

**Agreement on Academic Cooperation
between
the University of Eastern Finland, Joensuu, Kuopio and Savonlinna,
Finland,
and
Hokkaido University, Sapporo, Japan**

PREAMBLE

In order to strengthen the intellectual growth and international orientation of the faculty and students of the two universities, to help the universities carry out their academic objectives and to foster understanding between Finland and Japan, the two universities agree to cooperate in the following activities as and when appropriate:

- a) Cooperation in research and development
- b) Cooperation in education and training
- c) Exchange of faculty
- d) Exchange of students
- e) Organising of workshops, symposia, and other academic activities

COOPERATION IN RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

To facilitate the identification of mutual research interests, the two universities agree to regularly exchange information on ongoing and completed research and on scholars interested in participating in the exchange programme.

COOPERATION IN EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Whenever possible, the two universities shall cooperate in the development of their curricula.

EXCHANGE OF FACULTY

Faculty exchanges may be arranged from time to time as agreed to by the appropriate parties at each university. The host university shall assist in providing office space and locating accommodation for the visiting faculty members. The home university shall be responsible for the travel and accommodation costs of the visiting faculty members unless stated otherwise.

EXCHANGE OF STUDENTS

Each academic year, each university may send up to five students, undergraduate (i.e. Bachelor's level) or postgraduate (i.e. Master's or doctoral level students), to study for a period not exceeding one year to the other university. The participating students will be selected initially by the home university, and the host university will make the final admission decision in each case. The number of students being exchanged shall not necessarily balance exactly in any given year, but should be approximately equal over a three-year period.

Participating students will continue as candidates for degrees at their home university and will not be candidates for degrees at the host university. They will be required to have sufficient knowledge of the language to carry out their studies and research at the host university. Exchange students coming to the University of Eastern Finland should have a good command of the English language.

It is understood that if successfully completed, the student's studies at the host university can be recognised as part of his/her degree programme at the home university. Doctoral students shall have an opportunity to participate in ongoing research at both universities. The host university will provide the home university with an official transcript of each exchange student's academic performance during his or her time at the host university.

Exchange students shall not be required to pay tuition fees, entrance examination fee and admission fee to the host university. Exchange students shall be responsible for their travel, accommodation and living costs during their exchange. The host university shall assist incoming exchange students in finding adequate housing. Students coming to UEF's campuses in Joensuu, Kuopio or Savonlinna shall apply for accommodation directly from the private student housing companies based in these cities (www.joensuunelli.fi; www.kuopas.fi; or www.sao.fi).

Travel arrangements, securing a student visa, residence permit, health insurance coverage (covering possible costs of hospitalisation and repatriation), the Student Union membership fee, and the fees of optional study tours included in the student's academic programme, shall also be the responsibility of each exchange student.

The full range of services normally available to international students enrolled at the host university shall be provided to each exchange student. At the University of Eastern Finland, student exchanges shall be administered by the International Mobility Services; at Hokkaido University, student exchanges shall be administered by the Office of International Affairs.

ORGANISING OF WORKSHOPS, SYMPOSIA AND OTHER ACTIVITIES

The two universities may agree to organise workshops, symposia, conferences or other meetings on topics of mutual interest. The host university shall assist in locating accommodation for visiting faculty, students and administrators as necessary.

FUNDING ARRANGEMENTS

In order to promote the above mentioned activities, both universities will try to seek external sources of funding, e.g. from the Finnish and Japanese governments, the European Union, or the World Bank. Except for the waiving of tuition and other fees from incoming exchange students, neither university assumes any financial responsibilities on the basis of this agreement.

LIMITATION OF LIABILITY

The Parties' liability towards each other in connection with this Agreement shall not extend to claims for indirect or consequential loss or damage.

DURATION OF THE AGREEMENT

This Agreement shall come into effect on the date of the signatures and remain in effect for five years. It shall be automatically extended for a period of one year at a time unless one of the Parties expresses its wish to terminate the Agreement by providing the other Party with written notice at least three months prior to the termination of the Agreement. In the event of termination of this Agreement, the students and scholars participating in the exchange activities at such a time shall be permitted to complete their activities in accordance with the terms of this Agreement.

The following signatures are affixed as acknowledgement and ratification of the terms of Agreement stipulated above:

Date _____

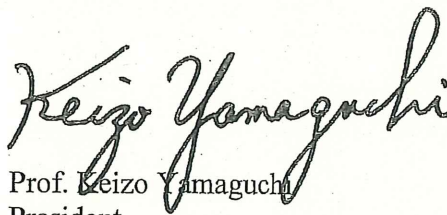
For the University of
Eastern Finland



Prof. Perttu Vartiainen
Rector

Date: 2/2/2015

For Hokkaido University



Prof. Keizo Yamaguchi
President