



தமிழ்நாடு தமிழ்நாடு TAMILNADU 18-04-2022
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முத்திரைத்தாள் விற்பனைவாரியர்
உரிமம் எண் 11/2015
சென்னை, திருவெழும்பு
திருச்சி மாண்பும. தமிழ்நாடு



MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING FOR INSTITUTIONAL
COLLABORATION BETWEEN

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, TIRUCHIRAPPALLI, INDIA.

and

VINAYAKA MISSION'S RESEARCH FOUNDATION (Deemed to be University), SALEM,
TAMILNADU, India

This Memorandum of understanding (hereinafter referred to as "MoU") entered into on this 20th day of April 2022 by and between: National Institute of Technology, Tiruchirappalli (hereinafter referred to as "NITT" and where the context so admits includes its successors and Vinayaka Mission's Research Foundation (DU), Salem (hereinafter referred to as "VMRF" and where the context so admits includes its successors.

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National Institute of Technology Tiruchirappalli (NIT-TRICHY)(formerly known as Regional Engineering College), is one among the premier Institutions of India and is well known for its high standards in teaching and research. It offers 10 undergraduate and 23 postgraduate programs in disciplines spanning engineering, science, architecture and management. It has been declared as an Institute of National Importance by the Government of India under NIT Act, 2007. NIT Tiruchirappalli retained its No. 1 position among all NITs, 5th year in a row in the "India Rankings 2021" released by NIRF. The Institute has signed MoUs with various Industries and Institutions both in India as well as in abroad to promote collaborative research and consultancy. The campus located at Tanjore Main Road, National Highway 67, Near BHEL. Tiruchirappalli, Tamil Nadu 620015.

AND

Vinayaka Mission's Research Foundation (VMRF) had its inception in the year 1981 with the establishment of the Thirumuruga Kirupananda Variyar Thavathiru Sundara Swamigal (TKVTSS) Medical Educational and Charitable Trust. In 1982, the Founder-Chairman, Dr. A Shanmugasundaram instituted the Vinayaka Mission's College of Pharmacy in Salem, the pioneer institution of Vinayaka Missions. In the year 2001 the "Deemed to be University" status was conferred on Vinayaka Missions by The Ministry of Human Resources Development, Government of India, with the recommendations of the UGC Under Section 3 of the UGC Act, 1956 as an acknowledgement of its excellence, satisfaction of the highest level of academic standards and best infrastructural facilities provided to achieve pre-eminence in education and by virtue of this recognition Vinayaka Missions transcended to become Vinayaka Mission's Research Foundation (VMRF) as the 48th Deemed University in India. It has 24 Constituent Colleges & Schools including 2 Engineering colleges, 3 Medical Colleges etc. under the University located at Salem, Kancheepuram District, Puducherry & Karaikal.

Collectively hereinafter NITT & VMRF will be referred to as "institutions"

Both Institutes have agreed to the following protocols governing their collaboration on Academic and Research related activities.

This MoU is based on the principal of reciprocity and expresses the interest of both institutions in exchanging Faculty, scholars, students, academics information and materials in the belief that the research and educational process at both institutions will be enhanced and that mutual understanding between their respective Faculty, scholars and students will be increased by the establishment of such exchange programs as per mutual Guidelines.

1. The institutions agree to encourage the development of the following exchange programs based on their respective academic and educational needs wherever possible:
 - Exchange of Faculty
 - Exchange of students (undergraduate and /or Post graduate)
 - Joint supervision of M.Tech and Ph.D. students
 - Exchange academic information, scholarly information, materials, and facilities as also joint publications.
 - Exchange of periodicals and other publications

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B. Jayaram

- Execution of joint/Collaborative research programs
- Organization of joint conferences
- Organization of other academic exchanges agreeable to both institutions
- Host guest speakers/lectures and share lectures over video conference.
- Use of laboratory facilities on mutually agreed terms and conditions
- Each Institute shall meet its own expense

Areas to start this collaboration are listed in Annexure 1. Both the institutions can revisit this list after mutual consultation. The above activities shall be undertaken as per NITT & VMRF guidelines.

2. Research Collaboration: Faculty/Research Scholars from both the institutions will collaborate in execution of joint/collaborative research in disciplines placed in Annexure-1 of mutual interest. All such joint research activities will be governed by the terms laid out in Annexure 1.
3. Trainee / Student Exchange: Pursuant to the MoU for academic exchange, NITT and VMRF will exchange students/ trainees, wherever possible in accordance with the terms laid out in Annexure 2. It is desired by both the parties that there will be significant flow of students/trainees between the institutions.
4. Faculty Exchange: The parties recognize that the implementation of any exchange program will depend upon the academic interests, expertise of individual staff members and upon the availability of faculty and financial resources. Wherever Possible, such a Faculty Exchange will be done as per the terms mentioned in Annexure 3.
5. Faculty/Research Scholars/Students of either of the institute initiating collaborative work will take care of the usage of their institute resources and conduction of activities as per institute norms. A faculty member from NITT will seamlessly co-ordinate with a faculty from VMRF for the implementation of this initiative.
6. Each institution will adhere to the intellectual laws of India. Intellectual property developed during the visit of an exchange student/researcher/faculty/staff will be governed by the rules of the host institute unless otherwise specified. The two institutions shall jointly own results of clearly defined collaborative projects and exchange programs. This joint ownership also entitles each party to explore commercialization. However, transfer of jointly developed technology and associated sharing of revenue shall be governed by additional MoU. This cost of IP filing will be equally shared by both Institutions.
7. Furthermore, if one institution receives any information from the partner under a clearly defined non-disclosure agreement, necessary and reasonable care will be taken to protect the intellectual property received.
8. This MoU is not intended to be a legally binding document. It is meant to describe the nature and to suggest the guidelines of the co-operation described above. Nothing therefore shall diminish the full autonomy of either institution, nor will any constraints be imposed by either upon the other in carrying out the MoU. Any disputes shall be resolved through mutual discussion between the highest officials of the respective institutions.
9. Any addition, deletion and /or alteration to this MoU may be effected by writing. A document containing the additions, deletions and /or alterations, and signed by all Parties hereto, shall from an annexure to and be deemed to be a part of this MoU.

