



Scientific and Academic Cooperation Agreement
between
Damascus University in the Syrian Arab Republic
and
Universidade de São Paulo in Brazil

Damascus University in the Syrian Arab Republic and Universidade de São Paulo in Brazil hereinafter referred to as the "Parties";

desirous to develop and deepen their relationships of scientific cooperation and academic exchange,

have agreed as follows:

Article /1/ Objective of the Agreement

This Agreement aims at enhancing and developing the scientific, academic and research cooperation as well as encouraging student and academic exchange between the Parties on the basis of equality and mutual benefit.

Article /2/ Areas of Cooperation

Both Parties have agreed to cooperate in the following areas:

- a. Carrying out joint research projects.
- b. Organizing joint educational and scientific activities, such as courses, conferences, seminars, symposiums, and lectures.
- c. Exchanging academic staff members, lecturers, and researchers for lecturing, professional development, seminars, and consultations on educational issues for the benefit of both Parties.



- d. Exchanging Students of all academic levels (undergraduate, postgraduate and (MA and Ph.D. students) and young scientists for study and scientific training in areas of mutual interest.
- e. Exchanging publications and periodicals issued by the two Parties in areas of mutual interest.
- f. Any other areas mutually agreed upon by the Parties.
- g. With the exception of mobility for teaching staff, researchers and graduate students, for the purpose of implementing each specific cooperation activity, both institutions shall prepare a work program describing the forms, the means and the respective responsibilities, which shall thereupon be the object a Specific Agreement, to be executed by the concerned Parties.

Article /3/ Exchange of Visits and Students

- a. The Parties shall exchange the short-term visits of academic and administrative staff members with the aim of exchanging information and expertise and participating in various academic activities. This exchange should be subjected to the laws and regulations enforced in both countries.
- b. The Parties shall exchange the long-term visits of academic staff members as visiting professors or delegates in order to carry out academic research missions. Expenses shall be managed separately through official correspondence. The exchange of academic staff members should be subjected to the laws and regulations enforced in both countries, especially those of secondment, compensations, and residence.
- c. The Parties shall exchange students of all academic levels for the purpose of academic qualifying and training. This exchange should be under the registration and admission laws and the regulations governing student exchange and should be done on the basis of the principle of reciprocity.



Article /4/ Commitments

- a. Each Party shall exert its best efforts to procure funding from internal or external sources, so as to ensure the feasibility of the cooperation programs under this Agreement.
- b. The Parties shall undertake to support participants in the work programs by providing the required information and facilities for the cooperation and by settling problems related to organizational issues, which should be done in accordance with the enforced regulations in both countries.
- c. The Parties undertake to set items such as exchange conditions of students and staff, budgets, sources of financing, responsibilities of each Party for the agreed upon activities and other items necessary for the efficient and joint realization of activities and under subsequent Executive Programs, subject to the specific conditions of each case.

Article /5/ Intellectual Property Rights

- a. The intellectual property rights created under the present Agreement will belong to the Party that created them.
- b. The Parties shall conclude a separate agreement that includes legal protection and utilization and ensuring of confidentiality of such intellectual property rights that jointly were created by the Parties.
- c. The Parties are committed to the protection of intellectual property rights in accordance with the relevant laws and the national rules and regulations and the agreements in force in the two countries.

Article /6/ Confidentiality

- a. The Parties shall undertake to observe the confidentiality of all documents, information, data and results which are disclosed, in writing or orally, by the disclosing Party to the receiving Party, and each Party shall treat and answer information confidentially and shall not disclose it to any third Party without a prior permission of the other Party.



- b. The Parties shall abide by the provisions of this Article after the termination of this Cooperation Agreement.

Article /7/ Dispute Settlement

Any dispute that may arise between the Parties regarding the interpretation or the implementation of this Agreement shall be settled amicably by direct consultation and negotiations or through diplomatic channels without referring to any third Party.

Article /8/ Final Provisions

- a. This Agreement shall enter into force from the date of reception of the written notification in which one Party notifies the other, through diplomatic channels, about the completion of the internal procedures required for its entry into force.
- b. This Agreement shall be valid for a period of five years. Upon the completion of this term, the Agreement may be reedited, upon the assent of both institutions, and such renewal shall take the form of a new Agreement. This Agreement may be terminated at any time, by either Party, providing that notifying the other in writing and through diplomatic channels, about its intention to terminate it six months prior to its date of expiration.
- c. The termination of this Agreement will not affect any ongoing activities until their completion.
- d. Either Party may amend, change, or add any item or article of this Agreement by mutual written consent through diplomatic channels. These amendments, changes or additions will enter into force according to the same procedures mentioned in item /a/ of this Article, and it will be considered as an integrated part of it.
- e. With the aim of implementation this Agreement, the two Parties agree to sign Executive Programs, based on their desire and the available resources, to determine the mechanisms and details of implementation of the provisions of this Agreement.



- f. As coordinators for this Agreement, the following are appointed: on behalf of USP, The Provost of USP International Cooperation Office (AUCANI), and on behalf of Damascus University, the Director of the International and Cultural Office in Damascus University.
- g. This Agreement does not give any Party the right to be a procurator or a representative of the other Party and does not either constitute a joint venture partnership or an official business of either of the Parties.
- h. The execution of this Agreement is subject to the enforced laws and regulations in both countries.

Done and signed in Damascus on *04 July 2021*, and in São Paulo on July 1st, 2021, in two original copies in Arabic, Portuguese and English languages. All the texts have the same authenticity; in case of any divergence in interpretation, the English text shall prevail.

For Damascus University
in the Syrian Arab Republic

President

Prof. Dr. Mhd. Yassar Abdin



For Universidade São Paulo
in Brazil

Por delegação do M. Rector
Portaria GI 6580/2014
Valmor Alberto Augusto Tricoli
Presidente do Acesso USP de
Cooperação Acadêmica
Nacional e Internacional

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Rector

Prof. Dr. Vahan Agopyan