

**AGREEMENT ON COOPERATION BETWEEN  
COLLEGE OF LIFE SCIENCES  
NATIONAL YANG MING CHIAO TUNG UNIVERSITY, THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA (“NYCU”)  
AND  
FACULTY OF APPLIED SCIENCES  
TON DUC THANG UNIVERSITY, THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM (“TDTU”)**

The College of Life Sciences, NYCU, and the Faculty of Applied Sciences, TDTU, hereby implement the cooperation agreement to further facilitate educational research exchange in the graduate program.

Other academic departments from both universities may elect to join this cooperation agreement upon recommendation by their faculty and approval of the senior management in charge of academic affairs in each university. In such a case, the Agreement will be modified and re-executed.

Definitions:

**BS+MS (5 or 4 + 1.5) Program (BMP):** This academic program is jointly implemented by NYCU and TDTU, whereby students undertake a portion of their undergraduate studies at TDTU and complete a short-term research project and a full Master's degree at NYCU in a 5 or 4 + 1.5-year structure.

**Short-Term Research Semester:** A six-month academic and research engagement at NYCU for students who have not yet completed their Bachelor's degree, intended to provide research exposure prior to formal admission into the Master's phase.

**Home Institution:** Ton Duc Thang University (TDTU), the institution where students are initially enrolled and from which they are nominated for participation in the BS+MS (5 or 4 + 1.5) Program (BMP).

**Host Institution:** National Yang Ming Chiao Tung University (NYCU), the institution that hosts the students for both the research semester and the Master's program, and awards the Master's degree upon successful completion.

**The students/student:** Refers to full-time undergraduate students who are officially nominated by TDTU and formally accepted by NYCU to participate in the BS+MS (5 or 4 + 1.5) Program established under this Agreement. These students temporarily enroll at the host institution for academic study while maintaining their degree candidacy at the home institution, and are subject to the academic regulations and responsibilities set forth by both parties.

**1. The BS+MS Program (5 or 4 + 1.5) (hereafter referred to as “BMP program”)**

A BMP program is a part of the research development framework and is structured to include six months of short-term research followed by one and a half years (three semesters) of the Master's degree program. Both the short-term research and the Master's program take place in Taiwan.

## **2. Nomination of students to be sent and selection method**

The program shall allow TDTU to send up to 12 students annually. The students participating in the program during the term of this agreement will be selected initially by their home institution, and the host university will make final admission decisions in each case. Applications each year must meet the deadlines designated by each university.

## **3. Degree requirements (Appendix 1)**

Students, upon completing the six-month short-term research program at NYCU, will return to TDTU to complete their undergraduate thesis and will be awarded a Bachelor's degree by TDTU.

The student shall take courses and fulfill the requirements to complete the Master's program at NYCU to obtain a degree.

The requirements for obtaining the Master's degree from the program follow the institution's regulations (see Appendix 1).

These degree requirements are subject to change. Both institutions agree to minimize disruption to the academic progress of enrolled students as much as possible. Both institutions agree to inform each other in writing of any material changes to the degree requirements at least 6 months in advance.

## **4. Period of study**

Generally, the students shall spend around two years at NYCU. However, this may be altered upon approval by both universities. The students must spend up to six months on a short-term research project at the College of Life Sciences, NYCU. After obtaining a bachelor's degree from TDTU, the students must spend the following one and a half years on a master's program research project at the College of Life Sciences, NYCU. The entire period shall not exceed 4 years.

## **5. Course Registration**

Course registration and examinations are implemented under the regulations of the host university.

## **6. Conferring grades and credits**

The host university shall evaluate grades and confer credits for the courses registered by the students at the home university under the host university's regulations. For NYCU, the university courses are calculated by credits. For courses requiring independent study, each hour of class per week shall grant one credit per semester. The home university shall evaluate grades and credits gained by the students at the host university under the home university's regulations.

## **7. Academic Supervision and Faculty Collaboration**

The College of Life Sciences, NYCU, shall assign a primary research supervisor for each student, in consultation with TDTU, prior to the student's admission. This supervisor will be responsible for overseeing the student's

academic progress, including credit accumulation, research performance, and thesis development. Supervisory responsibilities may be jointly undertaken by multiple faculty members at NYCU, where appropriate.

To ensure academic quality and cross-institutional engagement, the two institutions shall jointly establish a Thesis Committee to evaluate the Master's thesis and other academic requirements of the program. This committee shall consist of a proportionally balanced number of qualified academic representatives nominated by the authorized personnel of both institutions. All final assessments, including thesis defense, shall be conducted in English.

Additionally, both institutions may implement joint faculty appointments to support the BMP program. Jointly appointed faculty—selected based on their specialized expertise and teaching experience—may participate in curriculum design, course delivery, and student supervision. These appointments shall comply with mutually agreed standards and procedures and will be governed by clearly defined terms regarding responsibilities, remuneration, and performance evaluation, as stipulated in separate contractual agreements.

