



## Scientific Cooperation Agreement

Between

Damascus University in The Syrian Arab Republic

And

University Fernando Pessoa in Portugal

Based on the mutual wish of the two universities to further and develop scientific cooperation and academic exchange relations between them, a scientific cooperation and academic exchange agreement is held between Damascus University represented by its President Professor Doctor Wael Mualla and Fernando Pessoa University represented by its President Professor Doctor Salvato Trigo It includes the following articles:

### ARTICLE 1: FIELDS COVERED BY THE AGREEMENT

All specializations in all fields.

The two universities may add fields not included in the agreement to be agreed upon through formal correspondence between both universities.

### ARTICLE 2: VISITS

A - Short-term visits for representatives of the two universities and members of the academic staff (the period shall be agreed through formal correspondence)

1- The two universities exchange visits for academic administrators in the central management of each university and its faculties with the aim of exchanging information and expertise in the field of higher education and scientific research, and to agree upon the conditions of conducting joint scientific research.



- 2- The two universities exchange visits of members of academic staff to share expertise and research results as well as lecturing and participating in conferences, symposiums, seminars and other scientific activities.
- B- Long-term visits for the members of academic staff (the period shall be agreed through formal correspondence)
- 1- The two universities exchange visits for members of academic staff to conduct joint scientific research in subjects of common interest. The expenses will be distributed \_ upon the consent of the two universities \_ in accordance with the conditions stated in the research project.
  - 2- The two universities receive delegated members of academic staff with all expenses covered by the home university in order to carry out scientific research missions.
  - 3- The two universities exchange members of academic staff as visiting professors. Expenses are to be considered and organized separately through formal correspondence.

C- Exchange of students:

Both universities exchange students of all different academic levels for scientific qualification and training in addition to the participation in sport and cultural activities.

**ARTICLE 3: SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND POSTGRADUATE STUDIES**

- 1 - The two universities implement and develop joint research projects to be agreed upon by the two parties who will exchange project-related information through direct contact among the concerned faculties and departments.
- 2 - Each university express willingness upon a request from the other university to contribute to joint supervision of some of the research theses of postgraduate students within the fields covered by the agreement. The decision of nominating the co-supervisor will be reached in accordance with the present higher education regulations.
- 3 - The two universities express readiness to participate in the examining boards for the defense of some post-graduate theses. The decision of nominating the co -



examiners will be taken in accordance with the higher education regulations in force.

- 4 - The two universities, in cooperation with the concerned governmental authorities, organize reciprocal qualification- recognition rules plus the conditions of study stages and scientific degrees to enable students and graduates of either University to pursue their studies in the other university. The two universities will take into consideration the provisions of laws in force.
- 5- Each university provide health and social care for the delegates.

#### **ARTICLE 4: SCIENTIFIC PUBLICATIONS AND EXCHANGE OF LITERATURE AND SCIENTIFIC DOCUMENTS**

- 1- The two universities exchange literature, publications and periodicals issued by each University as well as Master dissertations and Doctorate theses.
- 2- The two universities exchange syllabi, curricula and the rules that regulate equivalence of scientific degrees especially in fields included in the agreement.
- 3- The two universities exchange specialized references related to postgraduate curricula.
- 4- Each university welcomes and facilitates the publication of scientific and research articles in periodicals and scientific reviews issued by the other university.
- 5- The two universities exchange information and scientific references in different subjects of common interest in order to establish a data bank.

#### **A- Short- term visits (Article 2, A)**

- 1- The home university undertakes to cover travel expenses of its delegates (return ticket).
- 2- The host university covers accommodation expenses.
- 3- Covering of the costs of invitations to participate in university activities will be agreed upon by mutual correspondence.



## **ARTICLE 5: EXECUTIVE PROGRAM**

Upon signing the present agreement, the two universities will sign a two-year executive program which includes exact specifications of all details required to execute the agreement such as duration, number and quality of exchanged visits and joint researches and rules and conditions for the selection of candidate-students to be exchanged by the two universities.

Required executive programs are to be organized consecutively during the enforcement of the agreement.

## **ARTICLE 6: JOINT COMMITTEE FOR SUPERVISION AND MONITORING**

A joint committee from both universities will be formed. Its main task is to create executive programs and supervise the implementation of the present agreement as well as suggest prospects, methods and means for developing cooperation between the two universities.

## **ARTICLE 7: FINANCIAL PROVISIONS**

No financial commitment is undertaken by the two universities signing this agreement.

Each single program will be financially discussed with the exception of the following:

A- Short- term visits (Article 2, A):

- 1- The home university undertakes to cover travel expenses of its delegates (return ticket).
- 2- The host university covers accommodation expenses.
- 3- Covering of the costs of invitations to participate in university activities will be agreed upon by formal correspondence



B- Long-term visits (Article 2, B):

Regulations mentioned in (Article 2, B) are considered the rules in force.

The two universities seek, within their capabilities, necessary funds to execute cooperative activities.

### **ARTICLE 8: EXCHANGING SUPPORT**

The two universities offer support to participants in the work program. The support will be given through supplying them with information and facilities required by the cooperation , according to the available possibilities, in addition to solving other problems related to organization issues.

### **ARTICLE 9: RECOGNITION AND VALIDATION**

- 1- This agreement will last for a period of five years to be renewed automatically unless one of the two universities expressed a wish to cancel the agreement through a formal request submitted in writing with at least six months notice.
- 2- New articles can be added \_ upon the consent of the two universities \_ to the present agreement while it is still valid.
- 3- This agreement is enforced as from the date of its ratification by the rectors of both universities.
- 4- Upon cancellation, terms of the present agreement remain valid in case of delegates already dispatched in accordance with the agreement up until the end of their designated term. The same applies for research projects and activities till their completion.

SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC

DAMASCUS UNIVERSITY

President's Office



الجمهورية العربية السورية

جامعة دمشق

مكتب رئيس الجامعة

5- This agreement is written in four original copies two in Arabic and two in English with equal validity for both.

**Prof. Dr. Wael Mualla**

**Damascus University  
President**

Damascus in 1/9/2008

**Prof. Dr. Salvato Trigo**

**Fernando Pessoa University  
Rector**



Portugal in 06/10/2008