

ACADEMIC AGREEMENT
BETWEEN
MANIPAL UNIVERSITY, JAIPUR, INDIA
AND
THE COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING AND COMPUTING
AT
FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY, MIAMI, FLORIDA, UNITED STATES OF
AMERICA

This Academic Agreement ("Agreement") is entered into this 27th day of August 2014, (the "Effective Date," which shall be the date this Agreement becomes fully executed), by and between the Manipal University Jaipur (herein after referred to as "MUJ"), Jaipur 303007, India and The Florida International University Board of Trustees, by and on behalf of the College of Engineering and Computing ("CEC") at Florida International University (herein after referred to as "FIU"), whose business address is Modesto A. Maidique Campus, 11200 S.W. 8th Street, Miami, Florida 33199, United States of America ("USA").

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants provided herein and for other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged by FIU and MUJ (thereafter known as the "Parties"), the Parties hereby agree as follows:

I. Program Offered and Degree Conferred

A. Program Offered

This Agreement describes the terms under which FIU and MUJ can offer MUJ's graduates an opportunity to conduct their graduate studies at FIU and, upon fulfilling all requirements, obtain an FIU degree. The basic purpose of this Agreement is to allow eligible students, upon graduation from MUJ or enrollment in graduate courses at MUJ, to apply to, and upon admission by FIU, to participate in the following options (the options described below will individually be referred to as "MS Program," and collectively as "MS Programs"). Neither option involves the transfer of credits from MUJ:

- (1) **OPTION ONE (1):** After completion of his/her undergraduate studies at MUJ and obtaining a **Bachelor of Technology ("B-Tech")** degree in the Electrical, Electronics, Computer Engineering or the Computer Science and Technology-related discipline, the graduate of MUJ could apply for admission to the **Master of Science ("MS")** degree program in the corresponding areas at CEC at FIU, as indicated in the table presented below. Upon meeting all FIU graduate admissions

requirements, the qualified prospective student may be admitted into the appropriate MS Program at FIU. Upon the satisfactory completion of the required 30 credits and all other standard academic requirements, students would receive MS degrees from FIU.

B-Tech Programs at MUJ	MS Programs at FIU
Electrical, Electronics, and Computer Engineering	Electrical Engineering, Computer Engineering, and Engineering Management
Computer Science and Technology-related subjects	Computer Science, Telecommunication and Networking, Information Technology, Computer Engineering, and Engineering Management

- (2) **OPTION TWO (2):** After admission by MUJ and enrollment in MUJ's graduate program and the successful completion of one (1) or more graduate courses in a Master of Technology in an Engineering disciplines denoted in the following table, the MUJ student could apply for admission to the **MS** degree program in the corresponding areas at CEC at FIU, as indicated in the table presented below. (*This option does not involve the transfer of graduate credits from MUJ.*) Upon meeting all FIU graduate admissions requirements, the qualified prospective students may be admitted into the appropriate MS Program at FIU. Upon the satisfactory completion of the required 30 credits and all other standard academic requirements, students would receive MS degrees from FIU.

M. Tech Programs at MUJ	MS Programs at FIU
Electrical, Electronics and Computer Engineering	Electrical Engineering, Computer Engineering and Engineering Management
Computer Science and Technology- related subjects	Computer Science, Telecommunication and Networking, Information Technology, Computer Engineering, and Engineering Management

- (3) The current list of courses of the MS Programs can be found in the CEC website.

B. Degree Conferred

- (1) Upon the successful conclusion of his/her studies, per Options One (1) or Two (2), the student would receive an MS from CEC at FIU. In addition, MUJ graduates and former graduate students obtaining an FIU MS degree would have the option to apply for a 12-month **Optional Practical Training ("OPT")** with the **United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS)**, as long as they have been enrolled full time for a minimum of an academic year in F-1 status and meet the minimum eligibility requirements of described in **Appendix A**, attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference.

The MS Programs are described in greater detail in the following sections.

II. MS Degree Programs for Graduates and/or Former Graduate Students of MUJ

A. Description of the Programs

- (1) Each MS Program consists of 30 graduate credits of coursework (10 courses of three [3] credit hours each).

