

**INTERNATIONAL
MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**

between

AUBURN UNIVERSITY, AUBURN, AL, USA

and

**HUAZHONG AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY
WUHAN, HUBEI, CHINA**

Both Huazhong Agricultural University (HZAU) and Auburn University, Alabama, USA (AU) are dedicated to advancing research, education and training programs in areas including agricultural and environmental sciences. The parties desire to establish the Auburn Institute. The goal of the Institute is to promote collaborations between the two institutions in research, education and training programs.

**PART I
Area of Cooperation**

The areas of cooperation will initially include, subject to mutual consent and appropriate conditions, agricultural and environmental sciences and future programs may be added that are offered at both universities, seen as desirable, feasible, and contributory to the fostering and development of the cooperative relationship between the Colleges of the two universities.

**PART II
Methods**

The Institute will serve as an umbrella organization to create and manage future joint programs between HZAU and AU.

1. Organizational Structure

A. Both institutions are dedicated to the development of the Joint Institute and to the development and implementation of mutually-agreed upon policies and rules and will provide adequate support for its operation.

B. The Joint Institute will be administered by a Director. The Director will be nominated and appointed by both institutions. The Director will be responsible for overall operation and will focus on developing research, teaching and training programs. Each institution may assign an Associate Director and a staff assistant to support the Director in managing the Joint Institute as necessary. The Joint Institute's Director will provide an annual report to the leadership of both Institutions describing the progress of joint projects and programs, expenses, and scientific and budgetary plans for the following year.

C. The Joint Institute will form a Joint Advisory Committee that will consist of the Director, Associate Directors and key management personnel such as institutional leaders, department chairs, or professors to be chosen by each institution. The Committee will provide guidance on the Joint Institute's programs and plans and review its accomplishments and progress annually.

2. Joint Programs

The two institutions will use the Joint Institute as a platform to create and conduct activities and programs including but not limited to the following:

- Short-term student exchange programs between both Universities for the purpose of exposing students to the academic and cultural environments in the host institution/country
- Support joint faculty workshops to promote collaboration
- Implement a seed funding program to stimulate joint research collaborations, faculty exchanges and graduate student training
- Strengthen existing articulation programs (e.g., 3+1 and 3+2) and establish new programs
- Establish a program for AU faculty to teach courses at HZAU

The terms of such mutual assistance and necessary budget for each program and activity shall be mutually discussed and agreed upon in writing by both parties prior to the initiation of the particular activity or program. Furthermore, it is understood that each institution will enter into specific program by program written agreements as required for compliance with the respective immigration and accreditation regulations of the parties involved. Each university will designate a Liaison/Contact Officer in the impacted disciplines to develop specific activities or programs for approval of the respective College Deans.

3. Budget Plan

A mutually agreed upon joint budget will be established annually to support the ongoing operation and growth of the Institute. Funding may be included for staff, travel and operations, as well as seed funding to initiate new programs. Both AU and HZAU will manage the expenses according to the Institute's mutually agreed upon guidelines, and provide the funding budget implemented and summary each year to both Institutions for their auditory purpose.

PART III

Effective Date and Length of Agreement

This agreement will remain in force for a period of five years subject to the availability of funds, and any amendment and/or modification of this agreement requires written approval of appropriate administrators of **AUBURN UNIVERSITY** and **HUAZHONG AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY**, and shall be appended hereto. After the initial five-year period, this agreement may be renewed by mutual written consent.

Either party reserves the right to terminate this agreement upon six (6) months written notice to the other. Any individual activities to be continued will be specifically identified and provided for at the time of termination.

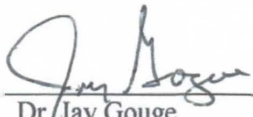
Each party shall be responsible for assuring full compliance by its participants with applicable laws and regulations, including insurance, of the respective nations.

By signature below, Auburn University is affirming that it has evaluated this agreement in terms of its published mission and finds the agreement compatible with that mission. Before consenting to extensions from time to time in the future, Auburn University will reevaluate this agreement in terms of its published mission.

Nothing contained herein or in the activities conducted hereunder shall constitute either party the agent, servant or employee of the other party, and each party shall be fully and solely responsible for its own actions and obligations.

This agreement shall take effect on the date of final signature indicated below and IN WITNESS WHEREOF; the parties hereto have offered their signatures:


For AUBURN UNIVERSITY



Dr. Jay Gouge
Interim President

Date 14 October 2019

For HUAZHONG AGRICULTURAL
UNIVERSITY



Dr. Zhaohu Li
President

Date : April 9, 2020 - see emails

Kelly Pippin

From: William Batchelor
Sent: Tuesday, April 14, 2020 2:45 PM
To: Kelly Pippin
Cc: Henry Fadamiro
Subject: RE: Auburn Institute Signed MOU

President Li signed the Auburn Institute MOU on April 9th.

William D. Batchelor
Professor
Biosystems Engineering
Corley Hall
Auburn University
Auburn, AL, 36849

From: Kelly Pippin
Sent: Monday, April 13, 2020 8:12 AM
To: William Batchelor; Henry Fadamiro
Subject: RE: Auburn Institute Signed MOU

Hi Dr. Batchelor,

What is the date of signing? President Li did not date on this agreement.

Thanks,

Kelly

From: William Batchelor
Sent: Friday, April 10, 2020 9:23 PM
To: Henry Fadamiro <fadamhy@auburn.edu>
Cc: Kelly Pippin <kzp0025@auburn.edu>
Subject: Auburn Institute Signed MOU

Henry,

Attached is the signed MOU establishing the Auburn Institute. President Li has now signed the MOU so that we can move forward on the Director and the summer teaching program. I am working on details for teaching 7 or 8 courses by distance this summer. Their committee has agreed to fund the salaries (through grant to Auburn), but there are many details to work out. I will be routing a teaching proposal soon.

Please file this MOU where it belongs.

Best wishes,

Bill

William D. Batchelor
Professor
Biosystems Engineering
Corley Hall
Auburn University
Auburn, AL, 36849