SPECIFIC COOPERATION AGREEMENT FOR STUDENT EXCHANGE AND FACULTY EXCHANGE

BETWEEN

UNIVERSITY OF COSTA RICA (COSTA RICA)
AND
IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (U.S.A)

University of Costa Rica, hereinafter referred to as "UCR", register number 4-000-0-42149, herein represented by Henning Jensen Pennington, Ph.D. in Psychology, with identity card number eight - zero forty-one - three hundred thirty-four, resident of Betania, Montes de Oca, married, in his capacity as Rector, appointed by the Plebiscite Assembly on April 22, 2016, for the period going from May 19, 2016 to May 18, 2020, who was sworn in by the University Council in special session No. 5990, on May 17, 2016, with powers of judicial and extrajudicial representative, in accordance with Article forty, paragraph a) of the Organic Statute of University of Costa Rica, and Iowa State University of Science and Technology, hereinafter referred to as "ISU", an institution of Higher Education located in Ames, Iowa, USA herein represented by Jonathan Wickert, in his capacity as Senior Vice President and Provost, considering that academic cooperation will promote research and other activities at both institutions.

The purpose of this Agreement is to further mutual understanding between UCR (School of Agronomy) and ISU (College of Agriculture and Life Sciences) to enhance each institution’s teaching, learning, and internationalization objectives, without being limited to other fields of interest for both parties.

Definitions

In this Agreement:

exchange Student refers to undergraduate or graduate students participating in the exchange implemented herein, unless otherwise specified

home institution will mean the institution in which a student is formally enrolled as a degree candidate;

host institution shall mean the institution, which has agreed to receive the exchange students from the home institution.

Article 1. Student Visiting Program:

A. Every year, during the term of this Agreement, both parties shall nominate a maximum of two (2) students in their undergraduate and graduate programs to take regular courses at the host institution. Prior to acceptance, the graduate student applications submitted to UCR require a case by case analysis and the approval of the respective Graduate Program.

B. Exchange students that each institution receive shall be admitted as visiting students, without the right to obtain a degree, and must also meet the admission requirements set by the host university for courses of interest. It is also understood that certain courses at the host university may have admission requirements or limited enrollment.

C. It is not necessarily expected that both institutions will host the same number of students in any one-year period, but that reciprocity would be achieved over the term of the Agreement.
The contact persons of the two (2) institutions will review the program annually to determine any unreasonable balance in the number of exchange students, and adjust the numbers exchanged to maintain an overall balance.

D. The visitation period shall be of one academic cycle (semester). For UCR, the first semester is from March to July and the second semester from August to December. For ISU the first semester begins in August and ends in December, while the second semester goes from January to May.

E. UCR students willing to extend their academic stay for another semester at ISU must have good academic standing, while exchange students from ISU willing to extend their studies for one semester more at UCR must have had a GPA of 8.0, on a scale from 0 to 10.

F. Exchange students will be selected by their home university based, among others, on the following criteria: undergraduate students must have completed at least three semesters of undergraduate studies and graduate students at least one (1) year of graduate study and must have good academic standing according to the regulations of each university. At UCR, a good academic standing refers to a GPA higher or equal to 8 (Scale: from 0 to 10). At ISU 3.0 GPA (on a 0 to 4.0 scale).

G. Deadlines for eligible candidates to submit applications at UCR are the second week of October for admission to the first cycle (March-July) and the second week of March for the second semester (August to December). Deadlines for eligible students to submit complete applications at ISU are October 1 for the first cycle (January-May) and April 1 for the second cycle (August-December).

H. The host institution shall inform the home university about its final decision on regards to the admission within two months upon the receipt of applications.

I. Exchange students shall meet immigration regulations of the host country and shall be responsible for obtaining the appropriate visa and the special student category, if necessary. They shall be subject to the norms and regulations of the host institution. Violations of the rules will result in the termination of the student's visiting status at the host university.

J. Exchange students shall enjoy the same rights as the host university's regular students that may be applicable to their status.

K. The host institution shall exempt exchange students from tuition costs corresponding to regular courses enrolled.

L. All air travel and visa costs, and other expenses related to the exchange, room and board will be paid by the student. The student must also cover costs of materials, textbooks, study field trips (if any), official certification of grades, associated fees, including insurance coverage for accidents on campus, student services, and other costs of optional courses, such as extension courses or self-funded masters programs.

M. Exchange students are responsible for obtaining medical/health insurance coverage meeting the requirements of the host institution, including hospitalization, surgery, dental emergencies, medical evacuation and repatriation of remains. The parties to this Agreement shall have no liability for costs associated with accidents, illness, medical evacuation or repatriation of participants in this exchange.

N. Exchange students shall abide by the rules and procedures for the recognition of credits set by the home institution.
Article 2. Students and Faculty Short Term Research Visits:

A. Each year during the term of the Agreement, two (2) students from both institutions could make short term research visits at the other institution. The requisites for each stay have to be consulted with the other institution.