B. Applicants

- (1) The CEC will accept nominations of MUJ graduates and/or former graduate students for participation in this Agreement. In addition, CEC will also accept applicants who have completed the BS in the previous two (2) years (currently 2012-14). These recent graduates are eligible to take advantage of the opportunity to participate in Option (1) offered by this Agreement.
- (2) Admission to FIU into an MS Program via this Agreement is *not* guaranteed; students must individually apply to FIU and meet all FIU requirements. If accepted, he/she would enroll at FIU where he/she must satisfactorily complete his/her CEC and FIU degree requirements in order to earn an MS degree. CEC and FIU graduation requirements apply to all students equally, including those from MUJ, and are subject to revision as and when needed, in order to comply with curricular changes at CEC or FIU and/or to meet accreditation and State of Florida requirements.

C. Conditions for Admission

- (1) The current admission requirements for the MS Programs are the following (*these are subject to modification*):
 - a. Completion of an online Graduate Application for Admissions that can be obtained at gradschool.fiu.edu by clicking on "Graduate Admissions."
 - b. Holding a bachelor's degree or equivalent from an accredited university with an undergraduate **grade point average ("GPA")** equivalent to 3.0 out of 4.0 in upper division courses.
 - c. Submission of official transcripts of all previously attended universities (undergraduate and graduate) in a sealed university envelope.
 - d. Submission of official proof of any degrees obtained; a notarized copy of the original diploma is required.
 - e. Submission of a letter of recommendation from a person in a position to judge the applicant's potential for success in graduate study.
 - f. Applicants whose native language is not English must demonstrate proficiency in the English language by presenting a minimum score of 80 on the **Internet-Based Test ("iBT"), Test of English as a Foreign Language ("TOEFL")**, or the equivalent minimum score of 550 on the paper-based version of the TOEFL. The **International English Language Testing System ("IELTS")** exam is accepted;

students would need a minimum score of 6.5. However, such a test is not necessary for non-degree seeking students.

The requirement of the submission of a GRE score depends on each individual program.

MS Program at FIU	Requirement of GRE and Score(s)
MS in Computer Science	Q ≥ 148
MS in Information Technology	Not Applicable
MS in Telecommunication and Networking	Not Applicable
MS in Engineering Management	Not Applicable
MS in Electrical Engineering	Not Applicable
MS in Computer Engineering	Not Applicable

- g. Fulfillment of any other standard FIU Graduate Admissions' requirement.
- (2) All international documents in foreign languages must be translated into English by an official translation agency before submission to FIU.
 - (3) Degree Requirements
 - a. Participants pursuing an MS Program at FIU are required to earn a minimum of 30 credits of the CEC MS degree, and as indicated in the FIU graduate catalog at the time of admission. The FIU **graduate program director** ("GPD") of each MS Program must approve his/her choice of courses in writing.
 - b. Entry into the MS Program at FIU can take place at the start of any one (1) of three (3) annual university terms: the fall term beginning late August; the spring term in early January, or, summer term in early May.
 - c. In order to maintain legal F-1 visa status, MUJ students participating in the MS Programs at FIU shall register for a minimum of nine (9) credit hours during the fall and spring semesters. MUJ students do not need to register in the summer semester to maintain legal status, unless they commence their studies at CEC in the summer semester; in that case, a minimum of six (6) credits are required to maintain legal F-1 status. *The F-1 eligibility criteria are subject to change pursuant to the US immigration laws.*

D. Graduation Requirements

- (1) The FIU and CEC graduation requirements are also detailed in the FIU graduate catalog and include, but are not limited to (*subject to modification*):
 - a. Completion of a *minimum* of 30 graduate credits; and,
 - b. Attainment of an overall GPA of 3.0.

- (2) No grade below a 'C' will be accepted in a graduate program. Only courses taken at FIU will be used to calculate the FIU cumulative GPA. All academic rules and requirements stated in the graduate catalog of FIU will govern the student terms.

