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**INTERNATIONAL
MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**

THIS MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING, entered into this 14th day of March, 2018, by and between Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester, New York, U.S.A. and University of Rwanda, Kigali, Rwanda.

WITNESSETH THAT:

The University of Rwanda (“UR”), a public educational institution formed in 2013 through the merger of Rwanda's previously independent public institutions of higher education is a multi-campus institution offering a wide range of academic studies and is building its research capacity to contribute to the country’s and the region’s economic development.

Rochester Institute of Technology (“RIT”), a New York not-for-profit educational institution, with a Carnegie Classification category for its graduate instructional program of “Research Doctoral: STEM-dominant,” awards degrees in a variety of fields and disciplines in accordance with the standards imposed by RIT, the State of New York, and the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools. RIT is home to the National Technical Institute for the Deaf (NTID), the only institution of its kind in the United States.

WHEREAS, RIT and UR desire to promote the enrichment of their teaching, learning, research, innovation, discovery and global outreach missions; and

WHEREAS, RIT and UR desire to strengthen and expand the mutual contacts between the two universities; and

WHEREAS, RIT and UR desire to provide for an exchange of faculty and students and other collaboration between the two universities on the terms and conditions hereinafter set forth;

NOW THEREFORE, it is mutually agreed as follows:

Scope of the memorandum of understanding - To enhance mutual understanding and promote academic collaboration and cooperation, UR and RIT (the “Parties”) agree to collaborate on the development of initiatives of mutual interest. The linkages established through this Memorandum of Understanding (“MOU”) recognize the inherent quality and value each partner offers and the synergy that can be created by such cooperative endeavors. This collaboration will strengthen cultural, educational, and research ties to the mutual benefit of both Parties.

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Each Party of this MOU is committed to developing knowledge of the educational resources and research opportunities existing at the respective sites. This commitment is illustrated by previous and ongoing activities between UR and RIT. Major activities include:

- A 2011 visit by the Minister of Education and representatives of Rwandan public and private universities to RIT to discuss partnership building.
- Professor Anthony Vodacek, Chester F. Carlson for Imaging Science, partnered with UR Colleges on three African Centers of Excellence in Higher Education (ACE) proposals to include RIT as an international partner.
- In January 2017 an RIT sponsored site visit to UR and the three ACE projects was completed by Professor Vodacek; Professor Scott Franklin, School of Physics & Astronomy; Professor Ernest Fokoué, School of Mathematical Sciences; and Associate Research Professor Thomastine Sarchet-Maher, NTID. As part of this agreement, the Parties will host additional visits at UR campuses in Rwanda and Rochester, NY, USA for representatives from their respective institutions.
- A September 2017 visit to RIT's National Technical Institute for the Deaf by UR Dean Evariste Karangwa, and Ms. Mary Kobusingye, Head of Special Needs Education Department, Rwanda Ministry of Education, to foster secondary and post-secondary education opportunities for deaf and hard of hearing people in Rwanda.
- Professor Vodacek has partnered with the UR Centre for Geographic Information Systems and Remote Sensing (UR-CGIS) on funded research and participates in ongoing Lake Kivu Monitoring Programme activities.
- Working with Professor Beth Kaplin at UR, Professor Fokoué is mentoring students in the UR Center of Excellence in Biodiversity and Natural Resource Management.
- Since 2006 approximately 13 Rwandan students have studied at RIT/NTID in MS programs. These graduate students have been supported through various means such as externally funded research, Fulbright fellowships, and tuition scholarships funded via an MOU between RIT and Rwanda Ministry of Education.

The MOU shall include, but not be limited to, the following types of collaboration:

- A. RIT and UR agree to collaborate on the following ACE projects as defined by the respective proposals: ACE for Innovative Teaching and Learning in Mathematics and Science; ACE for Data Sciences; ACE in Internet of Things. The partnership will focus on ACE implementation activities to enhance UR graduate education such as applied research and training, publication of peer-reviewed papers from research results, M.S. and Ph.D. student supervision, faculty and student exchanges to promote research and teaching, and writing collaborative proposals for external funding. The specifics of faculty exchange will be outlined in the subsequent, additional operating and licensing agreements described in paragraph VIII of this MOU.

