

# MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

BETWEEN

UNIVERSITI SAINS MALAYSIA

AND

FERDOWSI UNIVERSITY OF MASHHAD

## MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

**THIS MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING** is made on 2019 (hereinafter referred to as “**MoU**”);

### **BETWEEN**

**UNIVERSITI SAINS MALAYSIA**, a public institution of higher learning established under the Universities and University Colleges Act 1971 and for the purpose of this MoU is represented by **Prof. Datuk Dr. Asma Ismail, FASc.**, with its main campus at 11800 USM, Pulau Pinang, Malaysia (hereinafter referred to as “**USM**”), of the first part;

### **AND**

**Ferdowsi University of Mashhad**, a public university in Islamic Republic of Iran .The university was established in 1949 and for the purpose of this MoU is represented by **Professor Dr. Mohammad Kafi, President** with its main campus at Mashhad, Khorasan Razavi, I. R. Iran (hereinafter referred to as “**FUM**”), of the second part.

(USM and FUM, shall hereinafter referred to collectively as “**Parties**” and individually as “**Party**”, where the context so requires)

### **WHEREAS:-**

- A. USM is Malaysia’s premier research university which strives to enhance and strengthen its educational programs and has taken various initiatives to complement its educational excellence. With its research and teaching facilities, experience, and a multi-disciplinary team of experts from among its staff members, USM has entered into various collaborative arrangements with other parties in its efforts to enhance its research content and strengthen its industrial networking.
- B. FUM is one the largest and oldest universities across the East of Iran, and is one of the nation’s most prominent research academic facilities. It is consistently ranked among the top universities in Iran. FUM has focused mainly on performing the required researches by industries and educating students in MSc and PhD levels. Ferdowsi University of Mashhad has always been a pioneer in the implementation of scientific projects. This university is among the leading universities in I.R. Iran.

- C. Following discussions between USM and FUM, the Parties wish to establish collaboration and explore opportunities to develop, support and enrich the research activities, education and training in the fields that will be beneficial to both Parties.
- D. This MoU sets out below the general framework and intentions of the Parties for the collaboration and for the facilitation of further definitive agreement(s).

**NOW IT IS HEREBY UNDERSTOOD** as follows:

**1. Objectives of this MoU**

1.1 The Parties will endeavour to assist and support each other in the collaboration to promote, establish and develop the research, education and training programs that will mutually benefit both Parties in the following areas of cooperation:-

- i. exchange of students and/or staff;
- ii. Joint education programs;
- iii. Joint research and development programs;
- iv. Joint workshops and training programs;
- v. Exchange of publication;
- vi. Expansion of Persian language teaching at the USM and the support of FUM.
- vii. Any other cooperation that will be mutually identified and agreed upon by both Parties at a later stage.

1.2 In achieving the objectives of this MoU, the Parties shall work on the basis of reciprocity within the parameters of their respective laws, constitution, regulations and/or policies.

1.3 This MoU shall form the basis of consensus for the Parties to examine the feasibility of the cooperation stated in clause 1.1 until such time when any other manner of agreement is entered into by the Parties upon terms and conditions to be mutually agreed upon.

**2. Confidentiality**

2.1 Neither Party shall at any time publish or, disclose to any third party the contents of this MoU or any Confidential Information of the other Party acquired pursuant to this MoU without the written consent of the other Party.

2.2 For the purpose of this MoU, "Confidential Information" means any and all technical and non-technical information including patent, copyright, trade secret, know-how and proprietary information, techniques, sketches, drawings, diagrams, methods, processes, apparatus, equipment, algorithms, software programs, software source documents, and formulae related to a technology or invention, and includes, without limitation, its respective information concerning research, experimental work, development, design details and specifications, engineering, financial information, procurement requirements, purchasing manufacturing, customer list, business forecasts, sales and merchandising and marketing plans and information designated in writing to be confidential or by its nature intended to be for the sole knowledge of the receiving party or if orally given in the circumstances of confidence or confirmed promptly in writing as having been disclosed as confidential or proprietary for the purpose of this MoU; that is conveyed by the disclosing party to the receiving party, in written, oral, digital, magnetic, photographic and/or whatsoever forms.