III. Opportunities at FIU for Non-Degree Seeking Students from MUJ and Corresponding Charge

- (1) Undergraduate: Academically eligible *MUJ B. Tech* students who have completed seven (7) semesters at MUJ can seek enrollment at FIU during one (1) semester to take research/independent study course(s). The non-degree seeking students would avail him/herself of this opportunity as part of his/her degree requirements at MUJ. This option involves the transfer of grades to MUJ to support the awarding of the B. Tech degree at MUJ.
- a. Fees and Related Expenses: A student participating in this option will be charged four hundred and fifty US dollars (US 450.00) per credit hour for the enrolled courses. Students will pay FIU directly. MUJ students shall be responsible for paying any and all applicable FIU fees.
 - b. Additionally, students will be assigned an FIU Engineering faculty member based upon the faculty's availability.
- (2) Graduate: Upon completion of two (2) semesters at MUJ, academically eligible *MUJ M. Tech* students could seek enrollment at FIU during two (2) semesters as a non-degree seeking student. The student would enroll in research/advanced research/independent study courses. This option involves the transfer of grades to MUJ to support the awarding of an M. Tech degree at MUJ.
- a. Fees and Related Expenses: A student participating in this option will be charged five hundred and ninety US dollars (US \$590.00) per credit hour for the enrolled courses. Students will pay FIU directly. MUJ students shall be responsible for paying any and all applicable FIU fees.
 - b. Additionally, students will be assigned an appropriate FIU Engineering faculty member based upon the faculty's availability.
- (3) The non-degree seeking students under this Agreement need to obtain a J-1 visa and ensure that requirements tied to the J-1 visa are met. Students must be pursuing a degree at their home university, and would participate in this non-degree seeking opportunity at FIU to fulfill part of the requirements of their foreign degree.
- (4) Requirements for participation:
- a. The MUJ student must have health insurance that meets minimum federal requirements for the duration of stay.
 - b. The following must be sent to FIU's Department of International Students and Scholar Services and/or FIU's Office of Academic Budget and Personnel:
 - i. A completed DS-2019 form Request Form.

- ii. Financial documentation which verifies in U.S. dollars how she/he will be supported while here at Florida International University.
- iii. Medical Insurance Form.

(5) Other requirements, such as mandatory housing at FIU, could apply. Students will be informed in writing of all requirements. Students may not work on- or off-campus during their stay in the USA.

(6) The non-degree seeking options described above would be capped at 10 students per semester. Undergraduate students must enroll for 12 credits and graduate students for nine (9) credits.

IV. Fees and Related Expenses for Degree-Seeking Students

A. A student participating in the MS Program pursuant to this Agreement will be charged five hundred and ninety US Dollars (US \$590.00) per credit hour for the courses in the MS Program. MUJ students shall be responsible for paying any and all applicable FIU fees. Changes in tuition and fees are approved at the annual summer meeting of The Florida International University Board of Trustees. Thus, *FIU will communicate, in writing, any changes in tuition and fees on a yearly basis.*

B. MUJ students participating in a MS Program as described in this Agreement will be responsible for paying all tuition, fees and costs. Students enrolling at FIU pursuant to this Agreement will also be responsible for all expenses related to his/her course of study at FIU, including housing, transportation, health insurance and other similar expenses. Students are required to pay any and all applicable on-campus fee, including but not limited to, the annual photo identification fee, athletic fee (per term), health fee (per term), and the transportation access fee (per term), as appropriate. Students must meet the financial criteria for international students established by FIU, the Florida Board of Governors, and the US Department of Homeland Security. Students must also acquire by themselves the appropriate visas in order to be enrolled to study in the USA.

V. Other Program Characteristics and Conditions

A. Internships and Career Services

(1) All participants in the MS Programs will have access and full rights to the services provided by the CEC, including the services provided by the FIU Office of Career Services. Foreign students attending the FIU programs who meet certain eligibility requirements may apply for the OPT program as described in **Appendix A**, attached hereto.

B. Use of Logos and Brands

(1) Both the Parties shall do business in its own name. However, they may use the logos of each other for promotion of this Agreement following prior written approval of the other Party.

(2) Neither party may use the **Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges ("SACSCOC")** logo in connection with this Agreement or otherwise. The use of this logo is reserved exclusively for SACSCOC.

C. Miscellaneous Provisions

- (1) The conduct of students/faculty of both Parties will be governed by all applicable laws and the policies and procedures of the institution in which they are enrolled.
- (2) Both the Parties shall keep in mind the welfare and prestige of each other. However, if there is any difference of opinion, it will be amicably resolved between President, MUJ and his counterpart at FIU.
- (3) The term of this Agreement shall be for three (3) years commencing on the Effective Date. The Parties will review the Agreement in one-and-a-half (1½) years after the Effective Date to assess results and enact improvements, as necessary. The Agreement may be renewed for additional periods of time and could be extended to other MS degree programs of CEC upon the mutual written consent of the Parties and subject to such terms and conditions as the Parties shall determine in writing. Such extension would require the amendment of the Agreement to incorporate the admission and graduation requirements of other MS degree programs of CEC. Any such amendment would require the additional approval by the appropriate authority of each respective institution.
- (4) Any notice required or permitted under the provisions of this Agreement shall be effective when personally delivered or sent by first class mail, return receipt requested as follows:

