**DUAL DOCTORAL DEGREE AGREEMENT** 

**between**

**NATIONAL TSING HUA UNIVERSITY, TAIWAN**

**and**

**[NAME OF UNIVERSITY, COUNTRY]**

In order to promote student interaction and diversification of the student population,

National Tsing Hua University (hereinafter referred to as “NTHU”), an institution of higher education headquartered at No. 101, Section 2, Kuang Fu Road, Hsinchu 300044, Taiwan,

and

[Name of University, (hereinafter referred to as “XXX”)], an institution of higher education headquartered at [Address of University],

have agreed upon the Dual Doctoral Degree Program which is based on the Agreement of Understanding signed between the Presidents of both Universities. This Agreement covers the following items:

**1. Definitions**

**Candidate** means a student who has been accepted into the Dual Degree Program.

**Home Institution** means the university/institution where a Candidate is primarily enrolled and that sends a Candidate to study abroad at the Host Institution under this Agreement.

**Host Institution** means the university/institution that hosts a Candidate from the Home Institution to study abroad under this Agreement.

The **Home Institution** and the **Host Institution** are collectively called “**The Institutions**”.

**2. Terms of the Dual Doctoral Degree Program**

Through this Dual Degree program, the XXX and NTHU will accept Candidates from the other Institution. The credits, the research publications, and the presentations at national and international conferences that the Candidate obtains or passes from his or her Home Institution and the Host Institution, will be accredited.

**3. Responsibility of The Institutions**

The Institutions will be responsible for accepting the Candidate and providing adequate support and assistance to the Candidate in obtaining the degree, after accepting the Candidate. The Host Institution should waive the tuition fees of the Candidates.

**4. Selection of Candidates**

4.1 For NTHU, Candidates are required to have completed a relevant Master Degree or enroll through the direct admission to Doctoral program in NTHU.
For XXX, Candidates must have completed a relevant Master Degree.

4.2 Each institution will select and then recommend its eligible applicants for admission to the Dual Degree program. Each institution reserves the right to review and make final judgements on the admissibility of each applicant nominated for entry based on the institution’s admissions requirements into the PhD program. The selection process may include an evaluation of the applicant’s previous academic record, language proficiency, motivation, and overall potential to succeed in the Dual Degree Program.

4.3 The following guidelines shall apply to all Candidates:

1. Candidates must satisfy all doctoral admission requirements set out by The Institutions, including any language proficiency requirements specified by either Institution.
2. Candidates must abide by all rules and regulations pertaining to their degree program as set out in this Dual Degree Agreement and the Individual Candidate Agreement. Candidates must also abide by any other statutes, rules ,and regulations that apply to enrolled Candidates whilst enrolled at that institution.

4.4 Once a Candidate has been selected and accepted for this Dual Degree program, an Individual Candidate Agreement must be signed by all institutions to that agreement.

4.5 [add the approximate schedule if any]

4.6 [add the contacts if any]

4.7 [add the websites if any]

**5. Supervision**

The Candidate will be assigned at least two advisors, at least one from each institution.

At NTHU, the supervision is undertaken in accordance with following regulations.

The academic advisor shall be qualified as a member of the degree examination board under the *Degree Conferral Law* in Taiwan, and shall meet the requirements set forth by individual departments, universities, and degree programs. At least one of the academic advisors shall be a full-time assistant professor or higher position.

Supervisors employed at NTHU must be appointed as and granted Recognized Supervisor Status by XXX in accordance with established XXX procedures. Supervisors employed at XXX will be granted an equivalent status by NTHU.

All supervisors must be research-active and hold a PhD or equivalent degree that is acceptable to both institutions and appointed in accordance with the XXX and the NTHU Advisor System Rules and Regulation.

**6. Course Credits**

6.1 As part of the academic requirements for the dual doctoral degree program, the Candidate has to study at least one graduate course at each Institution as part of the total number of graduate courses. The total number of graduate courses may vary at the Home and Host Institutions and should be detailed in the Individual Candidate Agreement.

6.2 The Institutions will mutually recognize all the graduate courses studied by the Candidate at both Institutions, upon approval by the corresponding faculty, department, or institution. The number of course credits that can be transferred between two Institutions should be detailed in the Individual Candidate Agreement.

**7. Duration of Studies**

7.1 The maximum duration for a Candidate to stay in this dual degree program is seven years. In special cases and upon recommendation of the advisors, The Institutions, by mutual agreement, may increase or decrease the duration of the doctoral studies.

7.2 The Candidate must spend at least two semesters studying at each of the two Institutions. The actual duration of studies should be determined according to the related regulations of both Institutions and detailed in the individual candidate agreement. ~~The Candidate whose Home Institution is XXX are expected to spend (Time) at XXX. And the Candidate whose Home Institution is NTHU are expected to spend at least four semesters at NTHU.~~

**8. Thesis Proposal**

At NTHU, the Candidate must submit his/her thesis proposal in advance of the thesis defense examination according to the institutions’ regulations.

**9. Ph.D. Thesis Defense**

9.1 The committee should comprise of 5 to 9 members, including the two advisors, and one-third from institutions other than XXX and NTHU. Depends on regulations by Departments and institutions.

9.2 Thesis should be written, presented, and defended in English language. The abstract should be presented in English.

9.4 The candidate must have made scientific contributions and the form of contributions are subject to recommendation of the supervisors from both Institutions and detailed in the Individual Candidate Agreement. Scientific contributions must clearly be identified by the contribution from each advisor and that the work has sufficient breadth for the degrees.

