

**Agreement for Research Exchange and Cooperation
between the Instituto de Productos Lácteos de Asturias, Spain
and the Faculty of Medicine, Khon Kaen University, Thailand**

The Instituto de Productos Lácteos de Asturias (IPLA), belonging to the Agencia Estatal Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas (CSIC), referred thereafter as IPLA-CSIC, Spain, and the Faculty of Medicine, Khon Kaen University, Thailand, referred hereinafter as “the two Institutions”, fully recognize the benefits of research cooperation between the two Institutions, hereby confirming their desire to sign the present general Agreement for Research Exchange and Cooperation, aimed to the following activities:

- 1.- Exchange of academic staff and research personnel
- 2.- Exchange of PhD students
- 3.- Perform collaborative research and joint scientific meetings
- 4.- Exchange of documentation, research materials, publications and general information in the fields of mutual interest
- 5.- Collaborate in other activities of mutual benefit for the two Institutions

The Agreement is prepared in English in duplicate (2 originals), to be kept one at each Institution. This Agreement shall become effective upon signing by the official representatives of the two Institutions and shall remain valid for a period of three (3) years. The Agreement may be renewed for a further period of three (3) years by mutual consent prior to the expiry date of the original. The Agreement may be amended by mutual accord of the two Institutions.

The aforementioned activities, which will follow the details stated in Appendix 1, shall be realized after consultation and exchange of relevant information between the appropriate members of the two Institutions, with the approval of the program directors, and provided they do not otherwise affect to or interfere with the normal academic and/or research activities within any of the two Institutions.

Appendix 1

Details of the Agreement Research Exchange and Cooperation between IPLA-CSIC, Spain, and the Faculty of Medicine, Khon Kaen University, Thailand, on the general topic of “Physiology, genetics and biotechnology of Lactic Acid Bacteria (LAB)”

IPLA-CSIC, Spain, and the Faculty of Medicine, Khon Kaen University, Thailand, hereby agree to undertake a staff/postgraduate student exchange program under the mentioned field of research on physiology, genetics and biotechnology of LAB.

The following sets forth the guidelines whereby this exchange program shall be implemented within the framework of the Agreement Research Exchange and Cooperation between the two Institutions:

- 1.- The purpose of this exchange program is to provide selected staff/postgraduate students from the two Institutions with occasion to gain overseas experience at the host Institution within the stated general research topic, thereby developing good willingness and mutual understanding between the two Institutions and countries. The exchange credit for the overseas work will be granted by the host Institution and, where possible, funding from the home Institution will also be provided.
- 2.- Normally, the period of exchange shall be between one (1) or two (2) weeks for staff members and between three (3) to six (6) months for postgraduate students.
- 3.- The number of personnel for the stay period shall be up to one (1) staff and one (1) postgraduate student per year from each Institution.
- 4.- Each Institution will determine the terms and procedures for selecting and accepting the exchange staff/postgraduate students. Therefore, exchange staff/postgraduate students must satisfy formal admission requirements of the host Institution.
- 5.- The host Institution shall provide the home Institution with performance information on the stays of each staff/postgraduate student upon completion of the program.

6.- The exchange staff/postgraduate students are responsible for their travel, living and accommodation costs, salary complements if applicable, and health and accident insurance policy during the exchange period.

7.- The exchange program shall commence in 1st April 2012 and continue until 31st March 2015.

8.- The program directors are:

IPLA-CSIC: Director
Dr. Clara Rosa González de los Reyes-Gavilán, PhD
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Authorized to sign for and on behalf of the Instituto de Productos Lácteos de Asturias:

Signature: 

Date: January 10 2013

Name: Dr. Clara Rosa González de los Reyes-Gavilán, PhD

Director, Instituto de Productos Lácteos de Asturias, Spain

Authorized to sign for and on behalf of the Faculty of Medicine, Khon Kaen University:

Signature: 

Date: December 17, 2012

Name: Prof. Pisake Lumbiganon, MD, MS (Penn)

Dean, Faculty of Medicine, Khon Kaen University