



**PROGRAM SPECIFIC AGREEMENT FOR A  
COLLABORATIVE GRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCH PROGRAM**

**Between**

**BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF GEORGIA  
BY AND ON BEHALF OF GEORGIA STATE UNIVERSITY  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA, U.S.A.**

**And**

**TAIPEI MEDICAL UNIVERSITY  
TAIPEI, TAIWAN**

The Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia by and on behalf of Georgia State University ("Georgia State") and its College of Arts and Sciences, Byrdine F. Lewis School of Nursing and Health Professions, and School of Public Health, Atlanta, Georgia, United States of America and Taipei Medical University and its College of Pharmacy, College of Nutrition, College of Public Health, College of Nursing, and College of Medical Science and Technology, Taipei, Taiwan ("TMU") agree to institute a collaborative graduate student research program in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in this agreement ("Agreement").

Georgia State and TMU hereby agree to the following:

**1. Description of Program**

This Agreement is established to enhance graduate student research and training and faculty research collaboration in medical sciences between Georgia State and TMU. Top Master's level students at TMU will be selected to apply to Georgia State as Master's level students. TMU will provide Georgia State with funds for graduate research stipends and materials, and Georgia State will waive the graduate admission application fee and tuition. TMU faculty may also participate in professional development and mentorship opportunities at Georgia State as part of this program. The program at Georgia State will include the MSc in Biology and in Chemistry in the College of Arts and Sciences, the MS in Nursing and in Health Sciences in the Byrdine F. Lewis School of Nursing and Health Professions, and the MPH in Public Health in the School of Public Health.

**2. Term and Academic Years**

This Agreement becomes effective on the date it is duly signed by representatives of both institutions. The term of the Agreement shall commence on the effective date and shall be in effect for five (5) years, unless earlier terminated by either party pursuant to Section 9 below. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained herein, the term of this Agreement shall not extend beyond one academic year if Georgia State assumes any financial obligations by entering into this Agreement. This Agreement may be renewed for additional academic year or five (5) year renewal terms, as applicable, upon the advance written agreement of both parties.

The academic year at Georgia State consists of two regular semesters: the Fall semester begins in August and ends in December, and the Spring semester begins in January and ends in early May. In

addition, there is a Summer semester and an abbreviated Maymester. Graduate students from TMU may attend any semester.

### **3. Number of Students**

Starting in January 2017, up to ten (10) new Master-level students from TMU will be invited to apply to each participating College as transfer students to Georgia State.

### **4. Units Involved in Program**

Participants in the program can be drawn from the TMU Colleges listed above.

### **5. Graduate Student Research Program**

#### **A. Requirements for Students to Participate**

TMU will select outstanding graduate students from their graduate program to receive training, participate in collaborative research, and earn a Master's degree from Georgia State as transfer students. The selected students at TMU will apply to one of the Georgia State programs referenced in Section 1.

The TMU students will fulfill all application requirements, including the submission of a graduate application and other supplemental materials, for their chosen academic program at Georgia State. The College of Arts and Sciences, Byrdine F. Lewis School of Nursing and Health Professions, and School of Public Health agree to waive the GRE requirement.

TMU students are required to submit TOEFL iBT (minimum 79/120) or IELTS (minimum 6.5/9) scores in order to prove English language proficiency. TMU students admitted to Georgia State will also take the GSTEP (Georgia State Test of English Proficiency) upon arrival. The GSTEP results will include the outline of mandatory coursework in the Georgia State Intensive English Program. If students are accordingly required to take courses in the Intensive English Program, they are responsible for paying full tuition and fees for that program.

TMU students at Georgia State will complete all degree requirements. Their graduate course credits from TMU may or may not transfer based on Georgia State policy and the decision of the academic units involved. Up to 9 credits of appropriate graduate courses may be transferred to Georgia State toward the respective Master's degree.

The school, department or unit involved in this Agreement at TMU will provide academic counseling to its own students to ensure that the courses taken at Georgia State are acceptable with respect to its own degree programs. Georgia State will supply TMU with course descriptions and other pertinent materials to assist in determining course equivalency. At the end of each semester or academic term, students will follow appropriate procedures at Georgia State to ensure academic records/transcripts from Georgia State are sent to TMU. Students will also complete the thesis portion of the Master's degree at TMU.

Students will be required to comply with the standard rules, regulations, and enrollment restrictions of Georgia State in the selection of courses, including requirements of language proficiency and health documentation. TMU students must submit immunization documentation,

including but not limited to Measles, Mumps and Rubella or MMR, Tetanus, Diphtheria, Varicella, Hepatitis B for enrollment.

Georgia State has final authority over decisions regarding admission of students to its courses.

#### **B. Student Responsibilities and Expenses**

TMU agrees to provide TMU students studying in this program with MSc/MS/MPH stipends and supply funds. The funds will be transferred directly to Georgia State through the Georgia State Research Foundation. With the guarantee of these funds, Georgia State's respective College or School will grant each student from TMU a graduate research assistantship. The students will participate in research in the respective units throughout the academic year. TMU students are responsible for paying mandatory Georgia State fees and any charges not covered by Georgia State research assistantships (e.g. health insurance) each semester by published deadlines. TMU students must submit immunization documentation, including but not limited to Measles, Mumps and Rubella or MMR, Tetanus, Diphtheria, Varicella, Hepatitis B for enrollment. Each graduate assistantship is \$6,000 per academic year.

