



# INTERNATIONAL DUAL-DEGREE PROGRAM AGREEMENT BETWEEN AMRITA UNIVERSITY, COIMBATORE, INDIA, AND THE REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO, ALBUQUERQUE, NM, USA

AMRITA University (AMRITA) and the Regents of the University of New Mexico (UNM), on behalf of their respective schools of engineering (SOE), agree to establish a Graduate Dual Degree Program ("Program") as described below. Upon completing all academic requirements to the satisfaction of UNM and AMRITA, students will earn a master's degree from each university.

#### **CLAUSE 1: OBJECTIVE**

The purpose of this agreement is to allow full-time students to pursue a master's degree in engineering in order to:

A. Encourage collaborative research and intellectual interaction between the parties through the activities of the participating students and their advisors; and

B. Enhance human-resource development at both institutions by sharing the parties' complementary strengths and resources.

C. Promote mobility by overcoming obstacles to the effective exercise of free movement with particular attention to students' access to study and training opportunities.

D. Educate students with rich and meaningful experiences across nations so they become competitive in a globalized market.

#### **CLAUSE 2: PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION**

A. This program pertains to the UNM School of Engineering (SOE-UNM) and AMRITA School of Engineering. The faculties of the respective programs will retain complete control over their own curricula and admissions processes.

B. Each year, AMRITA will identify undergraduate students before November 15 (fall semester) or June 15 (spring semester) to apply to the Program. UNM engineering departments are responsible for notifying internal admissions and advisement staff of any special exceptions for students entering the program under this agreement. SOE-UNM is responsible for evaluating interested students pre-selected by AMRITA for admission into the Program and notifying AMRITA about which of these students should be encouraged to apply before December 1 (fall semester) or July 1 (spring semester). Once the list of AMRITA Program applicants is finalized for each semester, AMRITA will email the name of this agreement plus the applicants' full names and dates of birth to UNM at goglobal@unm.edu so that UNM can track the applicants.

C. Admitted students will start the Program in the fall or spring semester.

#### CLAUSE 3: STUDENT STATUS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

#### Participating students:

A. Must be registered at their home universities on a full-time basis and must complete a minimum number of credit hours before they may apply to the partner university.

B. Must apply as international students and be admitted under the generally applicable academic requirements, financial standards, application deadlines, and language-proficiency requirements (see Appendix A) for international graduate students at each university and within each department. Each engineering department at UNM has the right to waive GRE

scores of applicants.

- C. Shall be responsible for their own tuition and mandatory fees at the partner university. UNM tuition and mandatory student fees are set each spring for the upcoming academic year and are posted at <a href="http://bursar.unm.edu/">http://bursar.unm.edu/</a>. UNM tuition and mandatory fees pay for the cost of instruction only, and do not pay for the separate cost of room and board or other costs of attendance. A "Friendship Rate" 10% discount on (a) UNM non-resident base tuition and mandatory student fees¹ and (b) UNM tuition for intensive English classes at the UNM Center for English Language and American Culture (CELAC) is available to AMRITA students attending UNM pursuant to this agreement. The discount on UNM non-resident base tuition and mandatory student fees is not available to students who have received a scholarship or an assistantship.
- D. May apply to live in UNM's on-campus housing, but room availability is not guaranteed. Therefore, UNM will provide information to incoming students about off-campus accommodation within reasonable proximity. UNM will provide necessary information about housing options and application procedures with each student's notice of admission.
- E. Will have the same opportunity as other UNM international graduate students to apply for graduate assistantships or financial assistance at UNM, subject to applicable laws and policies.
- F. Must buy health and accident insurance that meets UNM requirements and is valid in the U.S.A. for their entire stay, including travel days. Students must pay any medical expenses that are not covered by insurance. This requirement can be waived for students whose own insurance coverage is reviewed and determined to meet UNM requirements.
- G. Shall pay for their own room and board, textbooks and course materials, travel, passport, visa, and personal expenses, plus any applicable special course fees, recreation fees, and the administrative fee charged to all incoming international students.
- H. Must comply with all generally applicable requirements for degree recipients of each institution plus Program-specific requirements.

# CLAUSE 4: STUDENT VISA AND LEGAL COMPLIANCE

A. UNM will issue necessary documents to apply for a student visa (normally, an admission letter, an I-20 and other related forms) to the students who satisfy the entry requirements of the Program. Students shall promptly provide all required documentation and other

Volume discounts on non-resident base tuition and mandatory student fees are available to eligible student cohort groups from AMRITA University as follows: 25% discount for 6-10 students; 37.5% for 11-15; 50% for 16-20; and 70% for 20+. These volume discounts do not apply to CELAC intensive English classes.

### CLAUSE 7: WITHDRAWALS FROM THE PROGRAM

Students who do not make satisfactory academic progress may be dismissed from the Program in accordance with UNM policies. UNM's contact person will inform AMRITA's contact person of these policies.