If to MUJ: Professor (Dr.) N. K. Garg
Dean, FOD and International Programmes
Manipal University
Post: Dehmi Kalan, Jaipur-Ajmer Expressway
Jaipur 303007, India

If to FIU: Amir Mirmiran, Ph.D., P.E.
Dean, College of Engineering and Computing
Florida International University
10555 W. Flagler Street, EC 2477
Miami, FL 33174 USA

- (5) This Agreement may be terminated without cause by either Party upon six (6) months' advance written notice. Notwithstanding this provision, any students participating in existing programs would be allowed to complete their degree program.
- (6) The Parties agree to provide equal enrollment opportunities to all persons regardless of race, color, religion, gender, age, national origin, disability or marital status during the term of the Agreement.
- (7) The Agreement is designed solely to facilitate the development of mutually beneficial and collaborative initiatives. Each Party shall bear any cost it may incur in the implementation of this Agreement.

- (8) The Agreement constitutes the entire Agreement between the Parties concerning the subject matter hereof, and supersedes all prior or contemporaneous discussions, agreements, and understandings, whether verbal or written.
- (9) This Agreement will be amended, as necessary, to comply with regulations or policies of both Parties, as they might be revised from time to time.
- (10) MUJ as well as FIU will be responsible for obtaining all necessary central, provincial, and/or local governmental approvals required to implement this Agreement.
- (11) The performance of FIU pursuant to this Agreement must comply with and is subject to the Constitution and laws of the United States of America and of the State of Florida.
- (12) The individuals signing this Agreement represent and warrant that they have the requisite authority to bind their respective bodies to this Agreement.

For Manipal University, Jaipur:



Professor (Dr.) N. K. Garg
Dean, FOD and International
Programmes

Date: 27th August 2014

**The Florida International University
Board of Trustees**



Elizabeth M. Bejar
Vice President for Academic Affairs

Date: 8/11/2014



Amir Mirmiran, Ph.D., P.E.
Dean, College of Engineering and
Computing

Date: 8/5/14

*Approved as to the Form and Legal
Sufficiency:*



Isis Carbajal de Garcia
Deputy General Counsel

Date: 8/4/14

APPENDIX A

OPTIONAL PRACTICAL TRAINING (OPT)

Eligibility for Employment:

A fundamental eligibility requirement for all types of employment (on- or off-campus) is for a student to **continuously maintain lawful F-1 status**. Maintaining lawful F-1 status includes, at a minimum, the following:

1. Student must have a valid passport at all times;
2. Student must hold a valid FIU I-20 properly processed either through FIU's **International Student and Scholar Services ("ISSS")** or by travel and re-entry;
3. Student must be registered full-time each academic semester. Under immigration regulations, "full-time enrollment" is defined as enrollment for **at least 9 graduate-level credits for graduate students**.
4. Student must also be in good academic standing and "make normal progress towards completion of degree," which means maintaining the minimum GPA of at least 3.0 for graduate students.

Practical training is employment that is directly related to a student's major or field of study. Students must have been on valid F-1 status for at least two consecutive semesters prior to application for practical training, although application is allowed 90 days prior to the conclusion of their studies.

OPT is limited to an aggregate total of 12 months. Authorization is granted by a Service Center of the **US Immigration and Citizenship Service ("USCIS")**. An FIU ISSS advisor will recommend OPT for an FIU international student in F-1 status who has met **all eligibility requirements**. An application fee is charged by USCIS.

A student may choose to apply for OPT either before graduation (pre-completion of degree) or after graduation (post-completion of degree). Any period used before graduation is deducted from the 12 months available. **Students are required to attend a *Practical Training/Employment Workshop* in order to be eligible to apply for OPT.** More detailed information (application procedure, documents needed, etc.) is provided at the workshop. **Students must CHECK WITH ISSS FOR WORKSHOP SCHEDULE and APPLICATION DEADLINES.** These workshops are also offered online.

Students must have attended an ISSS Employment/Practical Training Workshop before they can apply for OPT through ISSS on an appointment basis. They must bring all applications forms and other required documents at the time of appointment with an ISSS advisor.

IMPORTANT: Students must obtain proper authorization before engaging in any on- or off-campus employment (whether it is paid or non-paid). If a student falls out-of status at any time during his/her employment (i.e., drops a class and falls below the full-time requirement or his/her passport expires), then the student must stop working immediately. *The requirements for maintaining the F-1 visa status and being eligible for the OPT are subject to change based on US immigration law.*