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10. The MoU shall become effective on the day representatives of both institutions affix their signatures and seals, will be in force for a period of 5 years, and is subject to revision or modification by mutual agreement. It is also understood that either institution may terminate the agreement at any time, although it is assumed that such action would only be taken after mutual consultation at least six months in advance in order to avoid any possible inconvenience to the other institution.
11. Each Institute will identify one nodal person to ensure smooth & active collaboration under this MoU. The Nodal Persons will meet periodically and review the progress of various activities and report their Director/Vice Chancellor.
12. Dispute Resolution: Should there be any dispute relating to any aspect of the MoU and co-operation, the signatories of the MoU or their authorized representatives shall jointly resolve the dispute amicably in a spirit of mutual respect, independence and shared responsibility.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the institutions hereto have offered signatures:

**For: National Institute of Technology,
Tiruchirappalli, India**

Dean (R&C)
Signature: 
Date: DEAN
Seal: Research & Consultancy
National Institute of Technology
Tiruchirappalli - 620 015.

Witnesses:
Signature: 
Name:
Designation:-

Signature:
Name:
Designation:

**For: Vinayaka Mission's Research
Foundation(DU), Salem, India**

Registrar
Signature: 
Date: 20.04.2022
Seal: REGISTRAR
Vinayaka Mission's Research Foundation
(Deemed to be University)
Ariyanoor, Salem - 636 308, Tamil Nadu.

Witnesses:
Signature: 
Name:
Designation: Director (Research)

Signature: 
Name: A. NAGAPPAN
Designation: DIRECTOR (INNOVATION,
INCUBATION AND
ENTERPRENEURSHIP)



Annexure 1

Research Collaboration

NIT, Tiruchirappalli and VMRF(DU) will collaborate in mutually agreed Research Activities and Carryout Research, Publish Joint Publications, Patents, Apply together for external funding for various Research Call for proposals etc. The IPRs are shared as mentioned above. Towards these Research Activities the Faculty/Research Scholars can share and use Research facilities/infrastructure available in each of the institutes with prior permission, free available time of the equipment and as per the terms & conditions of the Institute.

Areas identified for Joint Research Collaboration are:

1. Nanotechnology
2. Artificial Intelligence for health Sciences
3. Chemistry
4. Physics
5. Structural Engineering
6. Lightweight Materials, Metal Joining
7. IoT
8. Cyber Security
9. Renewable Energy
10. Hardware Security
11. Any other research area of mutual interest

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Annexure 2

Trainee / Student Exchange Programme

1.

- (a) It has been agreed by both parties that, they will promote flow of students between the institutions as part of the academic and research collaboration.
- (b) Availing the services of the Staff/Professors as Guide / Co-Guide/Senior consultants for Projects undertaken by the Faculty/students of both the institutions.
- (c) Participation of students in project competitions held by both the institutions.
- (d) Utilization of library and its associated facilities in the respective campuses by the students during time periods as convenient and decided by the authorities of respective institutions.
- (e) Exchange of academic information, scholarly information, materials and publications between students under the supervision and after approval from the concerned authorities of the institutions.
- (f) The number of students and time duration for projects etc., will be worked out on a case-to-case basis.

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Annexure 3

Faculty Exchange

1. It is agreed by both parties that faculty from both Institutions will collaborate in the joint activities that will be governed by the terms laid out as follows: -
 - Faculty Exchange Programme between Two Institutions. Towards this, both the Institutions will endeavour to depute faculty for short durations (one week to 10 days) for delivering guest lectures or teaching specific topics of the curriculum and also commit to sharing expertise. The inviting institution (for lectures and project guidance) will meet expense on travel / TA/ DA of the faculty from the partner institution.
 - Participation of the faculty in various faculty development oriented programmes e.g. Short Courses, Seminars/Conferences, Faculty Development Programmes, Quality Improvement Programmes, Teaching Methodology courses etc. held by both the Institutions. Expenses on participation of faculty in such programs will be met by the parent institution.
 - Provide guidance to set up infrastructure, workshop facilities, teaching/training aids, smart classrooms, and upgrade labs, technical equipment, etc.
 - Promote and exchange academic information, scholarly information, materials and publications between faculty of VMRF, Salem, NIT, Tiruchirappalli.
 - Nomination of Senior Faculty as advisors / members in the advisory board of other Institution (VMRF / NITT) for the formulation of syllabus / curriculum for the programmes.

B. Jayaram