



AGREEMENT FOR STUDENT EXCHANGE COOPERATION

between

UiT THE ARCTIC UNIVERSITY OF NORWAY

and

INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY MANDI, INDIA

1. Preamble.

UiT The Arctic University of Norway (hereafter referred to as UiT) and Indian Institute of Technology Mandi (hereafter referred to as IITMandi) hereby agree upon the following terms and conditions as set forth in this Student Exchange Agreement.

2. Purpose of this Agreement.

This Student Exchange Agreement shall apply to the following:

- Exchange of students
- Level: UG, PG and Ph.D.
- Field/s of study: Open to all
- Number of students each way per semester/ academic year: 04/02
- Student placement/internship
- Course studies
- Blended mobility
- Exchange of academic, technical and/or administrative staff members

3. Definitions.

3.1 Exchange students

"Exchange Student" means a Visiting Student who is registered for singular courses at the Host Institution within the frame of this agreement.

3.2 The Academic Year/Semester/term

The Academic Year in Norway is divided into two semesters. Normally the Fall Semester commences in the middle of August and ends in the middle of December. The Spring Semester commences in early January, and it ends in the middle of June.

The Fall Semester at the IIT Mandi commences approximately in 1st week of August and ends in 1st week of December. The Spring Semester commences in mid January and it ends until approximately end of May

4. Mobility Numbers.

4.1 In every academic year, for the duration of this Agreement, each institution will accept exchange students to fill a maximum of 05 term placements. Two (2) exchange students enrolling for one (1) term of study each is equivalent to one exchange student enrolling for two (2) terms of study.

4.2 In order to ensure reciprocity, the number of places available may be reviewed each year. If either institution is unable to send the maximum number of exchange students during any year of this agreement, then that institution will be eligible to send additional exchange students, equal to the deficit, in the following year. Both institutions will endeavor to ensure balance over the term of this agreement.

4.3 Each institution may send 02 to 10 member(s) of staff to the other institution for a period of 1 week to 4 weeks per academic year in any year of this agreement. The sending institution bears full responsibility for funding the mobility of its academic, technical and/or administrative staff whilst the receiving partner institution bears responsibility for coordinating and facilitating the visit.

5. Selection and enrollment of exchange students.

5.1 Each institution, respecting the admission requirements of the host institution, shall assess and nominate qualified students to participate in the exchange.

5.2 Students participating in this exchange must meet academic admission requirements as well as the following criteria:

5.2.1 Students will have completed a minimum of one (1) year of full-time study at the home institution prior to participation in the exchange. Some programs or countries might require the completion of two (2) years of full-time study.

5.2.2 A student's stay at the host institution shall not exceed one academic year or ten (10) months in duration.

5.3 Students may do course work, research or a combination thereof. The option of a research opportunity is dependent upon the availability of suitable faculty supervisors for the duration of the exchange, and the host institution will make this determination.

5.4 Participating students under the terms of this Agreement shall be enrolled at the host institution as appropriate to the registration category for the duration of the exchange.

5.5 The home institution will nominate student candidates for selection to the host institution by that institution's deadlines.

5.6 Nominated students to either institution will complete the host institution's application and provide required documentation by the host institution's application deadline.

5.7 Nominated students must meet all required entry criteria, including any relevant English language requirements as applied to non-graduating students at the host institution.

5.8 The host institution reserves the right to reject students put forward by the home institution on academic grounds.

5.9 Students will be admitted as non-graduating exchange students at the host institution.

6. Responsibilities of Students.

6.1 All Exchange Students shall be subject to the academic and code of behavior regulations of the Host Institution. All Exchange Students shall attempt to represent their Home Institution and country in the host community to the best of their ability.

6.2 Participating students shall have the same rights and privileges as other visiting students at the host institution. Students conducting research at the host institution may be required to take ethics and safety training.

6.3 Exchange students will enroll in a standard full-time study load (unless otherwise agreed) and complete all relevant assessments in accordance with the rules and policies of the host institution.

6.4 Exchange students will be responsible for advising their home institution if they withdraw from or fail to complete their approved course at the host institution.

6.5 Participating students shall pay tuition fees to their home institution and shall be exempt from paying tuition to the host institution. Students are responsible for paying other applicable fees to the host institution and for all obligatory expenditures required in the host country.

6.6 All living costs and other personal costs (including travel and accommodation costs) are the responsibility of the participating students and neither institution is responsible for these costs. For the avoidance of doubt, medical expenses, repatriation, personal accident are the exchange student's responsibility.

6.7 All participating students in this exchange are required to maintain insurance coverage, particularly health and accident insurance for the time spent abroad

6.8 The student has individual responsibility for applying for and maintaining the correct immigration status and meeting visa requirements, which may be appropriate to admission and continued participation on the programme.

6.9 Exchange students are responsible for the recognition of academic credits with the home institution.

7. Responsibilities of Institutions.

7.1 The host institution will inform/guide exchange students when it comes to finding suitable accommodation.

7.2 Each institution shall provide the other with relevant documentation necessary in order to apply for a visa. Neither institution shall be obliged to host a student if the student for any reason is unable to obtain the necessary immigration permissions. The institutions shall have no liability whatsoever in the event that a student is unable to attend classes for whatever reason due to immigration procedures.

7.3 Each institution will designate an officer for general agreement and student exchange administration. This will be outlined in Appendix A. The officers will be in regular contact with one another, especially in regard to exchange details necessary to implement this Agreement. Each Party agrees to provide the other with timely notice if a new officer is designated to administer the program.

