



**AGREEMENT ON DUAL AWARD MASTER'S DEGREE PROGRAM**  
between  
**UNIVERSITY OF CINCINNATI**  
and  
**NATIONAL CHUNG HSING UNIVERSITY**

**Purpose**

This Agreement records the understanding between the University of Cincinnati (UC) College of Engineering & Applied Science (CEAS) and National Chung Hsing University (NCHU) College of Engineering (COE), the Parties, for the development and delivery of a collaborative (hereafter referred to as an "articulation agreement") program allowing for credit transfers between UC and NCHU contributing to the award of the Master of Science (MS) degree from COE and the Master of Engineering (MEng) degree from CEAS.

The Parties agree on the terms and conditions stated below:

**1. The Parties**

1.1 The University of Cincinnati (UC), College of Engineering & Applied Science, hereinafter referred to as CEAS.

1.2 The National Chung Hsing University (NCHU), College of Engineering, hereinafter referred to as COE.

**2. Objectives**

2.1 The primary objective of this Articulation Agreement is to develop programs that benefit both COE and CEAS. The Dual Award Master's Program will provide COE students the opportunity to earn both a Master of Science degree from National Chung Hsing University COE and the Master of Engineering degree, at the University of Cincinnati CEAS.

Development of this program is anticipated to facilitate further collaborations between NCHU and UC.

2.2 The Parties seek to establish a Dual Award Master's Program whereby students from NCHU will be admitted to the graduate program both at COE and in CEAS.

### **3. Program Overview**

#### *3.1 Dual Award Master's Program*

UC's Master of Engineering degree requires a minimum of 30 credit hours of course work (including capstone described below); a thesis is not required for the degree. Likewise, NCHU Master of Science degree requires a minimum of 30-31 credit hours; a thesis is required. Both programs are designed to provide students with advanced knowledge and experience in their fields of interest along with courses covering new developments in the respective disciplines.

Capstone Project – A key component of the Maser of Engineering program is a capstone project that is a three credit hour course. The capstone project can be a written paper, project with an advisor, or a curricular practical training (internship) in the student's field of study. The project can be performed at the University (UC or NCHU), business workplace, industry, or a government institution. The capstone project provides a mechanism to demonstrate a synthesis of knowledge and application of concepts to a specific problem. Faculty or professionals in the workplace will oversee the capstone experience. The capstone project will include a written report and a presentation.

For the award of the Master's degree from CEAS, up to 15 credit hours of coursework from the MS degree at COE can be credit-transferred toward the MEng degree at CEAS. Thesis hours performed at COE do not count toward the MEng at CEAS, only coursework hours. Most students in the concurrent enrollment program will take 5 subjects (15 credits) from COE and 5 subjects (15 credits) including the capstone (3 credits) from CEAS. In order for credits from COE to count towards the Master of Engineering degree at CEAS, students originally registered at COE must earn a B grade or above in a subject that has an appropriate CEAS counterpart. These subjects will be agreed upon by both universities. Similarly, a maximum of 12 credits earned from CEAS at a B grade or above can be counted towards the MS graduation requirements at COE.

The structure of the program is such that typical students (originally registered at COE) will complete their first year at COE to earn 15 or more credits from COE (with each of the 5 subjects achieving grade B or above). Students then enroll in UC courses for 15 or more credit hours. Students will be awarded the Degree of Master of Engineering from UC if the total recognized credits earned from COE and CEAS are no less than 30 credits. The minimum of 15 credits of the MEng degree at CEAS must be completed as a matriculated CEAS student. These students can also be awarded the MS degree from COE once they satisfy the degree award requirements at COE if their subjects studied at CEAS are credit-transferred back to COE.

## **4. Admission Standards**

### *4.1 Dual Award Master's Program*

Students must have a bachelor's degree in a corresponding program recognized as high quality by UC, and graduate with a minimum GPA of 3.0 or QPA of 75 or equivalent.

English proficiency is required of all applicants whose native language is not English. Students can demonstrate proficiency in a number of ways at the graduate level. Most students fulfill the English requirement by taking the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL), the International English Testing System (IELTS), or the Pearson Test of English (PTE). CEAS has established the following minimum requirements: for IELTS an overall band score of 6.5, for Pearson a score of 59 is sufficient, for the (internet-based) TOEFL a score of 85 is sufficient.

Students will apply to both the COE Master of Science program and the CEAS Master of Engineering program. While enrolled during the first year at COE, administrators at COE will screen individuals interested in the dual award program. Those individuals who demonstrate appropriate academic potential (primarily appropriate grades in relevant coursework, English proficiency, and interest in the US education system) will be recommended for continuing in the dual award program. These students do not need to submit GRE scores for admission to the CEAS Master of Engineering program. COE coordinators will send qualified student transcript for CEAS coordinator to review to confirm student UC application eligibility.

While studying at both Universities, students will be required to comply with all the regulations and requirements of each institution and be subject to any authorized changes to those regulations such as fees adjustments, etc. Notwithstanding this provision, both UC CEAS and NCHU COE will recognize their continuing commitment to students within the joint program from their time of admission to the partner institution.

