Agreement for Linkage Program in Master of Science in Management between Minot State University and Business College of Shanxi University

This Agreement made effective as of the 24th day of March, 2011 by and between Minot State University in Minot, North Dakota, USA (hereafter referred to as “MSU”) and Business College of Shanxi University in Shanxi, China (hereafter referred to as “BCSU”).

WHEREAS, MSU and BCSU entered into a Memorandum of Understanding dated on 5/24/11, which established the framework for program collaborations;

WHEREAS, BCSU desires to introduce internationalized programs in undergraduate level and graduate level, and to provide students with opportunities for further studies;

WHEREAS, MSU desires to foster international connections with foreign institutions; and the university is engaged in increasing campus commitment to international students as well;

WHEREAS, MSU offers a reputable Master of Science in Management – Intercultural Cohort program (hereafter referred to as “MSM program”) and desires to recruit graduate students through BCSU;

NOW, THEREFORE, the following are agreed upon by both parties:

1. BCSU will establish an undergraduate program of management (hereafter referred to as “the Management Program”). Curriculum of the Management Program will be well designed to connect to MSM program offered by MSU. Students will be recruited from BCSU’s current undergraduates. The program will start from fall semester of Year 2011.

2. Curriculum of the Management Program will be adjusted to connect to MSM Program:
   a. More English training courses would be introduced to improve students’ English proficiency
   b. Foundation courses of MSM program would be applied into the curriculum, which include Fundamental Accounting, Introduction to Management, Marketing, Management Information Systems, Human Resource Management, and Business Communications. Textbooks and reference teaching materials would be in English, consistent with the same courses offered at MSU. MSU agrees to provide BCSU with corresponding sample textbooks as its teaching reference materials for free.
   c. GMAT Intensive training courses would be introduced into the curriculum to help students to reach GMAT threshold score of 400.

3. MSU agrees to admit all qualified applicants from the Management Program to MSM program on a regular basis, subject to MSU having capacity, providing that:
   a. Graduates from the Management Program earn a Bachelor’s Degree conferred by BCSU.
   b. An applicant has a record of 2.75 or above for Grade Points Average (GPA) or a record of 3.0 or above for GPA on last 60 credit hours’ course work.
c. An applicant has a score of 79 on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) (internet-based test) or 6.0 on the IELTS.

d. An applicant has a score of 400 on the GMAT. The GMAT requirement is waived for applicants with a record of 3.0 or above for GPA on last 60 credit hours' course work.

4. MSU agrees to conditionally admit applicants who do not meet the requirement in Section C of Term 3 above. In this case, the admitted applicant will pursue the intensive English as a Second Language Program offered by TLC-Minot on the MSU campus. Students who complete TLC Level 9 and ITEP 5, organized by TLC-Minot, will be entered into the competitive applicant pool for Admitted—Approved Status.

5. MSU agrees to conditionally admit applicants who do not meet the requirement in Section D of Term 4 above. Those who do not meet the requirements to waive the GMAT need to submit a GMAT score of at least 400 to be entered into the competitive applicant pool for Admitted—Approved Status.

6. MSU agrees to accept two visiting scholars from BCSU each year.
   a. Each scholar will teach/study/research at MSU for one whole semester.
   b. MSU would allow these BCSU scholars to use the library and other campus facilities, or even allow them to audit (up to two courses).
   c. MSU would neither charge BCSU any fees, nor cover any travel and living cost incurred by the visiting scholars.

7. MSU agrees that all students admitted through BCSU would enjoy the in-state graduate tuition rate.

8. MSU agrees that for any material adjustments on admission requirements or any material revisions on tuition rate policy, the new requirements or policies would neither be applied to existing students who have already enrolled in the Management Program, nor be applied to existing students who have already enrolled in MSM Preparatory Courses. New requirements or policies will be only applied to students to be admitted to the Management Program or MSM Preparatory courses.

9. In order to comply with U.S. government regulations, applicants will be required to provide a guarantee that they possess the financial resources to meet all expenses related to the program. Upon submission of a satisfactorily completed Affidavit of Support and Declaration of Finance, and evidence of financial resources in the form of a bank statement and/or income records, MSU will provide the student with the I-20 form necessary to apply for an F-1 Student Visa at a United States consulate.

10. Students will be responsible for all expenses incidental to the program including visas, travel expenses, application fees, tuition, fees, and room and board at Minot State University.

11. In order to prepare participants for the experience of traveling abroad and living in the United States, BCSU agrees to provide a cross-cultural orientation that all participants will complete prior to departure for Minot State University. Topics to be covered will include: general information regarding American culture; U.S. classroom expectations; and American social norms and customs. Likewise, Minot State University will provide an arrival orientation for all new international students that will introduce:
immigration requirements; cultural adjustment; and support services and resources that will enhance academic success.

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AGREEMENT

1. This agreement will be signed in both Chinese and English.

2. Nothing in this agreement shall be construed as creating any financial obligation upon either of the parties with respect to each other or any third party.

3. Participating students and faculty must abide by the laws of the host country and the rules and regulations of the host institution.

4. Any provision of this Agreement may be amended in writing and must be signed by duly authorized representatives of the two parties, after consultation and mutual agreement.

5. This Agreement becomes effective when signed by authorized representatives of both parties. It shall remain in effect for one year and will automatically renew unless terminated by one or both of the parties sixty (60) days before the end of the academic year of the host institution.

ON BEHALF OF

Business College of Shanxi University

ON BEHALF OF

Minot State University

Name: Xu Zhongan
Title: President
Date: 

Name: David Fuller, Ph.D.
Title: President
Date: 3/27/14