B. Both institutions can receive faculty members or researchers to make short term research visits. The requisites for each stay have to be consulted with the other institution.

C. The conditions of each short term research stay have to be detailed in work plans. In the case of students, the content of such work plan has to be approved by the academic advisors at both institutions and include a detailed schedule of the activities to be developed. Faculty members or researchers are required to send their work plans and schedule of activities to the host institution for its approval.

D. No candidate will be sent to the host University, without prior explicit approval of his/her work plan by the host institution.

E. The terms that will regulate each short term research visit will be formalized by the legal representatives of both universities in a specific agreement proposed by the host institution.

Article 3. Program of International Academic Offer:

A. UCR and ISU agree to facilitate the organization of short term summer tailor-made study programs (Programs of International Academic Offer) that could be offered in either university during any time of the year.

B. Because of their nature, such programs should be subject to negotiation between the parties and a document must be signed by the legal representatives from both parties. This document shall encompass the objectives of each study program, the courses to be included, the period during which the program will be offered, each institution’s responsibilities, the corresponding cost estimate, as well as other conditions that the parties may consider appropriate.

C. Any programs shall be negotiated between the parties at least six (6) months before their starting date.

D. The negotiation, organization and coordination of these programs shall be the responsibility of the Office of International Affairs and External Cooperation at UCR and the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Global Programs Office at ISU.
Article 4. Professors and Researchers Mobility

A) Each year, during the term of this Agreement, either party may receive faculty members from the other institution, according to their norms. The duration of each visit will be determined case by case by mutual agreement.

B) The host university shall provide working space, and access to library and other facilities; it shall also assist the professor in the process of finding accommodation.

C) Visiting professors shall teach lessons, give lectures, conduct research and/or advise students in the host institution, as determined by mutual agreement between the institutions and on a case by case basis. In case of been invited to give courses, the visiting professors must have a sufficient command of the language of instruction.

D) Visiting professors shall meet immigration regulations of the host country and shall be responsible for obtaining the appropriate visa and special category, if necessary. They shall be subject to the norms and regulations of the host institution. Violations of the rules will result in termination of professors' visiting status at the host university.

E) Each visiting professor shall be responsible for obtaining a health insurance policy meeting the requirements of the host institution, including medical evacuation and repatriation.

F) Any other detail regarding the visit of professors shall be mutually agreed between the institutions on a case by case basis.

Article 5. Resolution of Discrepancies

Any discrepancies or differences of opinion regarding the specific terms of this Agreement shall be resolved amicably by mutual consultation or negotiation between the parties.
Article 6. Specific Agreement Administration

The administration of this Specific Agreement shall be the responsibility of the CALS Global Programs Office at ISU and the Directorate of the Office of International Affairs and External Cooperation at UCR. All notices must be submitted in writing and sent to the following addresses:

At ISU:
CALS Global Programs  
Iowa State University  
0018 Curtiss Hall  
513 Farm House Lane  
Ames, Iowa USA 50011  
Tel: +1 515-294-1851  
Fax: +1 515-294-9477  
E-mail: jcornell@iastate.edu

At UCR:
Dirección, Oficina de Asuntos Internacionales y Cooperación Externa  
Universidad de Costa Rica  
Ciudad Universitaria Rodrigo Facio  
San Pedro de Montes de Oca, San José, Costa Rica  
Tel: + (506) 2511-5080  
Fax: + (506) 2225-5822  
E-mail: oacie@ucr.ac.cr

Article 7. Validity, Renovation, Modification, and Termination

A. This Specific Agreement shall enter into force starting the date of the last signature and shall be valid for five (5) years. Exchange students participating in activities under this Agreement or those who have been accepted to the date of its natural conclusion may complete the academic cycle they are currently enrolled in or the cycle they were admitted to at the host institution, under the terms and conditions of this Agreement. This does not apply to exchange students requesting an extension of the academic cycle.

B. The Agreement shall be renewed by mutual consent in writing at least six (6) months prior to the expiration date.

C. Modifications to this Agreement shall be made only with mutual written consent of the parties.

D. Both parties reserve the right to unilaterally terminate this Agreement by written notice sent to the other party at least one (1) month in advance. In this case, it is understood that all activities under development shall continue until the termination date previously agreed, except for those activities for which the agreement has been terminated.
This Specific Agreement has been written in Spanish and English on duplicate; all authentic.

In witness of their agreement to the foregoing, the respective authorities subscribe herein.

Signed on behalf of:
Iowa State University of Science and Technology

Jonathan Wickert
Senior Vice President and Provost

Date:
3-28-17

Signed on behalf of:
University of Costa Rica

Henning Jensen Pennington
Rector

Date:
28 ABR. 2017

Signed on behalf of:
University of Costa Rica

Wendy Wintersteen
Dean, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences

Date:
3-24-17

Henning Jensen Pennington
Rector