Students participating in the Program are responsible for complying with all visa requirements and regulations of the hosting country; while the host Institution may assist with the acquisition of visas, it bears no responsibility for those who fail to maintain compliance with visa laws and regulations.

## **5. Responsibilities of the Parties**

5. **COE agrees to** the following responsibilities and obligations:

5.1.1 To ensure program approval from the relevant decision-making bodies in COE.

5.1.2 To promote the Programs and recruit students.

5.1.3 To collaborate with UC CEAS in selecting potential students for the Dual Award Master's Program.

5.1.4 COE shall forward completed application forms to the Admissions Office of the University of Cincinnati by the posted application deadlines.

5.1.5 To provide students with English language training, tutorial, and courses taught in English at COE to ensure student quality.

5.1.6 COE is responsible for accepting returning students who cannot, for academic or other reasons, continue their study at CEAS.

5.1.7 For students who return to their country having completed degree requirements at CEAS, COE will assess successfully completed CEAS courses for possible credit transfer, so that these courses count toward the eventual degree completion at the partner institution.

5.1.8 For students who return to their country having not completed degree requirements at CEAS, COE will assess successfully completed CEAS courses for possible credit transfer, so that these courses count toward the eventual degree completion at COE.

**5.2 CEAS agrees to** the following responsibilities and obligations:

5.2.1 To ensure program approval from the relevant decision-making bodies in UC.

5.2.2 To provide recruiting materials, to promote the Programs via live or web-based presentations and participate in recruiting activities as mutually agreed upon.

5.2.3 Provide instruction to COE students regarding the documents necessary to be issued a certificate of eligibility from UC for a student visa and to provide guidance on applying for a student visa at the U.S. Consulate/Embassy.

5.2.4 To provide students with information about accommodation on campus and in the area. Note that information that is provided is not an endorsement of the housing.

5.2.5 CEAS will accept credits for successfully completed courses from COE for credit transfer so that these courses count toward the eventual degree completion at CEAS.

## **6. Finances**

6.1 Unless otherwise specified and agreed in written form by the Parties, each Party will meet the financial costs associated with delivering the academic components of the Programs in their respective countries.

6.2 Students in the Dual Award Master's Program will be charged COE tuition and fees while they are at COE and registered for courses there and UC CEAS out-of-state tuition and fees while they are at UC and registered for courses there. While registered as full-time students at UC, students in the dual award master's program will be eligible for the same scholarships as traditional Master of Engineering students.

6.3 Both parties reserve the right to change their tuition and fees for any component of the program. Students already progressing through the program may experience a change of fees in line with changes affecting all other students at their respective universities.

6.4 COE students, while at UC, are responsible for tuition and fees, room and meal costs, travel, health and accident insurance, books and supplies, and incidental expenses.

6.5. All students while at UC must purchase UC health insurance. The cost of that coverage is added to the student's bill.

6.6. For students who apply for on-campus housing, the UC Office of Housing and Food Services requires payment of a deposit at the time a student applies for housing and a dining plan. Application for housing and dining and payment of the deposit should take place well in advance of arrival at UC. The cost of housing and dining plan depends upon options selected by each student. Payment of the deposit can be made by credit card or by check. The UC Office of Housing and Food Services will submit an invoice to each student prior to the start of the quarter. Payment is due in full when classes begin. Payments for housing and dining are to be made directly to the University of Cincinnati. On-campus housing cannot be guaranteed. Early application is critical.

## **7. Term, Variation, Numbers, and Termination**

7.1 This Agreement will be effective for a period of 5 years from the date of signing.

7.2 This Agreement may be varied or modified by mutual written agreement.

7.2.1 **Amendment.** The written provisions contained in this Agreement constitute the sole and entire agreement made between the Institutions and supersedes all prior or contemporaneous agreements, discussions, or representations, oral or written, with

respect to the subject matter hereof. Any amendments or renewals to this Agreement shall not be valid unless made in writing and signed by both Institutions.

7.3 Either party will be entitled at any time, at its discretion, to terminate the Program by giving written notice six (6) months beforehand to the other. Such termination will not adversely affect any students currently enrolled at any stage of the Joint Program. Each party will ensure that adequate arrangements are made to complete all commitments before the Program is terminated.

## **8. General Provisions**

8.1 **Force Majeure.** An Institution shall not be responsible for failure to perform any of the obligations imposed by this Agreement, provided such failure shall be occasioned by fire, flood, explosion, lightning, windstorm, earthquake, subsidence of soil, failure or destruction, in whole or in part, of machinery or equipment or failure of supply of materials, discontinuity in the supply of power, governmental interference, civil commotion, riot, war, strikes, labor disturbance, transportation difficulties, labor shortage, or any other cause beyond the reasonable control of such Institution.

8.2 **Agency.** The Institutions agree that, during the term of this Agreement, the Institutions are engaged with each other as independent contractors and not as a joint venture, partnership, trust, association, corporation, or formal business organization of any kind. Except as expressly provided herein, neither Institution shall have the right to bind or obligate the other Institution in any manner without the other Institution's prior written consent.