7.4 Each institution will provide the other with clear grading scales and marking criteria as part of the exchange agreement and will inform the other institution should these change.

7.5 At the end of each student exchange, the host institution will provide the home institution with a transcript detailing the exchange student's performance and courses attended. The transcript will be sent to the institutional contact in Appendix A upon request. Students on exchange at UiT must themselves order their transcript of records through the student online system and make sure the transcript is delivered to the home institution.

8. Confidential Information.

8.1 Both the institution and its respective employees who receive confidential information shall use it only to perform the obligations under this agreement or as may be otherwise mutually agreed. The provisions of this clause shall not apply to confidential information which:

- a) a party knew prior to receiving it;
- b) becomes publicly available through no fault of the party receiving it;
- c) is received from sources independent of the party disclosing it or is otherwise in the public domain;
- d) is required by law to be disclosed.

8.2 Each institution will comply with (to the extent applicable to it) all applicable Data Protection Laws or equivalent legislation in connection with its obligations under this agreement. For UiT, this is General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and other Norwegian privacy laws.

For IIT Mandi:

Institutions will transfer personal data to a partner institution, in compliance with Data Protection Laws, for the following purposes:

- Preparing and managing the provision of higher education or training at a partner institution, etc.

- The provision of student support (welfare) services when studying or working away from the home institution.
- Continuation of studies at a partner institution.
- Substantive public interest.

9. Duration and Administration of Agreement.

9.1 This agreement shall commence or shall be deemed to have commenced on the effective date and shall continue in full force and effect, subject to revision or modification by mutual agreement, for a period of five (5) years. Extension of the agreement may be made at the mutual written agreement of the parties, unless one of the contracting parties confirms in writing its intention to end the agreement as detailed in clauses 9.2 and 9.3 below.

9.2 Either party may terminate the agreement at any time, and for any reason, by first notifying the other party six (6) months' written notice in advance.

9.3 Notice of termination does not affect any exchange students who have already commenced or been accepted by either institution. The expiration or termination of this Agreement shall not interrupt activities that are already ongoing at its expiry or termination.

10. Dispute Resolution.

10.1 If any dispute or difference arises in connection with this Agreement, then the parties shall negotiate in good faith using their best endeavours to resolve the dispute or difference.

10.2 If the dispute or difference cannot be resolved in the first instance, the parties agree to refer the dispute to, as applicable, the Rector/Vice Chancellors or Chief Executive Officers or equivalent, or their nominees to resolve the dispute by an ad hoc committee which will be composed of one member appointed by each of the contracting parties and another chosen by mutual agreement.

10.3 Each party must continue to perform its obligations under this Agreement, despite and during any dispute negotiation or mediation being conducted under this clause

11. Contact details.

Each party shall appoint a co-ordinator who shall be responsible for the development and conduct of the exchange.

At UIT , coordination shall be done by:	At IIT Mandi , coordination shall be done by:
ELISABETH WETZER Position: Assoc Professor Name: Tel.: +47 Email: elisabeth.wetzer@uit.no Email inbound:	Position: Sr. Superintendent Name: Ms. Chandan Sharma Tel.: +91-01905-267818 Email: oir@iitmandi.ac.in Email: oir@iitmandi.ac.in

Hage K. Widnes
 hage.k.widnes@uit.no

BH

12. Signatures.

In spirit of international friendship and cooperation, the duly authorized representatives of each institution agree to the provisions of this Agreement.

UiT The Arctic University of Norway:	Indian Institute of Technology Mandi:
Name: JAN-GUNNAR WINTHER Position: PRO-RECTOR RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT Date 24 April 2024 Signature 	Name: Prof. Laxmidhar Behera Position: Director, IIT Mandi Date: Signature 

Prof. Laxmidhar Behera
Director
IIT Mandi (H.P.)-175075

APPENDIX A

Grading System

At UiT:

Grades for undergraduate and postgraduate examinations at UiT are awarded according to a graded scale from A (highest) to F (lowest), with E as the minimum pass grade. In contrast to the ECTS grading scale, which is a conversion table, the Norwegian scale is qualitative rather than quantitative. However, it is expected that the distribution of grades along qualitative criteria will vary only slightly from the quantitative ECTS grades, given a large number of examinations and in a time span of 3-5 years. The qualitative grades are awarded according to the following criteria:

Grade	Description	Evaluation criteria
A	Excellent	An excellent performance, clearly outstanding. The candidate demonstrates excellent judgement and a high degree of independent thinking.
B	Very good	A very good performance. The candidate demonstrates sound judgement and a very good degree of independent thinking.
C	Good	A good performance in most areas. The candidate demonstrates a reasonable degree of judgement and independent thinking in the most important areas.
D	Satisfactory	A satisfactory performance, but with significant shortcomings. The candidate demonstrates a limited degree of judgement and independent thinking.
E	Sufficient	A performance that meets the minimum criteria, but no more. The candidate demonstrates a very limited degree of judgement and independent thinking.
F	Fail	A performance that does not meet the minimum academic criteria. The candidate demonstrates an absence of both judgement and independent thinking.

At the partner institution:

Letter Grade	Grade Point Value	Interpretation	Distribution
A*	10	Outstanding	10%
A	10	Excellent	
A-	9	Very Good	15%
B	8	Good	20-25%
B-	7	Above Average	20-25%
C	6	Average	15-20%
C-	5	Below Average	5-10%
D	4	Marginal	5%
I	0	Incomplete	Distribution not applicable to these categories
P	0	Pass	
F	0	Fail	
FS	0	Fail due to Short attendance	
AP	0	Audit Pass	
AF	0	Audit Fail	