

Agreement on Dual Ph.D. Degree Program between

College of Medicine and College of Pharmacy at Kaohsiung Medical University

and

Disciplinary Domain of Medicine and Pharmacy at Uppsala University



College of Medicine and College of Pharmacy at Kaohsiung Medical University and the Disciplinary Domain of Medicine and Pharmacy at Uppsala University wish to promote the interchange of students at the research level with the aim of strengthening scientific cooperation between the universities. For this purpose a dual degree program has been planned with the specific regulations listed in this agreement as the guidelines for operation.

This dual Ph.D. program will be initiated in the academic year 2012/2013. The quota for participation in the dual Ph.D. degree program is a maximum of 12 graduate students per year, 3 from each of the colleges of Medicine and Pharmacy respectively at Kaohsiung Medical University and 3 each from the faculties of Medicine and Pharmacy respectively at Uppsala University.

I. Applications by students for participation

- 1. A student under the dual degree program can only be admitted after an agreement between supervisors at UU and KMU has been reached on a shared project and given notice to admission boards.
- 2. Each student will have a **home department** (and thus a home faculty/college and a home university), which has the main responsibility for the students admission, economic situation, and employment, and a **partner department** at which the complementary training is undertaken.

II. Curriculum design

- 3. All students under the dual degree program will have at least one supervisor from each of UU and KMU, the supervisor associated with the home department will be the main supervisor, and the supervisor associated with the partner department will be the assisting supervisor. In addition to these two, additional assisting supervisors can be added. All supervisors must fulfill requirements of *both* UU and KMU as detailed in appendix A.
- All students admitted must fulfill admission requirement to research training of both UU and KMU, as detailed in appendix B.
- 5. The application procedure is initially performed under the home departments auspice, and when this is completed the relevant documentation is transferred to the partner department at which the corresponding process is performed.
- **6.** The rules of credit point accumulation and course requirements will be set by regulations at the home university. Courses can, however, be fulfilled at either of the universities. A course satisfactorily completed by a student in the partner university should be certified by the (assisting) supervisor with regard to duration, description, content and credit points). The credits of the course will subsequently be granted by the home university.
- 7. The dual degree program must result in at least two joint publications of UU and KMU, one with the corresponding author from each of the two universities. The publications should be in internationally acknowledged journals with peer-review, and the Ph.D.-student should feature as first author.

III. Duration of study

- **8.** During the entire dual degree program, in the normal case corresponding to 48 months of full time studies and no less than 36 months, the students home department provides the students full financing of salary/corresponding to a sufficient degree as detailed in appendix C.
- **9.** During the dual degree program the student will have to spend a minimum of 12 months full time studies at each of the two universities UU and KMU, pursuing the agreed project plan.

IV. Dissertation

- **10.** Upon completion of the project a thesis written in English will be published and subsequently defended during a public dissertation performed in English at the home university.
- 11. The design and composition of the thesis, requirements for publication and availability should be made according to the home university regular procedure.
- **12.** The dissertation grading committee will be composed according to regulations of the home university. A far as possible at least one member of the committee should be appointed from the partner university.

V. Intellectual property rights

- 13. The contents of the thesis are protected by intellectual property rights. The presentation and publication of the collaborative research results achieved by UU and KMU, and the use and protection of all data featuring in the thesis must adhere to the respective regulations and practices in both countries and to the agreement signed by the supervisors of the Ph.D. project from both universities.
 - Neither party can publicize any result of any joint research project without mutual consent.
 - If controversial issues regarding intellectual or industrial property rights arise, there will be a necessity to work toward a subsequent agreement. The parties agree to use their best efforts to settle any dispute concerning this agreement amicably. However, if the parties are unable to resolve any dispute concerning this agreement amicably, the dispute shall be finally settled under the Rules of Arbitration of the International Chamber of Commerce by one or more arbitrators appointed in accordance with the said Rules. The arbitration shall in this case take place in Zürich.

VI. Degree conferral

- **14.** On successful completion of the dual degree program the degree of Ph.D. will be conferred by the home university on the participating student who meets the home university graduation requirements.
- **15.** At request of the Ph.D. student this degree will be adopted by the partner university, and the additional formal Ph.D. degree from the partner university awarded, provided that the specific requirements detailed in appendix D are fulfilled.
- **16.** As an alternative may the Ph.D.-student choose to defend the thesis at a second dissertation at the partner university according the partner university graduation requirements.