8.3 **Language.** If this agreement is translated into a language other than the English language, the document in the English language shall be the official, binding version.

8.4 **Export Control Laws and Regulations.** The parties agree to comply with all applicable U.S. export and import control laws and regulations in the conduct of the activities conducted under this Agreement and each party agrees to obtain export licenses or other export authorization, as may be required, prior to exporting any controlled items or technology.

## **9. Program Coordinators**

Each institution will designate an office and an individual within that office (the "Coordinator") to oversee the activity. Coordinators should communicate regularly with each other.

Coordinators are responsible for tracking student numbers, suggesting needed modifications, and handling problems. Coordinators will provide their counterparts with

Coordinators are responsible for tracking student numbers, suggesting needed modifications, and handling problems. Coordinators will provide their counterparts with up-to-date information on their own institution and its programs, including any special requirements they may have for exchange students.

Coordinators may assign or delegate aspects of the program to other people, such as faculty advisers. Coordinators are responsible for ensuring that these other individuals perform in a satisfactory way.

The program coordinators are as follows:

### **University of Cincinnati**

Mr. Eugene Rutz  
Director of Master of Engineering Programs  
College of Engineering & Applied Science  
University of Cincinnati  
Email: eugene.rutz@uc.edu

Julie Muenchen  
Program Director  
University of Cincinnati  
Email: Julie.Muenchen@uc.edu

### **National Chung Hsing University**

Ko-Wei Lin  
Professor and Department Chair  
Department of Materials Science and Engineering  
National Chung Hsing University  
Email: kwlin@dragon.nchu.edu.tw

## **10. Intellectual Property (if applicable)**

10.1 Each party will retain individual ownership of all existing intellectual property rights in any contribution made by that party to the development of a program, or which it discloses to the other party in the course of performing its responsibilities under this Agreement.

10.2 Unless otherwise agreed, the parties shall jointly own all intellectual property jointly developed in relation to any program, with each party having any unrestricted license to use this jointly owned intellectual property during or after the term of this Agreement.

## **11. Dispute Resolution**

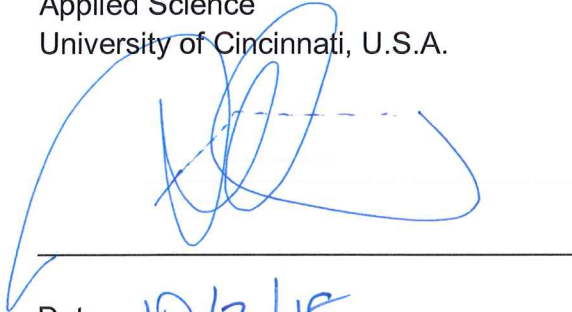
Both parties shall endeavor to resolve any issue arising as to the interpretation of any provision of this Agreement, or in respect to any of the responsibilities of either party. If the dispute or difference is not settled by agreement within 30 working days of the dispute arising, then, unless agreed otherwise, it shall be referred to a qualified mediator agreed by the parties. If the parties fail to resolve any dispute through amicable discussion, negotiation, or mediation, either party may submit such dispute to a court of competent jurisdiction.

**Signature Page**

Final acceptance of this Agreement is subject to ratification by the Governing Bodies of the Parties.

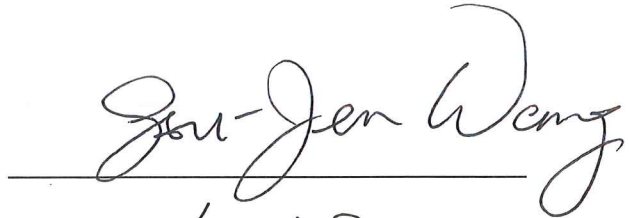
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this Agreement was executed on the date written below.

Dr. Paul Orkwis  
Interim Dean, College of Engineering &  
Applied Science  
University of Cincinnati, U.S.A.

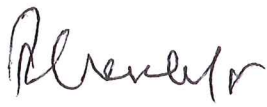


Date: 10/2/18

Dr. Gou-Jen Wang  
Dean, College of Engineering  
National Chung Hsing University  
Taiwan



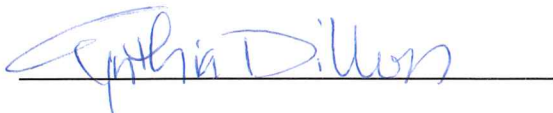
Date: 10/2/18

Dr. Raj Mehta,   
Vice Provost for International Affairs  
University of Cincinnati

October 2, 2018

Date:

Contracting Officer  
Coordinator,  
University of Cincinnati



Date: 10.8.18

Dr. Mu-Min Chen  
Dean, Office of International Affairs  
National Chung Hsing University



Date: Oct. 31, 2018

Dr. Fuh-Sheng Shieu  
President, National Chung Hsing University  
Taiwan



Date: Nov. 2, 2018