

**Memorandum of Understanding of Educational Cooperation  
Between  
The University of Central Missouri  
And  
Instituto Superior Tecnológico Blue Hill College**

The University of Central Missouri (hereafter referred to as UCM, Address: P.O. Box 800, Warrensburg, MO 64093) and the 2 campuses of Instituto Superior Tecnológico Blue Hill College,

Juan Tanca Marengo Campus, Av Juan Tanca Marengo km 6 1.5 y Av. Ing. José Antonio Gomez Gault, Guayaquil 090602 Ecuador, and

Samborondón Campus, Av. Los Arcos 335, Samborondón 092301 Ecuador

(hereafter and collectively Blue Hill College), aim to establish and develop a strategic collaborative relationship in order to promote educational opportunities between the two institutions on the terms and conditions hereinafter set forth;

**I. The Scope of this Agreement**

The *Memorandum of Understanding* will serve as a general framework for institutional co-operation. Both institutions agree to promote the following educational opportunities based on their respective academic and educational needs:

- Undergraduate and graduate degree-seeking programs
- Short- and long-term Faculty and Student Exchange
- Collaborative research and discovery, learning and teaching
- Programs offered or developed by UCM's English Language Institute
- Other mutually agreed upon educational or research programs

Before implementing these activities, the parties will discuss the opportunities and challenges presented and will thereafter enter into specific written agreements based on the mutually agreed upon objectives and outcomes.

**II. Period of Agreement**

This agreement shall come into effect from the date of signing by representatives of both institutions and will remain in force for a period of five (5) years. This agreement may be renewed beyond five years by mutual written agreement. In addition, either university may terminate the agreement by providing notice to the other party in writing.

**III. Activities Under This Agreement**

It is expected that activities taking place under this Agreement will be initiated primarily by academic units within each university, and in coordination with their respective administrative



units concerned with international activities. All activities undertaken must conform to the policies and procedures in place at each institution.

#### **IV. Planning and Management of Activities**

Each distinct collaboration program or activity will be described in a separate Program Specific Agreement drawn up jointly all signed by authorized signatories of each party. Such agreements will specify the names of those individuals on each campus responsible for the implementation of the program and set forth all terms and conditions associated with the activity. The parties understand that each Program Specific Agreement may have different circumstances with respect to the personnel, types of activities, intellectual property, and other deliverables that UCM may be required to contribute. Therefore, UCM reserves the right to perform a separate risk assessment on the legal, tax and other liabilities that may arise under each Program Specific Agreement and to structure its deliverables under the Program Specific Agreement in a way that maximizes the cost and liability efficiencies for UCM. UCM reserves the right to assign and/or subcontract any or all of its obligations under this MOU and/or any Program Specific Agreement to any of its subsidiaries or affiliates (including affiliates controlled but not owned by UCM or any trustees of UCM).

#### **V. UCM Admission Requirement**

Undergraduate degree seeking student must complete the following:

- Submit an online application.
- Demonstrate English proficiency:
  - TOEFL 61 iBT, IELTS Academic 5.5, Duolingo 95; or,
  - Cumulative 2.00 GPA in BHC's College Writing I and College Writing II
- Minimum GPA of 2.0 in the scale of 4.0 or above to be admissible
- Declaration of financial support and bank statement

Graduate degree seeking students must complete the following:

- Submit an online application.
- Demonstrate English proficiency: TOEFL 79 iBT, IELTS Academic 6.0, Duolingo 120
- Minimum GPA for respective program
- Declaration of financial support and bank statement

#### **VI. Non-Resident and Transfer Scholarships**

UCM does hereby agree to offer a renewable Global Partners Scholarship to students from Blue Hill College, waiving the non-resident portion of their tuition. Students taking all or some IEP classes will also have the non-resident portion of tuition waived. Students must meet the following criteria to be eligible for this award:

- Students must submit in a timely manner all required documentation of UCM's international student online application, to include application fee, English proficiency

scores, official transcripts translated in English, satisfactory financial documentation and copy of passport.

- English proficiency may be demonstrated by one of the following:
  - TOEFL exam score of 61 iBT or 5.5 IELTS Academic for undergraduates
  - or TOEFL exam score of 79 iBT or 6.0 IELTS Academic for graduate
  - If students do not meet this requirement, they may participate in our Intensive English Program to bachelor's or ELIPS track.
- Students must maintain a cumulative undergraduate GPA of 2.5 or a graduate GPA of a 3.0, or better, on a 4.0 scale.

