Memorandum of Understanding

Between

Drexel University

and

Anna University

Drexel University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA (Drexel) and Anna University, Chennai, India (AU) join in the following agreement for academic cooperation in order to promote the advancement of scholarship, innovation, and learning through student and faculty exchange, research, joint publication, and service.

1. The parties agree to encourage the following activities based on mutual respect, equality, and shared interests:

   • Collaboration in research and education in fields of mutual interest;
   • Engagement of students and faculty in education, research and civic engagement;
   • Exchange of publications and materials on research and education;
   • Organization and joint participation of faculty and students in conferences, seminars and workshops.
   • Development of other academic activities that may be of shared interest

2. A detailed description of the scope of cooperation necessary to implement the activities noted above will be negotiated between the parties subject to a mutually acceptable written Activity Agreement (such as Research or Student Exchange Agreements or Dual Degree programming). Activity Agreements will include:

   • Details of the responsibilities of each institution for the agreed upon activity;
   • Timelines and schedules for the specific activity;
   • Budgets and sources of funding for each activity;
   • Any other relevant considerations deemed essential for the efficient management of the activity; and
Realization of the above objectives will be based on individual initiatives from academic departments, staff members and students, or may be initiated by Institutional authorities.

Each university has designated an authorized representative of the Provost/Rector: On behalf of Drexel University, the Vice Provost for Global Engagement. On behalf of Anna University, Vice-Chancellor, Registrar and Director, Centre for International Relations (CIR). Some Activity Agreements will require a project coordinator. The colleges, departments or units responsible for these Activities will designate a project coordinator for this purpose.

3. The institutions acknowledge that unless otherwise agreed upon, all expenses concerning salaries, travels, living and allied costs will normally be the responsibility of the visitor’s home university or participating visitor. Wherever possible, funding will be sought from third party sources.

4. Participants in the exchange will be personally responsible for purchasing required health/medical insurance for the time period of their exchange experience. The host institution will assist incoming participants in identifying available health insurance options designed for international students and scholars.

5. Both Parties shall acknowledge one another in any form of writing, publication or presentation based on research derived from the cooperative efforts of both Parties under this agreement, unless otherwise mutually agreed upon in writing by the Parties.

6. No monetary consideration will be exchanged between the two institutions, nor will there be any indemnities, reimbursements for expenses, or sharing of fees or profits arising from the instant agreement, save for clause 2 infra.

7. The parties agree to indemnify and hold one another harmless from any and all claims by exchange participants, their parents, survivors, or agents, arising from any negligent acts or omission on the part of either university or any of their employees. The relationship of Drexel and AU under this agreement shall be that of independent contractors, and a party shall not be deemed, nor hold itself out as being, a partner or agent of the other party. Neither Drexel nor AU shall be liable for acts of the other, nor shall they be liable for the acts of students/faculties participating in the exchange.

8. This agreement shall become effective as of the date of signatures by the representatives of both parties and will be valid for the duration of three (3) years from that date, and is renewable thereafter for three year terms subject to mutual consent. The amendment or termination of the agreement shall not be effective without deliberation between the parties, but if the deliberation does not lead to a mutually agreeable path forward for any reason, either party may terminate this agreement upon thirty (30) days written notice. In
case the MOU ceases to be in effect, this shall not affect the completion of existing activities as agreed upon in any Activity Agreement.

9. The parties agree to review the Activities of this agreement every three years in order to evaluate the progress and improve the quality of collaboration.

10. Both parties subscribe to a policy of equal opportunity and do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, gender, age, ethnicity, religion, national origin or disability.

11. This Agreement may be terminated by either party upon giving 30 days notice to the other Party.

12. The Parties agree and undertake to keep confidential at all times any information or data that may be exchanged, acquired or shared in connection with any programme or activity conducted pursuant to this agreement save where the same is already in public domain.

13. If any provision of this Agreement shall be held by a court of competent jurisdiction to be contrary to law, the remaining provisions of this Agreement shall remain in full force and effect.

14. The agreement will be drawn up in two copies in English. One copy of this agreement will be retained by each party.

In witness whereof, the parties hereto have offered their signatures

For Drexel University

Rogelio Miñana, PhD
Vice Provost for Global Engagement

Date: October 20, 2022

For Anna University

Prof. R. Velraj
Vice-Chancellor

Prof. G. Ravikumar
Registrar

Prof. G. Nagarajan
Director
Centre for International Relations

Date: October 20, 2022