## **8. Financing**

The program offers generous financial support to help students manage their expenses. Tuition waivers and scholarships at NYCU are available for the short-term research semester and the master's degree program. For the short-term research period, students must pay tuition fees to their home university to maintain their student status. They can receive an assistantship and a scholarship for a total amount of up to NT\$80,000, depending on eligibility criteria, academic performance, and availability of funds of the host university. For the Master's degree program, students can receive an assistantship and a scholarship for a total amount of up to NT\$15,000 per month, depending on eligibility criteria, academic performance, and availability of funds of the host university. While studying at the host university, students are responsible for visas, travel, room and board, required health insurance, and other incidental expenses consistent with the practices and regulations of the host university.

## **9. Housing**

The host university shall make efforts to secure housing for the students.

## **10. Intellectual property rights**

If intellectual property arises in this Program education, the contribution to such intellectual property by each Institution shall be discussed between both Institutions. The rights to such intellectual property will be prescribed separately among the relevant parties.

## **11. Revision and termination of the Agreement**

The agreement shall take effect from the last signature for a period of 5 years. Both universities shall consult each other if the situation arises in which the agreement is found to need revision or termination. Both

institutions must send a written notice and consult with each other six months before revision or 1 year before termination of the agreement. However, in the event of termination, students who have already enrolled in the BMP program are allowed to continue to the completion of the Master's degree under the original terms and conditions of this agreement.

In the event of termination, NYCU agrees to allow any student who has been accepted into this program to complete it under the terms of this Agreement, subject to the student maintaining satisfactory academic progress, provided that no party is in breach of any of its obligations under this Agreement

**12. Other**

Necessary matters concerning the administration of the BMP program and what is prescribed in the agreement shall be specified separately upon consultation between the universities.

This Agreement is prepared in English, and the text shall be regarded as official. Two signed copies will be prepared, and both parties will keep one. Should any translation be made for internal use, the English version shall prevail in case of discrepancy

On behalf of  
Ton Duc Thang University  
Faculty of Applied Sciences  
  
.....  
Dean, Dr. Do Tuong Ha  
Date: .....

On behalf of  
National Yang Ming Chiao Tung University  
College of Life Sciences  
  
.....  
Dean, Distinguished Prof. Cheng-Chang Lien  
Date: .....

**COORDINATOR**

On behalf of  
Ton Duc Thang University  
Faculty of Applied Sciences  
  
.....  
Vice Dean, Dr. Nguyen Ngoc Tuan  
Date: .....

On behalf of  
National Yang Ming Chiao Tung University  
College of Life Sciences  
  
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Honorary Vice Dean, Prof. Shir-Ly Huang  
Date: .....

## APPENDIX 1 –DEGREE/COURSE REQUIREMENTS

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### TDTU

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#### General rule:

1. The BMP students must complete a short-term research project at the College of Life Sciences, NYCU, for up to six months. After completing the short-term research, the BMP students are required to return to their home institution (TDTU) and conduct an oral thesis defense. The outcomes of the short-term research project are recognized as equivalent to 10 credit hours in the graduation thesis course.
2. The BMP students will be awarded a Bachelor of Applied Sciences degree by TDTU upon successful completion of the graduation thesis course and all credit hours according to TDTU graduation requirements.
3. The BMP students who fulfill the above requirements may be nominated to continue their participation in the BMP program at the host institution (NYCU) to pursue a Master's degree.

### NYCU

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#### General rule:

4. The BMP students must spend up to six months on the short-term research project at the College of Life Sciences, NYCU.
5. After obtaining a bachelor's degree from TDTU, BMP students must spend the following one and a half years on a research project at the College of Life Sciences, NYCU.
6. The whole study period in the host university shall not exceed 4 years.

#### Degree requirements at the College of Life Sciences, NYCU:

1. The BMP students must earn 13 credits in total (including professional courses, projects, seminars, and dissertations) from the College of Life Sciences, NYCU, to get a Master's degree.
2. The required courses are a total of 7 credits, including Special lectures on biomedicine (1 credit per semester, for a total of 2 credits within the first year), Gender Equity Education (0 credits, online course from NYCU), Students' Academic and Research Ethics Education Program (0 credit, online course from NYCU), Seminar (1 credit per semester, for a total of 3 credits within the three semesters), Progress Report (1 credit per semester, for a total of 2 credits within the first year)
3. Students must pass the written examination, oral defense, and Master thesis review.
4. Students must meet other rules and regulations regarding the conferment of the institution and department degrees.

## APPENDIX 2 –CONTACT

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### TDTU

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#### **Program Coordinator**

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### NYCU

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