



## Office of International Cooperation

### Faculty of Science, Mahidol University

272 Rama 6 Rd., Phayathai, Ratchathewi, Bangkok 10400, Thailand

Tel: +66 (0) 2201 5073, Fax: +66 (0) 2201 5033, <http://www.sc.mahidol.ac.th/IC/>

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### Minutes of Meeting

#### Discussion on Collaboration between the Faculty of Science, Mahidol University and Tzu Chi University, Hualien, Taiwan

Tuesday 21 May 2019, 02.30-04.00 p.m.

Chalermprakit Building, Faculty of Science, Mahidol University

A meeting of the visit and discussion on collaboration possibility between Tzu Chi University (TCU), Taiwan and the Faculty of Science, Mahidol University (MUSC), Thailand was held at the K101 on Tuesday 21 May 2019 during 02.30 - 04.00 p.m. Attendees from TCU and MUSC included:

#### Delegations of Tzu Chi University

Prof. Ingrid Yi-Chun Liu	Institute of Medical Sciences, Tzu Chi University <ingridycliu@gmail.com>
Prof. Shun-Ping Huang	Department of Molecular Biology and Human Genetics Institute of Medical Sciences, Tzu Chi University <spophdoc1688@gms.tcu.edu.tw>
Mr. Shao-Feng Liang	PhD Student from Tzu Chi University

#### Members of the Faculty of Science, Mahidol University

Assoc. Prof. Kanyaratt Supaibulwatana	Vice Dean, Faculty of Science <kanyaratt.sup@mahidol.ac.th>
Emeritus Prof. Sukumal Chongthammakun	Advisor to the Dean <sukumal.cho@mahidol.ac.th>
Prof. Tavan Janvilisri	Lecturer, Department of Biochemistry <tavan.jan@mahidol.ac.th>
Assist. Prof. Pornthip Chaichompoo	Lecturer, Department of Pathobiology <pornthip.chh@mahidol.ac.th>
Ms. Nongnuch Prasomkhum	Head, Office of International Cooperation <scddean8@mahidol.ac.th>
Mr. Sethavudh Kaewviset	Office of International Cooperation <scddean8@mahidol.ac.th>
Ms. Rungrat Suriyin	Office of International Cooperation <scddean8@mahidol.ac.th>
Ms. Wannapa Somvong	Office of International Cooperation <scddean8@mahidol.ac.th>

#### Objective

The meeting and discussion were organized to develop a Dual PhD Degree Program on Molecular Medicine and etc. together with MOU establishment, and exploring other collaboration patterns as necessary between Tzu Chi University, Taiwan and the Faculty of Science, Mahidol University, Thailand.



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## **Approval of Minutes**

### **PhD Dual Program**

- The Faculty of Science, Mahidol University (MUSC) introduced the faculty's activities on education and research including PhD Molecular Program that is recently offered in collaboration with the Faculty of Medicine, Ramathibodi Hospital, Faculty of Pharmacy and Faculty of Tropical Medicine, Mahidol University.

- Tzu Chi University (TCU) expressed a possibility to develop a Dual PhD Degree Program on Molecular Medicine with MUSC and would also like to explore other best patterns that MUSC has established with other universities in term of research and education.

- MUSC proposed the possible collaboration on PhD Dual Degree Program including Co-supervision or Cotutelle and Co-teaching/lecture programs. The two universities jointly agreed that Co-teaching/lecture period should longer than one week. Anyway, Co-supervision Program is highly recommended to start firstly later than focusing on curriculum-based collaboration. This was agreed by the mutual universities to ensure that the collaboration will be run accordingly.

- TCU expressed its education system that actually similar to USA education system including online courses that allowing Master of PhD students to select the preferred subjects to study under the Co-supervision Program. To produce expertise by this PhD program, MUSC added on that the students under this program may probably select course work or non-course work tracks.

- MUSC willing to teach in some subjects for the online programs offered by TCU, this initiation was agreed by both parties. However, credit equivalence is recommended to ensure the quality of PhD Dual program before having an addendum/annex.

- TCU suggested that Academia Sinica also plays a key role in providing an opportunity for joint research on genes that could be able to apply for co-funding.

- MUSC concluded that not only Molecular Medicine but many other programs offered in MUSC that could be selected to join the PhD Dual Program such as Physiology, Pharmacology, and Genome, etc. The collaboration is suggested to spotlight on the mutual agreed first. TCU agreed to reconsider this matter and will notify for further discussion again.

### **MOU/Agreement**

- TCU stated the opportunity to offer scholarships for PhD students from TCU to study at MUSC after having MOU, which TCU have lardy singed one with the Faculty of Medicine, Siriraj Hospital, Mahidol University.

- MUSC offered the MOU template that actually consisted of 2 parts; the first part is comprised of a general context that can be accomplished within approximately 2 weeks authorized by the university. The other part is addendum /annex which actually will cover the details on PhD Dual Degree Program; this can be signed at the faculty level. MUSC can send the MOU template to be reviewed by TCU upon request.



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#### Staff and Student Exchange

- MUSC expressed the opportunity of student exchange among the contacted universities such as Honor Program students, SIM Program students, etc. These existing programs actually contain outstanding undergraduate students in several fields that required funding supports and scholarships such as Biomedical Science, Bioresources and Environmental Biology, Materials Science, Industrial Mathematics and Data Science, Actuarial Science, and Bioinnovation.

- Visiting Professor and Adjunct Staff are also a good track to start the collaboration; MUSC is most welcome to accommodate staff exchange from TCU.

- MUSC proposed a joint conference, online conference between the two universities to familiarize and getting to know each other.

#### Funding Support

- Co-supervision Program can be supported by either home university or partial support; this should be mutually discussed, agreed and indicated in the MOU/Agreement.

#### Focal Point Office/Contact

- MUSC proposed Emeritus Prof. Sukumal Chongthammakum and Prof. Tavan Janvilisri to be a focal point to recruit students participating in the program.

- Office of International Cooperation, Faculty of Science, Mahidol University can be a coordinating office in term of selecting the topics that mutually agreed.

The discussion has ended at 04.00 p.m.

Summarized by

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Sethavudh Kaewviset'.

Mr. Sethavudh Kaewviset  
Office of International Cooperation  
Faculty of Science, Mahidol University

Approved by

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'K. Supaibulwatana'.

Assoc. Prof. Kanyaratt Supaibulwatana  
Vice Dean, Faculty of Science  
Mahidol University