



COOPERATION AGREEMENT

BETWEEN

UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO USA

AND

THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA

Cooperation Agreement between The University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM, USA and The Open University of Sri Lanka, Nawala, Nugegoda, Sri Lanka

The parties to this Agreement are the Regents of the University of New Mexico, Scholes Hall 141, MSC05 3200, 1 University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM 87131, USA, on on behalf of the Organization, Information, and Learning Sciences (OILS) academic program within the College of University Libraries and Learning Sciences (UNM), and The Open University of Sri Lanka (OUSL), Nawala, Nugegoda, Sri Lanka on behalf of the Department of Nursing and the Center for Educational Technology and Media (CETMe).

Whereas, the parties believe that international understanding, educational opportunities for their students, and professional opportunities for their faculty and staff would be enhanced by this Agreement; and

Whereas, the parties are linked by common academic and cultural interests; and

Whereas, the purpose of this Agreement is to establish a framework for cooperation between the parties.

Now, therefore, the parties agree as follows:

1. Types of Cooperation

- 1.1 The parties are willing in principle to cooperate on various activities, such as:
 - a. Design and Development of Online Component of OUSL's Master's Degree in Nursing Program: UNM-OILS and OUSL's Department of Nursing and CETMe will collaborate to design and develop the online component of the hybrid Masters of Nursing Degree Program (Program) to be offered by OUSL in English, in Sri Lanka. This collaboration will involve faculty, staff, graduate students, and undergraduate students who will work remotely on Moodle platforms at OUSL-CETMe and UNM-OILS.
 - b. <u>eLearning evaluation and research</u>: UNM-OILS and OUSL's Department of Nursing and CETMe will collaboratively design, develop, execute, and publish evaluation and research studies that focus on the efficacy of online and distance learning for delivering the Program in Sri Lanka.
 - c. <u>Faculty Exchanges</u>: Faculty exchanges between the two institutions are planned for the purposes of designing and developing the online component of the Program, joint participation in research and evaluation activities, and publications.
 - d. <u>Student Exchanges</u>: Student exchanges between OUSL and UNM-OILS are planned to provide experience in cross-cultural online design, internships, and collaborative teaching of the

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"Orientation to Online Learning" course, which will be offered as a pre-requisite for enrolling in the Program.

- e. <u>Library Resources</u>: The parties will consider possible future exchange of library resources.
- f. Other activities as mutually agreed.
- 1.2 This Agreement shall be identified as the parent document of any specific program agreement between the parties. Each type of cooperation shall proceed according to the terms and conditions of a specific program agreement. Each specific program agreement shall memorialize all the commitments made by each party and shall not become effective until it has been reduced to writing, approved, and signed by the parties' duly authorized representatives.
- 1.3 The scope of activities under this Agreement shall be determined by the funds regularly available for the collaboration described in each specific program agreement, as applicable, and by any related funds obtained by either party from external sources. Each party shall be responsible for all expenses incurred by its employees under this Agreement, except as may be stipulated in any specific program agreement.

2. Term, Renewal, Amendment, Termination, and Dispute Resolution

- 2.1 This Agreement shall become effective for an initial term of five years from the date of the last signature by the parties' duly authorized representatives and shall automatically renew for successive five-year terms unless terminated as provided below.
- 2.2 This Agreement may be amended and/or modified in a writing signed by the parties' duly authorized representatives.
- 2.3 Either party may terminate this Agreement by giving the other party at least 180 days' written notice, but any students who have been accepted at either university at the date of termination may complete their courses of study, and any collaborative project in progress at the date of termination may be completed as specified in the pertinent specific program agreement. Termination shall be without penalty.
- 2.4 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.
- 2.5 This document memorializes the parties' entire understanding.
- 3. 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

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the same instrument. In the event that any signature is delivered by facsimile transmission or by email 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.

4. 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.

Dr. Charlotte "Lani" Gunawardena Distinguished Professor, OILS Program College of University Libraries and Learning Sciences Zimmerman Library #237, MSC05 3020 I University of New Mexico Albuquerque, NM 87131-0001 USA lani@unm.edu; +1-505-277-5046

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The Regents of the University of New Mexico

Prof. Richard Clement

Dean, College of University Libraries and Learning Sciences

Vice-Chancellor

The Open University of Sri Lanka

Prof. Samuel Anbahan Ariadurai

Ms. Vindya Jayasena

12/2018

Registrar

OUSL-UNM Cooperation Agreement