UCM's International Student Services office will provide an I-20 form to qualified applicants after all the specified academic and financial documentation is provided. However, the awarding of student visa is decided by the appropriate US government official in student's home country.

This scholarship is renewable each semester the student meets the GPA requirements and remains enrolled at UCM as a full-time student.

BHC Transfer Students will also be eligible for the following, renewable Transfer Scholarships, based on GPA:

- President's Distinguished Scholarship - \$1000/semester, 3.50-4.00 GPA
- President's Scholarship - \$750/semester, 3.30-3.49 GPA
- Dean's Scholarship - \$500/semester, 3.00-3.29 GPA

BHC Transfer Students will also be eligible for the \$1000, first-semester, non-renewable First Time International Student Award.

## **VII. Institutional Coordinators**

Each institution will nominate a designated individual who will communicate regularly with each other to monitor the progress of collaborative and staff/student exchange arrangements.

## **VIII. Funding of Activities**

Activity Agreements should make financial costs and obligations explicit. Collaborating units are encouraged to work together to identify and secure any outside funding which may be needed. Projects requiring funding must be approved by both institutions.

## **IX. Nondiscrimination**

UCM and Blue Hill College agree that no person shall on the grounds of race, religion, color, sex, age, national origin or ancestry, genetic information, marital status, parental status, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, disability, or status as a veteran be excluded from participation under the terms of this Agreement.





#### **X. Modification**

The terms of this Agreement may be changed or modified only by written amendment signed by authorized agents of the parties hereto.

#### **XI. Prevailing Language**

Should this document be executed in two languages, the English version of this Memorandum of Understanding represents the understanding of both Parties. Any other version is provided as a translation. In the event of conflict between the two versions, the English version will prevail. This contract is subject to UCM Policy and the current catalog, which may change from time to time.

#### **XII. Non-Binding**

This Agreement is non-binding and solely for the purpose of establishing a basis upon which UCM and Blue Hill College will continue discussions. Either UCM or Blue Hill College may at its sole discretion terminate discussions for any reason by giving written notice of termination to the other. In the case of a dispute that arises relating to any aspect of cooperation under this Agreement, the parties may attempt to resolve such dispute through friendly negotiation, or either party may elect to terminate the agreement pursuant to the previous provision. Upon termination, the parties will have no further obligations hereunder.

#### **XIII. Foreign Corrupt Practices Act**

UCM and Blue Hill College represent and warrant to each other that they are aware of the requirements of the United States Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (the "FCPA") and that they will not, and will not allow their owners, employees, representatives, officers, directors) contractors or other agents to take any action in connection with this Agreement or any separate Program Specific Agreement to provide, offer or promise to provide, or authorize the provision directly or indirectly of) any money, gift, loan, service or anything of value to (i) any government official (or any agent, employee or family member thereof), (ii) any political party or candidate for political office, or (iii) any person, while knowing that all or a portion of such money or thing of value will be offered, given or promised, directly or indirectly, to any of the foregoing in (i) or (ii), for the purpose of obtaining or retaining business or funding, to direct business or funding to any person or entity, or to secure any other improper advantage.

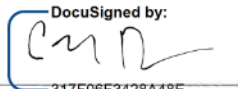
#### **XIV. Terms of the Agreement**

This agreement shall come into effect from the date of signing by representatives of both institutions. Each institution agrees to provide timely notice to the other in the event of any modifications that might affect the compatibility for admission and transfer of coursework. This agreement may be subject to change, with notification, if institutional requirements change by either institution.



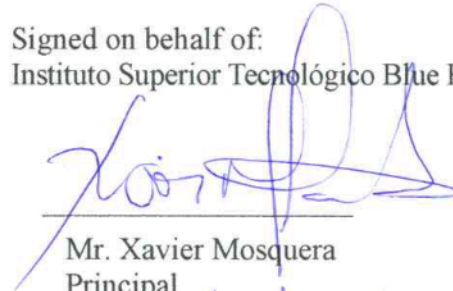
This *Memorandum of Understanding* is subject to the rules and regulations governing UCM and Blue Hill College.

Signed on behalf of:  
University of Central Missouri

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Dr. Phillip Bridgmon  
Provost, VP for Academic Affairs  
Date: May 17, 2024

Signed on behalf of:  
Instituto Superior Tecnológico Blue Hill College



Mr. Xavier Mosquera  
Principal  
Date: 05/13/2024-