



Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

between



University College Dublin, National University of
Ireland, Dublin

and

Mbarara University of Science and Technology, Uganda

1. Purpose

This non-binding Memorandum of Understanding describes the general terms of collaboration between University College Dublin, National University of Ireland, Dublin ('UCD') acting through its School of Public Health, Physiotherapy and Sports Science, and the Department of Physiotherapy of Mbarara University of Science and Technology (MUST).

2. Background

University College Dublin is Ireland's largest university and is ranked in the world's top 100 university in clinical, preclinical, and health sciences. It was founded in 1854 and has made a unique and substantial contribution to the creation of modern Ireland, based on successful engagement with Irish society on every level and across every sphere of activity. UCD is one of Europe's leading research-intensive universities; an environment where undergraduate education, masters and PhD training, research, innovation and community engagement form a dynamic spectrum of activity. The international standing of UCD has grown in recent years; it is currently ranked within the top 1% of institutions world-wide. UCD is also Ireland's most globally engaged university with over 30,000 students drawn from over 120 countries, and includes 5,500 students based at locations outside of Ireland.

Physiotherapy at UCD is based in the multidisciplinary School of Public Health, Physiotherapy, and Sports Science. The physiotherapy programme at UCD is more than 60 years old and it is the largest provider of undergraduate and graduate physiotherapy education in Ireland. There are two entry-to-practice level programs in physiotherapy: a 4-year BSc physiotherapy program and a 2-year professional master of physiotherapy programme. It also offers a range of post-graduate programmes for physiotherapists.

Mbarara University of Science and Technology (MUST) was established as the second public university in Uganda. It was founded in 1989 and is located in the south-western region of the country. MUST's mission is to provide quality and relevant education at national and international

level with particular emphasis on Science and Technology and its application to community development. The university has an enrollment of over 3,000 students in 6 faculties and 2 institutes (Faculty of Medicine, Faculty of Science, Faculty of Business & Management Sciences, Faculty of Interdisciplinary Studies, Faculty of Computing and Informatics, Faculty of Applied Sciences and Technology, Institute of Tropical Forest Conservation and Institute of Maternal, Newborn and Child Health). The Faculty of Medicine trains students in medicine, nursing, medical laboratory science, pharmacy, pharmaceutical science, physiotherapy and counseling at a variety of diploma, degree, and postgraduate levels. The vision of the Faculty is "to be recognized as a centre of excellence in health sciences education, research, and community service."

The Physiotherapy Programme was envisioned by staff in the neighbouring government hospital in 2007 and started in 2012. It is a 4 year degree programme. The mission of the Department of Physiotherapy is "To provide high quality evidence based education in Physiotherapy with emphasis on producing innovative, research orientated students who will translate the knowledge and skills into practices that will improve the health and well-being of nation and beyond. "

The relationship between UCD and MUST began in 2015 when Dr O'Sullivan visited the Department of Physiotherapy at MUST for a meeting to explore the possibility of developing a partnership between the two institutions. During the summer of 2015, physiotherapy students from MUST voluntarily joined students from UCD who were on a clinical placement in Church of Uganda Kisiizi Hospital. This was regarded by the students as a very valuable learning experience for all involved. In 2016 there were bilateral visits to both institutions by two members of staff of each of the respective physiotherapy programmes. These visits entailed general discussion with a variety of stakeholders including students, academic and clinical staff, and clinical site visits. At the end of both visits, a structured workshop using an appreciative inquiry methodology was undertaken. The purpose of the structured workshops was to harness the knowledge and experience of academic and clinical colleagues to best identify the priorities for the partnership and shape the collaboration going forward. A further meeting was held at the World Confederation of Physical Therapy congress in Cape Town, South Africa in 2017 and regular Skype meetings are held.

The collaboration outlined in this Memorandum of Understanding will strengthen the relationship between UCD and MUST staff and students, by promoting intellectual exchange, joint learning and research initiatives, and joint clinical experiences for students, with the intention of strengthening rehabilitation in global health. The partnership will be reviewed within five years of this MOU's signing, to assess outcomes and determine the potential for ongoing cooperation.

