

التوقيع ١١/١٢/٢٠١٥  
المدة ٥ سنوات  
تحدد بموافقة الطرفين

النسخة الأصلية في الوزارة  
النسخة الموجودة بالإنجليزية فقط

**Memorandum of Understanding between  
the Ministry of Higher Education (MHE), Syria  
&  
The Université de Montréal (UdeM), Canada**

Whereas there is mutual interest on the part of the Université de Montréal and university-level institutions in Syria to further develop their cooperation by encouraging mobility of students, professors and researchers,

Whereas both parties wish to encourage the training of graduate students of Syria at the Université de Montréal

The Ministry of Higher Education (MHE) and the Université de Montréal (UdeM) agree on the following:

**Article 1 Objectives**

- 1.1 The creation of favourable conditions for cooperation between Syrian and UdeM professors, researchers and students, based on joint research and training projects of mutual interest;
- 1.2 The training and exchange of doctoral students, postdoctoral students and researchers;
- 1.3 The exchange of scientific information and specialized documentation,
- 1.4 The creation of a high-level scholarship program for graduate students. The Program will be known as the Joint Scholarship Program of the Ministry of Higher Education of Syria and the Université de Montréal

**Article 2 Fields of cooperation**

All fields of common interest to both parties in humanities, social sciences, health sciences and natural sciences will be considered. Engineering and business administration are excluded.

**Article 3 Implementation**

- 3.1 MHE will be responsible for the implementation of the Agreement in Syria: formal announcements of the Agreement will be made in Syrian universities.
- 3.2 UdeM will be responsible for the implementation of the Agreement in Canada;
- 3.3 Interested Syrian universities shall be required to present to MHE projects which they have already agreed upon with potential partners of UdeM: the projects shall be approved in writing by a person in authority of MHE and by the Vice-rector responsible for international relations at UdeM;
- 3.4 The scope of the activities under the Agreement shall be subject to funds available in Syria and in Canada.

**Article 4 Description of the Joint Scholarship Program for graduate students of Syria**

- 4.1 The Program will provide Syrian students with the opportunity to follow a complete program at the Master's and PhD levels;
- 4.2 An annual maximum five scholarships at the PhD level will be awarded in years 1,2 and 3 of the Program. There will be a maximum of 15 on-going doctoral students per year in the years to follow;
- 4.3 An annual maximum of two scholarships at the Master's level will be awarded in years 1,2 and 3 of the Program. There will be a maximum of 6 on-going students at the Master's level per year in the years to follow.
- 4.4 Students who have completed their Master degree at UdeM without having received a scholarship from UdeM will be eligible for a PhD scholarship.

**Article 5 Responsibilities of parties**

- 5.1 MHE will be responsible for the creation and distribution of all documents related to the Program including promotion material, application forms and documents related to program management and student support;
- 5.2 In collaboration with Syrian universities, MHE will be responsible for the pre-selection of candidates;
- 5.3 The Faculty of Graduate Studies of UdeM will be responsible for the final selection of the candidates. It will also serve as a coordinating body for the implementation of the Scholarship Program at UdeM and for its follow-up in relationship with the academic units providing the pedagogical counselling to students;
- 5.4 The Faculty of Graduate Studies will be responsible for creating and maintaining a follow-up network with the students, the Syrian universities involved and MHE to ensure that students are achieving their goals in relation to the program;
- 5.3 Technical questions regarding matters such as mutual recognition of diplomas, specific obligations of students, calendar of operations, shall be the object of an addendum to the Agreement.

**Article 6 General requirements**

In order for a student to be considered for a scholarship, he or she will have to meet the following conditions:

- 6.1 Be a citizen of Syria and be living in Syria at the time he applies for a scholarship;
- 6.2 Have fully completed all application forms required by MHE and by UdeM;
- 6.3 Have at least some basic practical knowledge of French. The student should become proficient to the point where he or she is able to follow courses in French. Before being officially accepted, the student will be required to pass a language proficiency test to assess his abilities to understand and speak French. He may be asked to follow courses in French as a second language at the Université before starting his scientific program.

**Article 7 Finance**

- 7.1 MHE will cover international transportation and living expenses of Syrian students during their stay in Montréal, including medical insurance;
- 7.2 UdeM will wave all tuition fees for Masters' and PhD candidates fully admitted by the Faculty of Graduate Studies under the Scholarship Program. Depending on the availability of research funds, outstanding students may qualify for further scholarships.

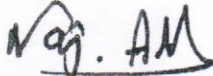
**Article 8 Validity of Agreement**

- 8.1 This Agreement shall be in effect as of the date of its signature for a period of five years. After this period, both parties will assess its degree of success and determine whether the Agreement is to be renewed;
- 8.2 The terms of this Agreement may be modified at any time by mutual written consent of the parties;
- 8.3 Either party, without penalty of any kind, may terminate this Agreement by giving six months written notice to the other party. In the case of termination, students involved in an academic program initiated under this Agreement should not be penalized.

Damascus on 22 November 2006

On behalf of MHE, Syria

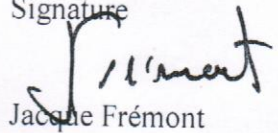
Signature



Dr. Najeeb Abdul Wahed  
Deputy Minister of Higher Education  
For Academic Affairs

On behalf of UdeM

Signature



Jacques Frémont  
Vice-Rector  
International and Graduate Studies