



# Memorandum of Agreement between Khon Kaen University and Osaka Gakuin University

In order to promote friendship and cooperation through a mutually beneficial association, and in the interests of expanding educational opportunities, Khon Kaen University, Thailand and Osaka Gakuin University, Japan agree to the following:

The two institutions shall promote the following programs;

- a) Exchange of students (as detailed below in the student exchange provisions);
- b) Exchange of academic information and publications;
- c) Other exchanges of an academic nature agreed upon by both parties.

## **Student Exchange Provisions**

#### 1. Exchange Coordinator

Each party to the agreement will appoint an officer who will be responsible for the coordination and administration of the exchange, including the selection and counseling of the exchange participants. For Khon Kaen University, Thailand, the President or his/her appointed staff person will serve as Exchange Coordinator. For Osaka Gakuin University, Japan, the Director or Assistant Director of the International Center will serve as Exchange Coordinator.

## 2. <u>Duration of Exchanges</u>

Exchanges may be for one semester or one academic year.

#### 3. Number of Semesters Exchanged Per Year

Each university will be able to send qualified students to study for an institutional total of up to four semesters per year at the partner institution: this can be any combination, such as two students for one year, four students for one semester (fall semester), or one student for one year and two other students for one semester (fall semester).

#### 4. Balancing the Exchange

Parity in numbers of exchange students is the objective of the agreement. Numbers should be counted in semester units: 1 semester=1, 1 academic year=2. However, each party should be prepared to consider a disparity in any given semester or year during the agreement. An effort should be made in good faith to resolve any and all imbalances within five-year blocks of the exchange.

Temporary imbalances may be permitted, subject to the agreement in advance of both institutions, and subject to the imbalance being rectified in due course. Annual imbalances in the exchange shall be monitored and addressed in concert by the International Office of Khon Kaen University and the International Center at Osaka Gakuin University. Should both universities so agree, students may be accepted by the host university on a fee-paying basis during periods when the imbalance reaches a level that would otherwise necessitate "freezing" the exchange.

#### 5. Academic Status

All students will remain enrolled as regular degree candidates at their home institutions and will not be enrolled as candidates for degrees at the host institution. Students are expected to maintain full-time status at their host institution.

#### 6. Student Eligibility

The Exchange Coordinator at each institution, acting after consultation with the appropriate academic unit, will be responsible for the selection of suitable nominees for exchange. It is understood that the Coordinator will nominate students who are academically, personally, and emotionally suitable for exchange abroad and that details of academic and personal background as well as references will be provided to the host institution. It is hoped that the host institution will not reject a nominated student unless he/she does not meet established admission requirements for international students, or unless the host institution cannot guarantee availability of required courses.

## 7. Transcripts

Both institutions agree to provide a transcript at the end of the period of study, giving details of the courses studied and grades and credits awarded.

#### 8. Student Program Fees

Each student will pay his or her regular tuition and fees to the home institution and will receive these benefits in turn from the host institution. All other pertinent fees such as home stay/housing costs will be the personal responsibility of the exchange student at the host institution. The host institution agrees to provide all necessary assistance in arranging home stay or other types of housing, as appropriate and possible. There may be cases when for whatever reason, an exchange student may not be able to have a home stay and will be responsible for alternative housing costs. All travel costs will be the responsibility of the individual student. Miscellaneous fees such as special course fees, fieldwork courses, key deposits, books, etc. will be paid directly by each student participant.

Neither institution will charge students an application fee. Scholarships are encouraged to be made available to qualified students as per the selection criteria of any specific scholarship program.

#### 9. Vacation Periods

The individual student will be responsible for his or her own housing and meal arrangements and costs during vacation periods.

#### 10. Insurance

Khon Kaen University and Osaka Gakuin University students must be covered by accident and sickness insurance plans. Khon Kaen University students must purchase the Japanese National Health Insurance Policy issued by the Japanese Government for international students. Proof of adequate insurance coverage must be provided to the international office of each institution immediately after arrival.

## 11. Dependents

The obligations of each institution under this agreement are limited to the exchange of students and do not extend to partners or dependents. Expenses of accompanying partners and dependents are solely the responsibility of the exchange student.

## 12. Visa Requirements

Participants will be required to meet any visa requirements that pertain to studying in the host country.

## 13. Student Dismissal

Exchange students shall be held accountable to the host university's conduct code. In the case of serious disciplinary violations, the host institution, in consultation with the home institution, may take necessary actions, up to and including sending students back to their home countries. Students will bear any and all financial costs as a result of dismissal.

# 14. Effective Date and Termination of Agreement

This agreement shall be in effect for five years from the date of its signing and will be automatically renewed for another five years unless terminated by either institution with a oneyear written notice. This agreement may be amended by mutual consent of both institutions. Either party may express its desire to terminate this agreement within the regular agreement duration by serving written notice to the other party. In this case, if either party desires to balance the numbers before termination, the other party will cooperate in that effort. Otherwise, termination will take effect one year from the date of the written notice.

#### 15. Agreement

In agreement with the above terms of participation, the following signatures are affixed:

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Kittichai Triratanasirichai

thechair To

President

Khon Kaen University

29/4/501/ Date

Yoshiyasu Shirai

President

Osaka Gakuin University

16 / 5 / 2011