



## **MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT**

**between**

**Northwest A&F University**

**and**

**Auburn University**

**Department of Crop, Soil, and Environmental Sciences**

Auburn University (AU), located in Auburn, Alabama (USA) and Northwest A&F University (NWAUFU), located in Yangling, Shaanxi Province (PRC) previously entered into a broad agreement, dated June 7, 2013, to create a Five-Year Master's Degree Program(3 + 2 program), whereby qualified students from NWAUFU could earn a Bachelor's degree from NWAUFU and a Master's degree from AU upon successful completion of five years of study. The purpose of this subsidiary agreement is to outline specific procedures and considerations governing the admission and advancement of NWAUFU students in the Five-Year Master's Degree program with Auburn University in the area of Crop, Soil, and Environmental Sciences. This document is intended to assure mutual understanding about the detailed conduct of the program between the two departments and to provide clear guidelines for the students who participate.

### **I. Five-Year Master's Degree Program in the Department of Crop, Soil, and Environmental Sciences**

A Five-Year Master's Degree program between AU and NWAUFU provides for direct admission of selected third-year NWAUFU students who have completed three years of NWAUFU coursework into the M.S. degree program in AU's Department of Crop, Soil and Environmental Sciences (CSES). Students participating in this program will complete three years of undergraduate study at NWAUFU in the field of Agronomy. In the fourth year of the program, students who have been admitted to AU's M.S. program in Agronomy and Soils will complete graduate-level AU coursework consistent with the requirements of that program and with the requirements of their NWAUFU department. Upon documentation of successful completion of the fourth year, students will receive the B.S. in Agronomy from NWAUFU. In the fifth year of the program, students will complete thesis research at AU. Upon successful completion of all degree requirements, students will receive from AU the M.S. degree in Agronomy and Soils.

### **II. Application Materials for the AU Graduate School:**

NWAUFU students apply to the AU Graduate School seeking graduate admission while noting their status as NWAUFU Five-Year Master's Degree students.

<http://www.grad.auburn.edu/ps/requirements.html>

### **III. Test Scores:**

The AU Graduate School requires the TOEFL or IELTS test for admission.

The AU Graduate School does not require the GRE test, but the Department does require the GRE. A general exception to this requirement has tentatively been granted for NWAUFU Five-Year Master's Degree students.

### **IV. Application Materials for the Department:**

Three letters of recommendation, resume, and a letter of intent are required to be sent to the Department directly. The letter of intent is a personal statement of interest and should contain appropriate information about a student's academic or research experience, career goals, and how acquisition of the specific M.S. degree will serve to advance their professional goals. If students have contacted potential supervisors, please indicate this in the letter. E-mail documents are accepted, but the documents should all be combined into one PDF file, and not sent as separate documents. These materials should be sent to:

Dr. David Weaver (weavedb@auburn.edu)

or

Dr. Beth Guertal (guertea@auburn.edu)

or

Dr. Charles Chen (cyc0002@auburn.edu)

201 Funchess Hall

Department of Crop, Soil and Environmental Sciences

Auburn University

Auburn, AL 36849

USA

### **V. Courses Required for the Five-Year Master's Degree Students for the NWAUFU B.S. Degree:**

Upon receipt of an official AU transcript, NWAUFU will award the B.S. in Agronomy to students enrolling in the Department of Crop, Soil, and Environmental Sciences under this agreement and successfully completing one year of AU course work approved by both AU and NWAUFU. If for any reason NWAUFU identifies courses required for the NWAUFU B.S. in Agronomy that these students have not satisfied by means of their combined NWAUFU and AU course work, NWAUFU accepts responsibility for notifying both the AU Department of Crop, Soil, and Environmental Sciences and the student in writing at least 30 days before the beginning of the student's second year of enrollment at AU.

### **VI. Senior Thesis Required for the NWAUFU B.S. Degree:**

The Senior Thesis is a requirement of NWAUFU, and not AU. However, students in the Department of Crop, Soil and Environmental Sciences may choose to complete their Senior Thesis while at Auburn. This must be agreed upon with the AU major advisor, and the thesis topic must be approved by the AU major advisor. The Senior Thesis will be written in English, and may count as a part of the M.S. thesis, if approved by the AU major advisor. If the Senior thesis is completed before the student arrives at AU, the preparation and approval of the thesis

lies solely with advisors at NWFU, and it may not count towards any academic requirement at AU.

**VII. Courses Required for the Five-Year Master's Degree Program Students for a M.S. Degree:**

Specific course requirements will be determined by the student's graduate thesis committee. A strong background in chemistry, math, biology and other basic sciences is required. Introductory crop and soil science courses are also required. Student transcripts will be used to determine if course deficiencies exist. In all, 30 hours of coursework are required for the M.S. degree. Of those hours, 6 hours may be Research & Thesis and 2 are Seminars. The remaining 22 hours are coursework selected by the student and the graduate thesis committee.

