**AGREEMENT ON A MOBILITY EXCHANGE SCHEME FOR PHD STUDENTS**

**BETWEEN**

**THE UNIVERSITA’ DEGLI STUDI DI PARMA (UNIVERSITY OF PARMA, ITALY)**

**AND**

**(UNIVERSITY/PARTNER ISTITUTION, STATE)**

1. UNIVERSITA’ DEGLI STUDI DI PARMA (UNIVERSITY OF PARMA), having its legal address in Via Università, 12, 43121 Parma, and represented by the Rector, Prof. …………..;

and

1. UNIVERSITY/ISTITUTION OF ………………;

hereafter jointly referred to as “the parties”,

* in order to promote international cooperation in scientific research and advanced education;
* in the will to offer PhD students additional research resources (archival and advisory) and to introduce them to the academic culture, professional contacts and employment opportunities of another country;
* in the will to offer PhD students an opportunity to visit another institution and to work informally with one or more advisors on their PhD thesis research and/or on related publications and presentations, and to attend conferences and workshops both at the host institution and within the wider regional/national academic community;
* more broadly, to further enhance links between the parties such as putting academics with similar research areas in touch with each other;
* in respect of national legislations running in each of the Countries involved in the collaboration;
* in respect of internal regulations and codes adopted by the each party;

agree to promote a collaboration in the framework of:

1. the PhD Course held at *(indicate SENDING INSTITUTION)* named “\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_”, acting as SENDING INSTITUTION;

and

1. the (*indicate the name of HOST INSTITUTION*) acting as HOST INSTITUTION.

To such extent, the present Agreement on a Mobility Exchange Scheme for PhD students is agreed and signed. The Agreement articulates as follows:

# Article 1 – Forms of cooperation

Within fields that are jointly agreed, the following general forms of cooperation are pursued:

1. acceptance of mobility PhD students to perform study and research periods at the host institution;
2. Each party agrees to appoint an official representative, to be identified among its permanent faculty or staff, who will be in charge for the execution of the present Agreement:
   * 1. for the University of Parma, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_;
     2. for the University of or for Istitution of\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

The above-listed representatives will be responsible for the implementation of all the necessary measures required to successfully achieve the objectives fixed in the present agreement and, in particular, for the formulation and implementation of the program.

# Article 2 – Effects of the cooperation

1. Each exchange will normally be limited to a minimum period of \_\_\_ months and a maximum period of \_\_\_\_ months;
2. Each party may send up to \_\_\_\_ PhD students to the other party per year;(Solo per convenzioni con Università)
3. Each mobility PhD student must be regularly enrolled at an official PHD Course held at the sending institution;
4. Selected PhD students from the sending institution who will spend a period at the host institution to actively pursue a research project agreed upon by both parties;
5. The sending institution declared its commitment to guarantee full recognition of the study/research period spent by the PhD students at the host institution;
6. The sending institution will decide which of its PhD students should be funded to study abroad. There should be a competitive element to the funding process with a view to supporting the best candidates;
7. Once a student is accepted, the host institution will arrange for a note of acceptance to be sent to the sending institution;
8. Mobility PhD students must remain registered as PhD students with their home institution. Indeed, overall supervision will remain the responsibility of the supervisor(s) at the PhD student’s home institution;
9. Mobility PhD students will be registered as visiting (exchange) research students in the relevant academic unit of the host institution during their visit;
10. Mobility PhD students are expected to work independently while at the host institution, but will be entitled to attend lectures, seminars and other academic activities on the same basis as other registered research students at the host institution. Mobility PhD students may work with a designated scholar, who will act as an advisor, and they will be expected to join in the regular activities for research students, including e.g. research seminars. In such a case, the designated scholar will write a brief evaluation at the end of the visit, which will be discussed with the student. A copy of the evaluation will be countersigned by the host institution representative, who will send it to the home institution representative for inclusion in the student’s academic file;
11. Mobility PhD students will have the same rights and responsibilities as other registered research students at the host institution. They will be entitled to library privileges, use of the computer rooms, and an email account. They will also have access to the facilities for research students in the relevant academic unit of the host institution;
12. All mobility PhD students are expected to make their own arrangements for housing. The host institution will provide information and advice to students on accommodation options

# Article 4 –Specific forms of cooperation

Any further forms of cooperation, different from those listed in the above Article 1, will be developed jointly and will be agreed upon for each specific case.

# Article 5 – Financial obligations

No academic-related fees will be payable by mobility PhD students to the host institution, e.g. tuition, entrance, examinations, library, email. This does not preclude there being a nominal fee for e.g. health insurance. Mobility PhD students will remain responsible for any applicable fees at their home institution.

Any form of financial support that may be provided by the home institution to the mobility PhD is strictly dependent upon the home institution financial availability and decisions and does not affect the nature of the present agreement. Nonetheless, each party may provide financial support in the form of a flat rate bursary to its mobility PhD students that are sent to host institution within the terms of this Agreement. Each party will decide the level of funding to provide to its students.

# Article 6 – Intellectual property

Mobility PhD students attending a period of research at host institution will own the IP created solely by themselves in the course of their studies and researches, unless different contractual arrangements or arrangements exist. However, since mobility PhD students are using publically funded facilities and working with academic staff, predominantly their supervisors or other employees of the home institution, the home institution regulations apply also during the research period spent at the host institution.

# Article 7 - Legal Liability

Both parties agree that the University of Studies of Parma and INDICATE THE PARTNER will be prepared to answer and defend only that responsibility and resultant legal liability, involving personal injury and property damage, which arises from their respective negligent acts or omissions which may occur in connection with this agreement.

The students involved in the herein mentioned exchange are covered with insurance, provided by the sending University, fully complying with the current regulations.

# Article 8 – Validity and termination

This agreement shall in the first instance be valid for a term of five years since the date of signature by both parties. At the end of the five-year period, the parties agree to review the present agreement and make a decision whether to continue, revise or abandon it. Further reviews will take place as and when deemed prudent by the parties. Both parties have the option of withdrawing from the Agreement by giving no less than one year’s notice: in any case, ongoing mobility will not be affected by the withdrawal action.

Date

Prof. ………….. Prof. ..

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Rector of the University of Parma Rector of the University of……../

Responsible of Institution ……….