Stipend and Supply funds will be agreed upon at the start of each academic year. However, in the first year, TMU will provide \$10,000 per student per year to be deposited at Georgia State as a special sponsored project; the exact amount will be dependent on the availability of funds and the number of students from TMU.

#### **C. Visa Requirements**

The respective Georgia State academic department will forward all necessary international student data received from TMU students, including documentation of sufficient financial resources in the United States, to Georgia State's International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS) office to enable participating students to obtain an F-1 visa. Forms will be provided by Georgia State.

The above information must be received at Georgia State approximately five (5) months preceding the international student's arrival to the U.S. This documentation enables Georgia State to sponsor the students as part of this Agreement but does not commit the institution to any financial support.

#### **D. Insurance Requirements for Students**

Personal health, hospitalization and accident insurance, including a repatriation and medical evacuation plan, as well as liability coverage, is required for all international students studying at Georgia State. Students who already have insurance must submit proof of such coverage to the Georgia State's International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS) for approval. Students from TMU who do not have appropriate insurance must obtain, at their own cost, Georgia State's international students' insurance policy.

#### **E. Housing for Students**

The Georgia State Housing Office will provide TMU students information about university housing. TMU students are responsible for negotiating leasing agreements with the Georgia State Housing Office or off-campus housing as appropriate. Housing space at Georgia State is limited and available on a first-come, first-served basis. TMU students who wish to live in Georgia State housing must complete the application process at least four (4) months preceding their arrival.

When provided by Georgia State, payment of housing and board costs are due by the published deadlines.

#### **F. Compliance with Rules and Regulations**

TMU students will be subject to the rules and regulations of Georgia State, and the laws and procedures of the U.S. Georgia State will assume no responsibility for a student's conduct or lack of compliance with any of the U.S. laws. Furthermore, Georgia State reserves the right to require a student to withdraw from the program at any time if the student's academic performance or personal misconduct warrants such action, provided, however, that Georgia State will, absent extenuating circumstances, attempt to consult with TMU before implementing such action. The dismissal of a student shall not abrogate this Agreement, or the arrangements regarding other students.

#### **6. Faculty Mentoring Program**

To support this program, identified faculty from TMU may attend Georgia State on paid sponsorship as short term scholars under its Faculty Mentoring Program. This will allow TMU faculty to be paired with Georgia State faculty to facilitate professional development and training activities. TMU faculty may be paired with their Georgia State counterparts to engage in activities that include developing and revising curriculum, co-teaching, classroom observation, language enhancement, if desired, and cross-cultural activities. Negotiation for this program may be initiated under a separate agreement by contacting [partnerships@gsu.edu](mailto:partnerships@gsu.edu).

#### **7. Research**

To the extent allowable by law, the parties may engage in joint research, conference participation, publication of research results and other research-related activity. The parties understand and agree that national laws regulating the export of technologies may prohibit participation by visiting students, faculty, and researchers on specific research projects in the host country. The parties further understand and agree to secure all university and other required approvals prior to conducting research activities and to abide by all policies and procedures governing such activities.

If students participate in research funded by a third party sponsor, the parties agree that such research activities will abide by the terms of the sponsorship agreement. If students receive third party confidential information for research purposes that was provided under a written nondisclosure or confidential disclosure agreement, the parties agree that the students will be bound by the confidentiality and nondisclosure terms of such agreement. Students pledge to disclose any intellectual property developed as a result of joint research to both Georgia State and TMU unless such disclosure is unlawful under the laws of the United States. If valuable intellectual property is created as a result of joint research, ownership of such intellectual property shall be determined in accordance with the law of inventorship or authorship of the country in which the research occurred and Georgia State University's policies. The parties agree that Georgia State University will evaluate the intellectual property, in consultation with the other party, to determine whether formal patent, copyright, or other protection is desirable.

#### **8. Equal Opportunity**

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

**9. Modification, Termination, Renewal of Agreement**

This Agreement may be modified, revised, or renewed but only upon the mutual consent of the parties in writing. Either party may terminate this Agreement by written notice submitted at least 90 days in advance of the next academic semester. Termination will not affect approved students in the program. Unless renewed by mutual written consent, this Agreement will conclude at the end of the specified academic term or year (as defined in Section 2 above).

**10. Primary Contacts / Program Directors**

The Primary Contacts/ Program Directors will ensure that the terms of this Agreement are carried out. They will serve as the contact persons at each institution, ensure the general welfare of program participants, ensure that necessary approvals are in place, and have administrative oversight of the program.

The primary contacts for the parties to this Agreement are the following:

<b>For Georgia State</b>		<b>For TMU</b>	
Name:	Walter Walthall	Name:	Shawn Hsiang-Yin Chen
Title:	Associate Professor	Title:	Associate Professor
Department:	Department of Biology, College of Arts and Sciences	Department:	Department of Clinical Pharmacy College of Pharmacy
Address:	Georgia State University 614 Petit Science Center Atlanta, Georgia, USA 30303	Address:	Taipei Medical University No. 250, Wuxing St. Taipei 11031, Taiwan
Phone:	+1-404-413-5391	Phone:	+886 2 2736 1661 ext.6175
Email:	wwalthall@gsu.edu	Email:	shawn@tmu.edu.tw

**WHEREFORE** the parties to this Agreement signify their acceptance of the terms and conditions contained herein by signing in the spaces below.

**Board of Regents of the University  
System of Georgia by and on behalf  
of Georgia State University**

**Taipei Medical University**

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mark Becker  
President

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Yun Yen  
President

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_