VII. Tuition and fees

- **17.** Students participating in the dual degree program are responsible for the payment of any necessary tuition fees to their home university. Tuition fees at the partner university are waived.
- 18. Participating students do not have to pay credit- or bench fees at the partner university.

- 19. Travel costs between the two universities by air (at minimum one round trip), and a salary or reasonable daily living allowance for the participating Ph.D.-students as detailed in appendix C. will be subject to the regulations of the home university.
- 20. Costs for printing and publishing the thesis and material therein will be covered by the home university.
- **21.** Costs related to the dissertation will be covered by the university at which the dissertation is performed. If two dissertations are performed, each university will cover costs related to respective dissertation.

VIII. Effectiveness, amendments and termination

- 22. This agreement shall come into effect on the date of the final signature.
- 23. Should either of the two universities UU and KMU consider that any part of the present agreement is no longer appropriate, that university can propose an amendment. Any amended version will come into effect when signed by both universities.
- **24.** If termination of the present agreement becomes necessary, written notice must be given to the other university at least six months prior to the desired day of effect of the termination, and the reason for termination explained.
- **25.** If the present agreement is terminated, both universities shall fulfill their duities and responsibilities as home and partner university, respectively, based on good faith to protect the rights of students who have enrolled in the dual degree program.

IX. Application for suspension of studies in the dual degree program, and return from suspension.

26. For application for suspension of studies, and return from temporary suspension, the regulations of the home university shall be taken into consideration.

Signed 15 October 2012

Stellan Sandler, M.D., Ph.D. *Dean, Faculty of Medicine*

Uppsala University

Göran Alderborn, Ph.D.

Dean, Faculty of Pharmacy

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Britt Skogseid, M.D., Ph.D.

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Signed 9 November 2012

Jong-Hsien Yen, M.D., Ph.D.

Dean, College of Medicine V

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Dean, College of Pharmacy

Kaohsiung Medical University

Ching-Kuan Liu, M.D., Ph.D.

President

Kaohsiung Medical University

Appendix A. —

At Uppsala University all graduate student supervisors must:

- have a position of at least associate professor, or a tenure position as a senior lecturer
- have fulfilled the one-day 'Ph.D.-supervisor training' (also available as an internet module).

At Kaohsiung Medical University all graduate student supervisors must:

have a position of at least associate professor

For the dual degree program all supervisors must fulfill all requirements from both universities.

Appendix B.

At Uppsala University relevant requirements for admission to Ph.D.-studies are:

- under-graduate training corresponding to at least 240 ECTS (four years full time studies) or completed Masters of Science (M.Sc.) degree
- English language certificate from TOEFL or IELTS (IELTS-test: Academic Module 6.0. TOEFL-test: 550 paper-based test, 213 computer-based test, 79 Internet-based test, or M.Sc. degree from a university with requirements corresponding to or higher than these.

At Kaohsiung Medical University relevant requirements for admission to Ph.D.-studies are:

- completed M.Sc., M.D. or its equivalent
- criteria/regulations of programs/colleges vary, and the final approval is subject to the director/dean.

For the dual degree program the eligible student must fulfill all requirements from both universities.

Appendix C. -

For Ph.D-students with home department at Uppsala University the financing requirements are:

- A total of maximum 48 months full time salary according to standards defined by the committee for research training, funds to be available or guaranteed upon admission of a new Ph.D.-student.
- In addition to this may come up to 40% teaching or department administration, which is then added to the initial 48 months and separately financed.

For Ph.D-students with home department at Kaohsiung Medical University:

Financing requirements will be subject to the regulations of Kaohsiung Medical University.

For the dual degree program the eligible student will be financed according to the standards for the home university during the entire project.

Appendix D. —

Formal requirements for thesis, graduation and conferment are:

- The fundamentum of the thesis is minimum of four research articles (in exceptional cases three, then in very high impact journals), of which a minimum of two are published or accepted for publication in peer-reviewed journals.
- A thesis summary, usually 20-50 pages, explaining and relating the state of the art in the field and how
 the research articles are contributing to the field.
- Thesis must be published and publicly available minimum three weeks before dissertation.
- Thesis summary and research articles must be published in English.
- For dissertation at Uppsala University a formal allowance to defend the thesis at a dissertation must be granted by the committee for research training at Uppsala University (this implies fulfilled requirement regarding e.g. ethics approval committee and mandatory research courses).
- For dissertation at Kaohsiung Medical University the total sum of SCI impact factors for related publications should be more than 5.