- B. RIT Chester F. Carlson Center for Imaging Science and UR-CGIS will partner on research proposals and educational opportunities to enhance the UR-CGIS capacity in remote sensing research and education. To facilitate these efforts faculty at RIT may seek to become Associate Researchers with UR-CGIS
 - C. RIT/NTID and UR College of Education will identify a select number of students study at RIT in selected disciplines. The Parties will also explore establishing programs related to special needs and related services/technologies, to provide leadership and academic training for Rwandan students at NTID. RIT/NTID and UR College of Education will seek external funding sources to establish a teacher preparation curriculum and training in Deaf education to be conducted at UR College of Education.
 - D. RIT and UR will explore partnership on the ACE in Energy for Sustainable Development. RIT has significant expertise in sustainable energy through its College of Science, College of Engineering, College of Applied Sciences and Technology, and Golisano Institute for Sustainability.
 - E. Undergraduate and Graduate Student partnership programs, including degree programs, student exchange, study abroad and other forms of collaboration which enable student participation in academic programs at the partner institution. These partnerships between UR and RIT may be modeled on a previous scholarship partnership between the Rwandan Ministry of Education and RIT.
 - F. Collaborative Research, Discovery, Innovation, Learning and Teaching, and other scholarly activities as outlined in separate appropriate protocol document(s).
 - G. Other mutually agreed educational and training programs.
- I. Period of MOU** - This Memorandum of Understanding shall be effective 14 March 2018 and will remain in force for a period of five years to coincide with the original ACE programs. Prior to the expiration date, this agreement may be reviewed for possible renewal for a further five-year period. In addition, either university may terminate the agreement in advance of its normal expiration date by providing the other university with one year prior written notice. In this case, personnel already participating in the exchange shall serve out their terms under the conditions specified at the time of their appointment or in accordance with a subsequent written agreement agreed to in writing by the Parties.
- II. Activities Under This Agreement** - It is expected that activities taking place under this MOU will be initiated primarily by academic units within each university, and in coordination with their respective administrative units concerned with international activities. All activities undertaken must conform to the policies and procedures in place at each institution, as they may be revised from time to time at the sole discretion of the institution.

- III. Planning and Management of Activities** - Each distinct collaboration program or activity will be described in a separate protocol document drawn up jointly by the collaborating units, and signed by the heads of these units. Such documents will specify the names of those individuals on each campus responsible for the implementation of the program. For RIT these subsequent, additional operating and licensing agreements must also be approved through the University's defined administrative procedures and signed by the designated administrative units.
- IV. Funding of Activities** - The subsequent, additional operating and licensing agreements described in paragraph VIII of this MOU shall make financial costs and obligations explicit. Collaborating units are encouraged to work together to identify and secure outside funding consistent with the strategic goals of the Parties to enable long-term sustainability of research activities. Projects requiring funding must be approved by both institutions in writing.
- V. Nondiscrimination** - RIT does not discriminate. RIT and UR agree to promote and value diversity within its workforce and at its institution, and to provide equal opportunity to all qualified individuals regardless of race, religion, age, citizenship, color, creed, culture, including Deaf culture, actual or perceived disabilities, gender, marital status, ethnic or national origin, political affiliation or preference, military or veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, or genetic predisposition. RIT and UR agree that no person shall be excluded from participation under the terms of this MOU, or any program established under the terms of this MOU, on the grounds of race, religion, age, citizenship, color, creed, culture, including Deaf culture, actual or perceived disabilities, gender, marital status, ethnic or national origin, political affiliation or preference, military or veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, or genetic predisposition.
- VI. Modification** - The terms of this MOU may be changed or modified only by written amendment signed by authorized agents of the Parties hereto.
- VII. Agreement in Good Faith** - Since this MOU constitutes a declaration of intent, this MOU should not be understood as creating a legal or financial tie between these universities. The Parties agree to negotiate in good faith the subsequent, additional operating and licensing agreements referenced in this Memorandum of Understanding. Neither Party shall be obligated to execute such subsequent agreement nor will the failure to mutually agree be deemed a breach of the Parties' obligation to negotiate in good faith.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, Rochester Institute of Technology and University of Rwanda have executed this Agreement as of the date first above written.

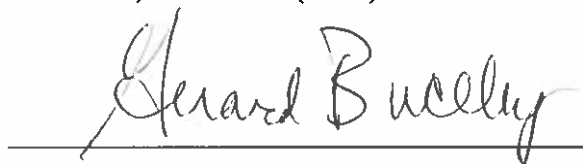
Signing for Rochester Institute of Technology



Jeremy Haefner, Ph.D.
Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs
Rochester Institute of Technology
Rochester, New York (USA)

2/20/18

Date



Gerard Buckley, Ed.D.
President/Dean National Technical Institute for the Deaf

2/23/18

Date

Signing for University of Rwanda



Philip Cotton, M.D
Vice Chancellor
University of Rwanda
Kigali, Rwanda



03/14/18

Date