

**Letter of Intent  
for  
Academic Cooperation  
between  
Damascus University, Syrian Arab Republic  
and  
the University of Kassel, Germany**

**Introduction**

With regard to the importance of strengthening their academic relations and out of recognition of the necessity of promoting contacts between universities, Damascus University and the University of Kassel (UNIK) agree to cooperate in the fields of higher education and research.

**Article 1: General Agreement**

The two Universities are committed to encourage the exchange of students, researchers, and faculty. They contribute to the development of any scientific cooperation especially in the organization of joint symposium, seminars and conferences in addition to carrying out joint research and publications or exchanging relevant teaching materials.

**Article 2: Specific Collaborations**

The purpose of this Letter of Intent is to establish a framework within which academic, scientific and cultural cooperation may develop between the two institutions. The Letter of Intent shall be identified as the parent document of any specific supplemental agreement between both institutions.

Such an additional agreement may be attached to this Letter of Intent in order to illustrate specific collaboration between the acting departments and by which forms of activities, periods of stay and finances of the cooperation will be determined.

**Article 4: Exchange of Students**

The two universities are committed to encourage exchange of their students of all different academic levels (university-postgraduate-doctoral). The candidates will be chosen by the home university, then they should be agreed upon by the host university. The home university has to make sure that its candidates have knowledge of the teaching language in the partner university.

**Article 5: Exchange of Teachers and Researchers**

Within the context of this Letter of Intent, the two universities encourage the stay of their assistants, researchers and faculty at the other one. The candidates will be chosen by the home university, then they should be agreed upon by the host university.

**Article 6: Scientific Research and Postgraduate Studies**

Each university expresses willingness upon a request from the other university to contribute to joint supervision of some of the research theses of postgraduate students. The decision of nominating the co-supervisor will be reached in accordance with the present higher education regulations.

The two universities express readiness to participate in the examining boards for the defense of some post-graduate theses.

**Article 7: Financial Provisions**

Any of the above-mentioned activities of collaboration shall only be conducted if funds are available at both institutions, or external financial sources applied for could be acquired in due time.

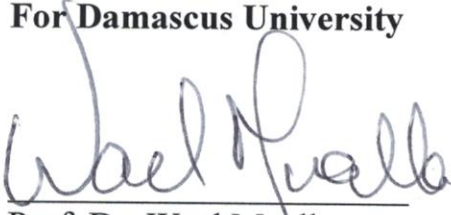
**Article 7: Duration of the Letter of Intent**

The present agreement is enforced as from the date of its ratification. This agreement can be modified at any time upon the consent of the two parties.

It will last for a period of five years. It is automatically renewed every five years. It can be cancelled by one of the two universities through a formal request submitted in writing with at least six months notice. The cancellation of the agreement does not affect the actions of collaboration in progress.

This Letter of Intent is written in four original copies, <sup>٤</sup>two in Arabic and two in English with equal validity for all.

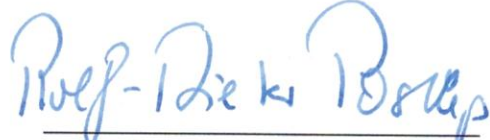
**For Damascus University**



Prof. Dr. Wael Mualla  
President

Date: December 6, 2006

**For the University of Kassel**



Prof. Dr. Rolf-Dieter Postlep  
President

Date: December /06 /06

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