



#### Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

July 17, 2014

between

# THE UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS BOSTON Boston, Massachusetts, USA

and

### UNIVERSITY OF QUINTANA ROO QUINTANA ROO, MEXICO

# University of Massachusetts Boston "Toward the Student-Centered, Urban Public Research University of the New Century" http://www.umb.edu/

With a growing reputation for innovative research addressing complex urban issues, the University of Massachusetts Boston, founded in 1964, is metropolitan Boston's only public research university, offering its diverse student population both an intimate learning environment and the rich experience of a great American city. Its ten colleges and graduate schools (<u>http://www.umb.edu/academics/</u>) serve more than 16,000 students at the baccalaureate, master's, and doctoral levels while engaging local, national, and international constituents through academic programs, research centers, and public service activities. UMass Boston, which proudly speaks of itself as "a research university with a teaching soul," is increasingly recognized as a national model of excellence for urban universities. As of Spring 2014, the university's ten colleges/schools offer 91 undergraduate programs, 60 Master's degree programs (44 different degree programs and 16 tracks), 30 doctoral programs (19 different degree programs and 11 tracks, soon to be about 35 programs), and 37 graduate certificates including Certificate of Advanced Graduate Studies (CAGS).

## University of Quintana Roo "New University of México"

The University of Quintana Roo is a Mexican Public university which distinctive mission is to serve society as a center of higher learning, providing long-term societal benefits through transmitting advanced knowledge, discovering new knowledge, and functioning as an active working repository that contribute to the social, economic and academic development of Quintana Roo and Mexico. It has three academic units in the cities of Cozumel, Playa del Carmen and Chetumal where studies are imparted at technical, undergraduate and graduate level aimed at achieving a well-rounded education, with a clear humanistic, social and scientific attitude directed to self-improvement, human development, love to homeland and awareness of social responsibility.

The University of Massachusetts Boston, USA, hereafter referred to as UMass Boston and University of Quintana Roo, Quintana Roo, Mexico hereinafter referred to as UQROO, considering their common interests in promoting mutual cooperation in the areas of education and research, both parties, therefore, wish to formalize their partnership for collaboration and cooperation, and have set forth the following Memorandum of Understanding (MOU):

#### **Article I: Purpose**

The purpose of this MOU is to develop academic and educational cooperation on the basis of equality and reciprocity, and to promote relations and mutual understanding between the two universities.

### Article II: Scope of the Cooperation

Both parties agree:

- 1. To promote reciprocal exchange of study-abroad programs in various formats for students, faculty, and staff;
- 2. To promote international research activities of both faculty and students, as well as staff researchers;
- 3. To foster collaboration and exchange of academic publications and information;
- 4. To promote various collaborations on third-party funded educational and research activities; and
- 5. To promote other academic activities (e.g., dual-degree programming, team or joint teaching, international conferences, symposia, seminars, and guest speakers series).

#### **Article III: Financial Arrangement**

- 1. Both parties agree that all specific arrangements and plans for activities are to be negotiated, and are dependent on availability of funds.
- 2. Both parties agree to seek financial support from national and international organizations for the cooperative activities to be undertaken as stated under the terms of this MOU.

### Article IV: Agreement of Implementation

- 1. This institutional level general MOU is designed to facilitate development of mutually beneficial exchanges/programs and to promote research and educational relationships, and should not be deemed to create legal and financial obligations between the parties.
- 2. Before any of the initiatives may be implemented, both parties shall negotiate detailed terms and conditions and resolve issues involved therewith, and enter into an agreement pertaining to that activity ("Specific Cooperative Agreement", "SCA"). Each such Specific Cooperative Agreement shall be subject to the availability of any resources required for the initiative.
- 3. Any Specific Cooperative Agreement (SCA) shall include such items as:
  - A brief description of rationale and value of the initiative/program for both parties
  - Detailed terms and conditions involved
  - Elaboration of responsibilities of each institution for the agreed upon terms
  - Schedules for specific activities
  - Budgets and sources of financing for each activity
  - Any other items deemed necessary for efficient management

### Article V: Settlement of Differences

The differing viewpoints and interpretations of this MOU shall be settled amicably by mutual consultation or negotiation.

## Article VI: Amendments, Duration and Termination

- 1. Amendments to this MOU can only be written by mutual consent for the two parties.
- This MOU shall be in effect from the date of its signing and be valid for the duration of five (5) years from that date, and will be automatically renewed on an annual basis thereafter, unless terminated or replaced with a new MOU.
- 3. This MOU may be terminated by either party by written notice at least six (6) months in advance. Such notice of termination will not interfere with cooperative programs currently underway. Such programs will be allowed to continue until their conclusion.

#### Article VII: Administrative Supervision and Facilitation of the Partnership

- 1. Under the current MOU, all initiatives between the two institutions shall be appropriately facilitated and guided by the each institution's official protocol of the international affairs.
- 2. For the administrative supervision and facilitation of the MOU, the Chief of International Relations (Lic. Graciela Che Presuel, gchepre@uqroo.mx) at University of Quintana Roo and Vice Provost of Global Programs at UMass Boston (Dr. Schuyler S. Korban, Schuyler.Korban@umb.edu) will coordinate the official protocols.
- 3. Either party may change its own designated liaison by sending written notice to the other party of such change.

### **VIII. Signatures**

This MOU is prepared in English and two (2) original copies of this MOU are produced. Both copies are authentic and recognized as formalized official documents. As witness to their consent this MOU, the appropriate authorities hereunto provide their signatures:

J. Keith Motley, Ph.D Chancellor University of Massachusetts Boston USA

Date:

Elina Elfi Coral Castilla, M.A

President University of Quintana Roo México

Date:

Witnessed by

Winston Langley, Ph.D. Provøst and Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs University of Massachusetts Boston USA

Date: Pury 17, 2014

Schuyler S. Korban, Ph.D. **Vice Provost of Global Programs University of Massachusetts Boston** USA

Date: July 17, 2014

Edgar Sansores Guerrero, M.S. Director **Division of Social and Administrative** Science University of Quintana Roo México

Víctor Boeta Pineda, B. General Lawyer University of Quintana Roo México/