### **3. Non-Binding Nature of the MoU**

Notwithstanding the statements and obligations herein, this MoU shall not create a legal relationship between the Parties under domestic or international laws and the Parties shall not be legally bound until and unless a definitive agreement has been negotiated and duly executed by the authorized representatives of USM and FUM. Save for the breach of clause 2 herein, this MoU will not give rise to any legal process between the Parties.

### **4. Validity, Termination and Renewal of the MoU**

4.1 This MoU is valid and shall remain in effect for a period of three (3) years from the date of this MoU regardless of the diverse dates the Parties may have signed this MoU.

4.2 Either Party may terminate this MoU by giving one (1) month's written notice to the other Party. Notwithstanding the expiry or the earlier termination of this MoU, the obligations of the Parties in clause 2 herein shall survive and remain binding on the Parties for a period of three (3) years from the expiry or the earlier termination of this MoU (as the case may be) or, the expiry or the earlier termination of the renewed period (as the case may be) as provided in clause 4.3 herein.

- 4.3 This MoU automatically extended, unless either Party request for termination of the MOU through a written notice six months prior to terminating the implementation of the MOU.

**5. Notices**

Any notice or communication between the Parties shall be delivered to the addresses as hereinbefore appearing, or sent to the facsimile number or emailed to the Party concerned.

**6. Variation**

The terms stipulated in this MoU shall not be amended, altered, changed or otherwise modified without the mutual consent of the Parties and such amendments, alterations, changes and modifications shall be made in writing and signed by the Parties hereto.

**7. Governing law**

This MoU shall be interpreted in accordance with the laws of Malaysia and Iran respectively.

**8. Dispute Resolution**

The Parties agree that all disputes arising pursuant to this MoU shall be resolved by way of negotiations and discussions and with a view to an amicable settlement and mutual benefit of the Parties without reference to any third party or, local or international tribunal.

**9. No Agency**

Nothing contained herein is to be constituted as a joint-venture partnership or formal business organization of any kind between the Parties or so to constitute either Party as the agent of the other.

## **10. Assignment**

Unless otherwise agreed in writing, both Parties shall not transfer or assign all or any of their rights, obligations, interests or benefits hereunder to any third party.

## **11. Name, Official Emblem and Logo**

11.1 Neither Party shall use, nor permit any person or entity to use the name, acronym, official emblem, logo, trade mark (or any variation thereof) or other Intellectual Property (hereinafter referred to as "Brand Materials") that is/are identified with or belongs to the other Party on any publication, document, paper, audio or visual presentation, or for publicity purposes.

11.2 Any use of the Brand Materials for the purposes stated in clause 11.1 above shall first obtain the written consent of the other Party and shall comply with all conditions set by the other Party on the use of its Brand Materials.

## **12. E-Communication**

The Parties acknowledge and agree that electronic communication is an acceptable method of correspondence and communicating information between the Parties without having to communicate the same on paper. Any communication and subsequent electronic signature that has been sent or signed in the past, present, or future between the Parties will hold the same force and effect as a document signed and inked on paper.

## **13. Mutual Cooperation and Relationship**

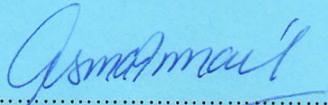
The Parties realize that it is not feasible to adequately foresee and address every issue involving the collaboration of the Parties herein. Hence the Parties shall use their best endeavours to realize their expertise in carrying out the steps and measures necessary for furthering their mutual interest under this MoU in accordance with the spirit of close cooperation and mutual assistance.

***(THE REMAINDER OF THIS PAGE IS INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK)***

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF USM** and **FUM** hereunto have executed this Memorandum of Understanding on the year and date first above written:

SIGNED BY  
For and on behalf of

**UNIVERSITI SAINS MALAYSIA**

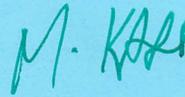


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**PROFESSOR DATUK DR. ASMA ISMAIL,**  
**FASc.**  
Vice-Chancellor

Jun. 13, 2019

SIGNED BY  
For and on behalf of

**FERDOWSI UNIVERSITY OF MASHHAD**



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**PROFESSOR DR. MOHAMMAD KAFI**  
President