**10. Intellectual property**

10.1 The intellectual property rights of the thesis, the publication, the use and protection of the research results will be copyrighted in accordance with the specific regulations governed by the IPR policy of both Institutions. The specific terms of intellectual property rights will be negotiated on a project-by-project basis between the institutions and a separate co-operation Agreement should be signed if needed.

10.2 To the extent that the implementation of any agreed upon activity requires a commitment of resources, personnel, credit-bearing coursework, or intellectual property, a supplementary agreement must be negotiated in writing and approved by the two institutions before work on any of the projects can commence.

10.3 The number of copies of the thesis to be deposited at each Institution depends on the respective regulations.

**11. Diploma**

Two separate degree certificates shall be awarded for the one-degree by the respective Institutions in line with their respective protocols/styles. Sample certificates are attached to this Agreement. In NTHU, if there is any adjustment from the original graduation certificate, the department has to follow the latest regulation proposed to the Office of Academic Affairs.

**To attain the degree conferred by NTHU, the Candidate is expected to register at least four semesters at NTHU, complying with the University Act of Ministry of Education, Taiwan**

The Institutions may refuse to confer a degree/diploma if during the course of study the Candidate is found to have acted in a manner which is in breach of the rules and regulations of that institution regardless of the location of the course of study.

Two separate degree certificates shall be awarded by the respective Institutions in line with their respective protocols/styles. Sample certificates are attached to this Working Agreement. In NTHU, if there is any adjustment from the original graduation certificate, the department has

to follow the latest regulation (by Office of Academic Affairs).

**12. Financial and other Responsibilities of Candidate**

12.1 The Candidate taking part in the Dual Degree Program will have to pay the tuition fees to their Home Institution and shall be exempted from paying any kind of enrollment fee and credit fee to the Host Institution.

12.2 The Candidate will only have to pay the fees or public prices at the Host Institution that may exist in order to have access to certain services (sports, Internet, and so forth), under the same conditions as that institution 's own students. Should this be the case, then the Host Institution shall inform the Candidate of the existence of such fees prior to their arrival there.

12.3 **Insurance**

Before arriving at the Host Institution, the Candidate will have to take out an international insurance policy to cover expenses arising from medical treatment and accidents; the cost of this insurance will be paid by the Candidates themselves. Candidates shall provide proof of having taken out this insurance policy at their Home Institution before leaving; failure to do so will exclude them from participating in the visit. In NTHU, candidates can join the National Health Insurance when requirements are met (please refer to the regulation of National Health Insurance Bureau, Taiwan).

12.4 **Visa**

The Candidate shall be responsible for carrying out all the proceedings required to get a Resident visa and immigration documents that enable them to legally enter the country where they are to spend their visit. Visa-Exempt Entry and Landing Visa are not acceptable for the stay in NTHU. The Host Institution shall provide the student with a letter of acceptance, stating that the student is on a visit and has been admitted to that Institution.

12.5 **Accommodation**

The Candidate will have to cover his or her accommodation and maintenance expenses at the Host Institution. Host Institution should assist the students to arrange the reasonable accommodation.

12.6 **Other expenses**

Each Candidate is responsible during the Dual Degree program for all personal arrangements and associated costs including, without limitation, the following:

a. Transportation (local and between Home and Host institutions)

b. Incidental fees and charges, if applicable

c. Textbooks, clothing, and personal expenses

d. Any and all other debts, and incidental expenses incurred by the Candidate during the Dual Degree Program.

**13. Extension and Termination**

This Agreement will enter into effect on the date on which it is last signed by the representatives of both Institutions, and is concluded for ten (10) years. This Agreement may be terminated by either of the institutions with a prior notice of 90 days before the end of the respective academic year. The termination of this Agreement should not affect the Candidates who have already enrolled in this Dual Doctoral Degree Program.

**14. General**

This Agreement is not intended to create, and does not create any right, benefit, or trust responsibility, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or equity, by either institution, its officers, employees, or agents against the other institution, its officers, employees, or agents.

Nothing in this Agreement obligates either institution to commit or transfer any funds, assets, or other resources in support of projects or activities between the two institutions.

14.1 **Confidentiality**

If this exchange should involve any confidential information or materials, a separate Non-disclosure Agreement will be required.

14.2 **Administrative Expenses**

NTHU and XXX shall be responsible for any administrative expenses respectively.

14.3 **Use of the Name and Logo**

During the continuation of this Agreement, each institution may use the name and logo of the other institution in connection with the above activities, provided that the name and logo of each institution shall be used only in connection with the Agreement and for no other purpose.

14.4 **Resolution of Conflict and Disputes**

In the event of any dispute arising out of or in connection with this Agreement, both Institutions agree to resolve the matter in good faith.

Any dispute or claim not resolved to the satisfaction of both Institutions further to the dispute resolution efforts above shall be submitted to the court of the defendant’s country.

Both Institutions agree this Agreement is governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the defendant’s country without regard to the principles of the conflict of laws thereof, unless otherwise agreed and confirmed in writing by the Institutions.

This Agreement is executed in a set of two copies, both written in English language, and each institution retains one copy. The Agreement may be executed by exchange of signed and scanned signature pages in PDF format.

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| **For and on behalf of** **National Tsing Hua University****\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_****W. John Kao****President****Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** | **For and on behalf of****[Name of University]****\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_****[Name ]****[Title]****Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** |