#### **CLAUSE 8: PROGRAM REVIEW**

The parties will review the progress of the Program every two years after the effective date of this agreement and will modify this agreement if necessary.

## CLAUSE 9: COUNTERPARTS BY FACSIMILE OR EMAIL

This Agreement may be executed in two or more counterparts, each of which together shall be deemed an original, but all of which together shall constitute one and the same instrument. In the event that any signature is delivered by facsimile transmission or by e-mail delivery of a ".pdf" format data file, such signature shall create a valid and binding obligation of the party executing (or on whose behalf such signature is executed) with the same force and effect as if such facsimile or ".pdf" signature page were an original thereof.

#### **CLAUSE 10: NOTICES**

All notices required hereunder shall be in writing and delivered by a duly authorized representative of the party giving the notice and sent by email transmission to the following addresses. Either party may change its email address for notice purposes by providing prior written notice to the other party. Any notice sent by email shall be deemed to have been delivered at the time of confirmation of receipt.

Dean, School of Engineering MSC01 1140 1 University of New Mexico Albuquerque, NM 87131-0001 U.S.A. Email: soe@unm.edu Dean, Amrita Center for International Programs Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham (AMRITA University) Amritapuri Campus Amritapuri, Clappana P. O. Kollam - 690 525, Kerala, INDIA Email: international@amrita.edu

#### **CLAUSE 11: ADDITIONAL TERMS**

- A. This agreement will become effective on the date of the last signature below for an initial term of seven (7) years. It may be renewed by written agreement between the parties' duly authorized representatives.
- B. This Agreement may be amended and/or modified in a writing signed by the parties' duly authorized representatives. However, UNM may modify **Appendix A** as needed from time to time without the need to modify the clauses of this agreement.
- C. Either party may terminate this agreement by giving the other party at least six (6) months' written notice, but any students who have already been accepted at the partner university will not be affected by the termination and may complete their studies in accordance with this agreement, subject to any applicable institutional policies governing the time period for degree completion.
- D. Nothing in this agreement, express or implied, is intended to confer any rights, remedies, claims or interests upon a person not a party to this agreement.

- E. This Agreement is signed in good faith and in accordance with the administrative rules and procedures governing each party. Therefore, any dispute that may arise concerning its interpretation and implementation will be resolved amicably through negotiations.
- F. This Agreement was originally drafted in English. If it is translated into another language and signed in both versions, any conflict between the two texts shall be resolved in favor of the English text.

This document memorializes the parties' entire agreement.

AMRITA UNIVERSITY	REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW
	MEXICO
Manest	Mul M
Dr. Maneesha V. Ramesh	Dr. Christos Christodoulou
Dean, International Programs	Dean, UNM School of Engineering
Date: 26/9/17 Kuishnashna Acharthan	Date: 8/30/2017
Dr. Krishnashree Achuthan	Dr. Charles Fleddermann
Dean, Post Graduate Programs	Associate Dean, UNM School of Engineering
Date: 27/9/2017	Date: 29 Aug 2017

#### APPENDIX A

# UNM School of Engineering Language-Proficiency Requirements for International Graduate Students<sup>2</sup>

International students must demonstrate English language proficiency. To demonstrate English proficiency, students can take: the International English Language Testing System (IELTS), the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL), the Pearson Test of English- Academicn (PTE-A), or Cambridge CPE or CAE.

Minimum score requirements are listed in the table below. Official test results must be sent directly to the University of New Mexico. The TOEFL code for UNM is 4845.

	Paper Test	Computer Test	IBT
Graduate TOEFL	550	213	79-80
Graduate IELTS	6.5	6.5	6.5
Graduate PTE-A	53	53	53

The CPE or CAE test may also be accepted with a satisfactory score of C.

Exceptions to the English Proficiency Test Requirements (only one exception required):

- Completion of four years of US high school with a 2.5 GPA or better
- Bachelor's or graduate degree from an accredited institution in the United States, English-speaking Canada, the United Kingdom, South Africa, Australia, or New Zealand.
- SAT Verbal score of 480 or better (test not REQUIRED for admission)
- 1 year of full-time study (minimum 24 credit hours) at a regionally-accredited US college or university with a 3.0 GPA or higher completed within the last two years
- Completion of two semesters of freshman English composition (English 101 and 102 equivalent) with a GPA of 2.0 or higher at a regionally-accredited U.S. college or university.
- Bachelor's degree from a regionally-accredited US college or university
- Attendance in the Center for <u>English Language and American Culture (CELAC)</u> program at UNM with a passing Institutional TOEFL score and a recommendation from the CELAC program director

SOE Int'l Dual Degree Agmt Amrita U

6

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> http://geo.unm.edu/admission\_grad\_requirements.html