

Agreement on Global U7 Consortium for Education, Joint Research and Building Administrative Capacity

Preamble

The member institutions to this Agreement,
Envisioning a long-term blueprint for a state-of-the-art globalized tertiary education system,
Characterizing the Global U7 Consortium as a global educational strategic alliance,
Meeting a growing demand for cross-cultural education, joint research, and building administrative capacity,
Agreed as follows:

Article I ***Scope***

1. Based on the principles of equality, mutual benefit, and reciprocity, the Global U7 Consortium shall promote the following three main areas:

- a) education;
- b) joint research; and
- c) building administrative capacity.

2. The Global U7 Consortium shall facilitate bilateral and multilateral cooperation in the fields of Global Logistics, Business Administration, Marine Affairs and Advanced Technologies such as information technology, bio-technology and nano-technology. This may include interdisciplinary activities that meet the needs of the broader community.

Article II ***Functions***

1. The Global U7 Consortium shall facilitate the implementation, administration and operation of this Agreement.

2. The Global U7 Consortium shall provide the forum for education, joint research, and organizational cooperation among its member institutions concerning challenges confronting tertiary education.

Article III ***Structure***

1. There shall be a Council of Presidents, comprising the principal officers (or their alternates) from member institutions, which will do their utmost to facilitate the functions

and objectives of the Global U7 Consortium through a Secretariat and a series of Committees.

2. There shall be a Secretariat of the U7 Consortium headed by a Secretary-General. The Chair of the Council of Presidents shall appoint the Secretary-General after taking the Council of Presidents' advice and set out the powers, duties, conditions of service, and terms of office of the Secretary-General. The Secretary-General shall appoint members of the staff of the Secretariat.

3. There shall be separate Committees, which will be created by the Council of Presidents and composed of a representative nominated by each member institution on:

- (a) education;
- (b) joint research; and
- (c) building administrative capacity.

The Committees shall meet as necessary for the purpose of affording a regular forum for cooperation. The Committees shall establish their respective rules and procedures subject to the approval of the Council of Presidents. New Committees may be formed as needed.

Article IV ***Meetings***

The Council of Presidents shall meet once a year. Ad hoc meetings may be held as determined by the Council of Presidents.

Article V ***Decision-Making***

The Global U7 Consortium decision-making shall be by consensus.

Article VI ***Membership***

1. As of the date of entry into this Agreement the universities which accept this Agreement shall become founding Members of the Global U7 Consortium.

2. Other universities may accede to this agreement, on terms to be agreed between them and the Global U7 Consortium.

3. Any member institution may withdraw from this Agreement by giving six month written notice to the Chair of the Council of Presidents.

Article VII ***Financial Support***

The Council of Presidents shall seek creative ways to fund the group's initiatives in education, joint research and building administrative capacity.

Article VIII
Education

The Education Committee shall consider the possibilities of:

- (a) program alignment and credit transfer between member institutions;
- (b) the encouragement of student mobility among member institutions;
- (c) the conferral of joint degrees; and
- (d) the establishment of intensive language courses available at member institutions (e.g. English, French, Korean, Mandarin etc.) and their integration within specialized fields such as Global Logistics, Business Administration, Marine Affairs and Advanced Technologies.

Article IX
Joint Research

1. The Joint Research Committee shall establish interdisciplinary investigations covering areas of mutual interest, particularly those receiving wide public and private sector support, and especially Global Logistics, Business Administration, Marine Affairs and Advanced Technologies.

2. Each research program, prior to implementation, shall be subject to an agreement concerning intellectual and industrial rights.

Article X
Building Administrative Capacity

The Building Administrative Capacity Committee shall be charged with improving the capacity of administrative staff through the implementation of collaborative training programs, which may include:

- (a) sharing visions and strategies in formulating long-term development plans;
- (b) assistance with administrative organization to improve efficiency; and
- (c) exchange of library and other information.

Article XI
Implementation

1. The Council of Presidents shall review the programs and their financial considerations on an annual basis.

2. The effective date of this Agreement shall coincide with the first Council of Presidents' meeting.

3. This Agreement may be amended by mutual consent of the member institutions and only by an instrument in writing duly executed on behalf of the member institutions.

4. The member institutions mutually agree to review this Agreement every three years.

In collaboration, the representatives of member institutions have signed the present Agreement at Inha University, Incheon, Korea, the twenty-ninth day of April, two thousand four.

Vice Chancellor Ruth Dunkin

For Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology University, Commonwealth of Australia

President Chongshi Zhu

For Xiamen University, People's Republic of China

President Pierre-Bruno Ruffini

For University of Le Havre, Republic of France

President Seoung-Yong Hong

For Inha University, Incheon, Republic of Korea

President Yehuda Hayuth

For University of Haifa, State of Israel

President Robert Carothers

For University of Rhode Island, Kingston, United States of America

President Lee L. Huntsman

For University of Washington, Seattle, United States of America