dear Professor Suman Chakraborty  
Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur  
School of Medical Science and Technology

Our reference  
VRT-RLR-011/2018

date  
19/01/2018

**subject**

Memorandum of Understanding  
between University of Minho,  
Braga, Portugal, and Indian  
Institute of Technology  
Kharagpur (IITKGP)

**mensagem**

Dear Professor Suman Chakraborty,

Following to what was agreed, we are sending 1 original of the Memorandum of Understanding between University of Minho, Braga, Portugal, and Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur (IITKGP) duly signed by both parties.

Thank you very much in advance.

Best regards,

Ariana Santos

On behalf of the Vice-Rector for Research and Innovation of University of Minho,  
Prof. Rui L. Reis

**Memorandum of Understanding**  
**for**  
**Institutional Collaboration**  
***between***  
**Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur (IITKGP),**  
***and***  
**University of Minho, Portugal, (UMINHO)**

**Preamble**

**Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur (IITKGP)** is located in Kharagpur, West Bengal - 720132, India. IITKGP is an Institute of National importance. IITKGP is an autonomous Institute, supported by Government of India. IITKGP draws the best expertise in science, technology, management and law so as to equip students with the skills to visualize, synthesize and execute projects in these fields and imbibes a spirit of entrepreneurship and innovation in its students. It is a reputed centre of higher learning and research, specializing in different areas of engineering, basic sciences, and also applied biological sciences as well as medical science and technology. IITKGP offers Bachelors, Masters and Ph.D programmes in diverse areas cutting across the above domains. This provides opportunity to undertake ground-breaking research in the area as mentioned, as well as new technologies for the larger benefit of society.

**The University of Minho (UMINHO)**, with campi in Braga and in Guimarães, is a public Portuguese University founded in 1973. It is currently among the most prestigious institutions of higher education in Portugal, and it has also gradually come to strongly assert itself on the international scene. The work developed by UMINHO is mainly defined by the production of scientific knowledge, which is also understood as a means of enhancing its educational provision as well as interaction with society. UMinho presents itself as a research University and that characterization has been acknowledged in numerous assessments carried out by international agencies. At the UMINHO, research is organized in research centres, which are sub-units of the various teaching and research units. At present, the University has 32 research centres and it hosts the European Institute of Excellence in Tissue Engineering and Regenerative Medicine and The Discoveries Center for Regenerative and Precision Medicine, the only Institutes of this kind to have a base in Portugal. The research carried out at its 3B's Research Group – Biomaterials, Biodegradables and Biomimetics, a member of the ICVS/3B's Portuguese Government Associate Laboratory, is one of the flagships of the University and of the Portuguese science landscape.

IITKGP and UMINHO 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, and collaborative research on specific area(s) among the faculties/scientists 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 Suman Chakraborty**, Professor of Mechanical Engineering and Head, School of Medical Science and Technology, Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur, West Bengal - 721302, India, Telephone: +91-3222282990 (O), +91-3222-282991 (R), Fax: +91-3222-282278, Email: [suman@mech.iitkgp.ernet.in](mailto:suman@mech.iitkgp.ernet.in) and **Professor Mahitosh Mandal**, School of Medical Science and Technology, Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur, West Bengal - 721302, India, Telephone: 91-3222- 283578, Cell +91 9434896984, Email: [mahitosh@smst.iitkgp.ernet.in](mailto:mahitosh@smst.iitkgp.ernet.in) shall be the Coordinators from IIT Kharagpur.

**Professor Dr. Rui L Reis**, Vice Rector for Research, Full Professor, and Director of the 3B's Research Group, University of Minho, Headquarters of the European Institute of Excellence on Tissue Engineering and Regenerative Medicine AvePark - 4805-017 Barco, Guimaraes, Portugal, Telephone: +351 253 510902 (Direct office), Fax: +351 253 510909, E-mail: [rlreis@reitoria.uminho.pt](mailto:rlreis@reitoria.uminho.pt), shall be the Coordinator from UMINHO.

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 Ph.D/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 UMINHO 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. 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, necessary and reasonable care will be taken to protect the intellectual property received.

## **Financing**

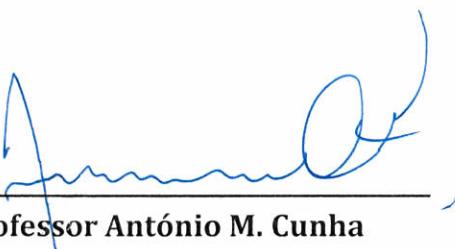
Both institutes will provide tuition fee waivers to the visiting students. The host institute will make arrangements for local living including accommodation, food, insurance etc. at reasonable costs to visiting students and faculty. All travel costs shall be borne by the visitors or their home institution. However, various external funding sources may be explored either independently or jointly.

## **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 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.



**Professor António M. Cunha**  
Rector  
University of Minho  
Braga, Portugal.

Date : 10<sup>th</sup> Nov 2017



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

Date : 10<sup>th</sup> Nov 2017