**VIII. M.S. thesis research:**

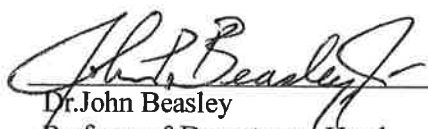
The Five-Year Master's Degree program students are required to conduct M.S. thesis research under the direction of a faculty member: <http://www.ag.auburn.edu/agrn/>. NWFU students are encouraged to contact professors whose program they are interested in before coming to Auburn.

**IX. Conclusion**

This agreement is subsidiary to and governed by the Five-Year Master's Degree Broad Agreement between the two institutions, dated June 7, 2013, wherein procedures for modification and notification are detailed.

**X. Signatures**

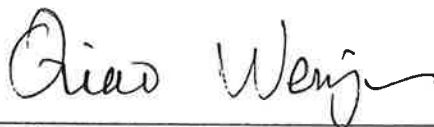
For AUBURN UNIVERSITY  
Department of Crop, Soil, and Environmental  
Science



Dr. John Beasley  
Professor & Department Head

Date: 3 APRIL 2015

For NORTHWEST A&F UNIVERSITY  
Office of International Cooperation and  
Exchange



Mr. Qiao Wenjun  
Deputy Director

Date: March 30, 2015

## Review and Approval Form (v. 22Apr2015)

for an

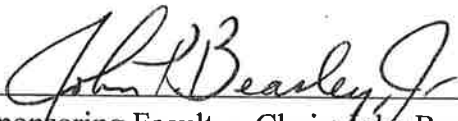
### INTERNATIONAL ACCELERATED DUAL DEGREE AGREEMENT

(Check one:  Broad Agreement;  Program Level Agreement)

**Between:** Auburn University, Auburn, Alabama, USA

**And Northwest A & F University, Yangling, Shaanxi, China,  
College of Agronomy**


The following have reviewed this International Dual Degree Agreement, approve its content, and recommend for Auburn University signature.

x   
Sponsoring Faculty: Chair: John Beasley  
Department of Crop, soil and Environmental Sciences

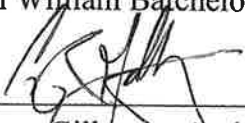
Date  
24 APRIL 2015

x John P. Beasley, Jr.  
Chair/ Head (print name): SAME  
Department: SAME

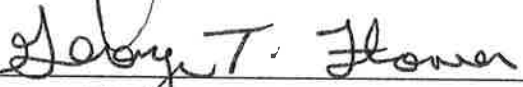
24 APRIL 2015

x   
Dean William Batchelor, College of Agriculture

25 April 2015


  
Andrew Gillespie, Assistant Provost for International Programs

5/4/15

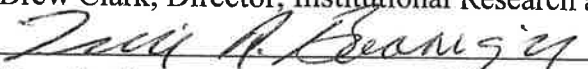
  
George Flowers, Dean of the Graduate School

5/7/2015

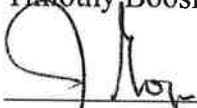
(by signature, this agreement has been approved by the Graduate Council – Meeting minutes attached)

  
Drew Clark, Director, Institutional Research and Assessment

5-13-15

  
Timothy Boosinger, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

5/22/15

  
Jay Gogue, President

5.25-15

**"INTERNATIONAL ACCELERATED DUAL DEGREE AGREEMENT"**

(Check one: Broad Agreement; Program Agreement)

**ADMINISTRATIVE AND EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION FOR THE  
AGREEMENT BETWEEN AUBURN UNIVERSITY  
AND Northwest A & F University, Yangling, Shaanxi, China,  
College of Agronomy**

**ADMINISTRATIVE CONTACT**

(Person responsible for the general operation of this agreement)

	Northwest A& F University College of Agronomy	Auburn University (Sponsoring Faculty)
Name	Qiao Wenjun Deputy Director	John Beasley Dept Head and Professor
Department	Office of International Cooperation and Exchange	Department of Crop, Soil and Environmental Sciences Faculty
Address	3 Taicheng Road Yangling, Shaanxi 712100, China	Auburn University College of Agriculture 202 Funchess Hall Auburn, AL 36849
Phone	+86-29-87080181 13572265556 (mobile)	+1-334-844-4100
FAX	+86-29-87082892	+1-334-844-3945
email	qiaowj@nwsuaf.edu.cn	jpb0035@auburn.edu

(Add sheets if additional contacts names need to be listed for this agreement)

**EMERGENCY CONTACT**

(First person to be contacted in the event of an emergency related to this agreement)

	Northwest A& F University College of Agronomy	Auburn University
Name	Li Rong	Andrew Gillespie
Department	Office of International Cooperation and Exchange	Office of International Programs
Address	3 Taicheng Road Yangling, Shaanxi 712100, China	228 Foy Hall, Auburn University, AL 36849-5159 USA
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