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# GRADUATE STUDENT EXCHANGE AGREEMENT

BETWEEN UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA AND

## PARTNER UNIVERSITY

In order to promote educational excellence, academic ties and international cooperation, the University of South Carolina, and **Partner University** agree to establish an academic exchange agreement.

### I. EXCHANGE PROVISIONS

- The University South Carolina (South Carolina) and **Partner University (Partner)** agree to exchange a **maximum of [indicate number] graduate students for a semester exchange each year within the field of [indicate area of exchange].**
- The total number of students may vary from year to year with the exact number to be determined by mutual agreement of the program directors of South Carolina and **Partner**. A definite number shall be agreed upon **by February 1st** of the year in which the exchange is to take place.
- In the event that the number of students who qualify to participate in the exchange program is not equal, each university will endeavor to accommodate those students selected for that academic year and ensure that the number of participants is equal by the end of a five year exchange period.
- **Either institution may send students for one full academic year rather than one semester term. If this is the case, two students for one semester shall be equivalent to one student for one full academic year.**
- Each institution shall confirm which courses are available to incoming exchange students, reviewed on an annual basis, via its web pages or other method of delivery.
- Each institution will designate a member of its faculty or administrative staff as program director of the exchange program. The program director shall be responsible for soliciting and selecting candidates, advising them relative to their academic work while at the host institution, and managing pertinent records.
- South Carolina will facilitate access to graduate student housing for participants in this exchange program, but cannot guarantee on-campus housing availability. Partner will **[facilitate access to housing off campus/provide on campus housing to all student participants on this exchange program.]**

### II. EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS

- Each institution shall decide the criteria of admission and appropriate admission procedures. Student participants will have successfully completed at **least [indicate number] of semester(s)/academic term(s) at the home institution** prior to attending the host institution.
  - **Partner** students must meet the standard English Language requirements for overseas non-native speakers at the time of admission. **A TOEFL score of 80 IBT (570 PBT) or a score of 6.5 on the IELTS is required by the Graduate School for South Carolina**
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admission, individual programs may have higher requirements [Adjust South Carolina requirements as necessary to meet stated program requirements.] [Insert requirements for South Carolina students, e.g. foreign language proficiency].

- South Carolina and **Partner** agree that the administrative and educational requirements of both universities shall be respected in that all rules, regulations, and policies will be followed, including but not limited to admissions standards, academic progress rules, and all codes of student conduct as set forth in the student handbook known as the Carolina Community, the terms of which are incorporated herein by reference.
- At the end of a student's stay at the host institution, an official university transcript will be sent to the designated program director of the student's home institution showing the courses taken, the number of credit hours earned, and the grades earned. Granting of credits for courses completed at the host institution shall be the sole prerogative of the home institution. The responsibility for providing the transcript shall be with the host university and there will be no charge therefore. The registrar's office of the student's host institution will be notified in advance of the need to supply a transcript and all students will be required to sign a release form.
- Exchange participants who choose to continue as degree seeking students beyond the terms of the exchange are subject to all admission and testing required for the degree seeking student at South Carolina. They are also subject to all university fees, including the Foreign Student Enrollment Fee, normally charged to degree seeking students, which have been waived for the exchange participants.

### III. FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS

- The student participants in this exchange program will pay the required tuition and fees for full-time study at the university of origin and no such tuition and fees shall be charged by the host university. **Partner** students attending South Carolina are subject to the Foreign Student Enrollment Fee (currently \$200), but are not subject to the application, transcript, and matriculation fees. [Program may set credit hour restrictions on exchange students to ensure that there is an appropriate balance regarding tuition and fees between the outgoing and incoming exchange students. The exchange program will not be approved if there will be an imbalance in funding.]
  - Student participants will pay for the cost of accommodation during their participation in the exchange. Student participants who remain in their accommodation during vacation periods are responsible for any additional cost incurred.
  - Each student will be responsible for arranging the necessary visa and the costs of accommodation, international travel, travel in the host country, books, equipment, consumables, hospitalization, health insurance, and other incidental expenses.
  - All participants must show evidence of adequate medical and accident insurance. Exchange students at South Carolina are required to purchase the University health insurance policy or provide proof of comparable coverage. South Carolina students are required to purchase travel insurance procured through the Study Abroad Office or provide proof of comparable coverage.
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