3. Objectives

The objectives of the collaboration are to:

1. To develop joint online learning activities in the area of international health for students affiliated with both institutions.
2. To expand postgraduate training and collaborative research opportunities.
3. To provide joint clinical learning opportunities for students affiliated with both institutions.

4. To facilitate the sharing of knowledge between academic physiotherapy departments.

4. Activities and Outputs

Both institutions declare that they will initiate discussions on the proposed activities:

- Develop a system of regular contact between the two departments;
- Develop and maintain a database of network contacts;
- Disseminate funding opportunities, call-for-papers, conference information, and other involvement opportunities as they arise;
- Explore appropriate post graduate education opportunities to fulfill capacity building needs.
- Create joint or shared online learning activities for MUST and UCD students, in the area of international health.
- Lobby for honorarium positions for staff involved in teaching activities for the partner university.
- Organise clinical learning opportunities for students from both institutions in Ugandan rehabilitation settings, in partnership with UCD Volunteers Overseas.
- Create opportunities for intellectual exchange at conferences and through symposia, visiting lectures, working groups and other network activities;
- Jointly publish papers

The terms of cooperation for each specific activity contemplated under this MOU shall be mutually discussed and agreed upon in writing by the parties prior to the initiation of that activity. Any such activities agreed upon will be recorded and governed by a separate legally binding agreement, executed by the parties

5. Roles of Partners

UCD will:

- Facilitate quarterly meetings between MUST and UCD Physiotherapy Schools
- Oversee organization of shared clinical placement with MUST and UCD students in Uganda, in partnership with UCDVO
- Embed shared online learning activities into physiotherapy curricula.
- Provide desk space for visiting staff, where possible.

MUST will:

- Facilitate quarterly meetings between MUST and UCD Physiotherapy Schools
- Oversee organization of shared clinical placement with MUST and UCD students in Uganda, in partnership with UCDVO
- Embed shared online learning activities into physiotherapy curricula.
- Provide space and maintenance for IT equipment for online learning activities.

- Provide honorary appointments for staff from UCD involved in training and research activities in collaboration with MUST
- Provide accommodation for visiting staff.

The roles of the Partners contemplated under this MOU shall be mutually discussed and agreed upon in writing by the parties prior to the initiation of activity. Any such activities agreed upon will be recorded and governed by a separate legally binding agreement, executed by the parties

6. Timeframe for Collaboration

It is understood that the activities discussed in this MOU will begin as of the date of a separate legally binding contract and will continue for up to 5 years. At the end of this period, the administration of UCD and MUST will evaluate the arrangement, assess progress toward milestones, and determine if renewal or modification of the contract is appropriate. It is understood that additional organizational and administrative arrangements may be negotiated between UCD and MUST as the relationship progresses. This MOU establishes an understanding of baseline activities that may be modified or expanded as necessary.

7. Data Protection:

Each party will (and will procure that its personnel will) do all such acts and things as may reasonably be requested of it by the other party with a view to compliance with legislation concerning data protection.

8. Term of Memorandum of Collaboration

This agreement is voluntary and without legal obligation to the parties.

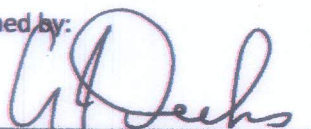
9. Intention of the Parties

The purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding is only to express the intentions of the Parties and is not intended to be legally binding on any party. The terms of cooperation for each specific activity contemplated under this Memorandum of Understanding shall be mutually discussed and agreed upon in writing by the parties prior to the initiation of that activity. Any such activities agreed upon will be recorded and governed by a separate legally binding agreement, executed by the parties. Each institution shall designate a liaison officer to develop and coordinate the specific activities agreed upon. All parties understand that all financial arrangements will have to be negotiated and will depend on the availability of funds.

10. Resolution of Disputes

Any dispute that may arise from the implementation or interpretations of this agreement shall be resolved by negotiation between the two parties. If however, the parties fail to arrive at an amicable resolution, the dispute shall be referred to an arbitrator agreed upon by the parties and governed by the Laws of Arbitration that both countries agree to.

Signed by:



1. Prof. Andrew J Deeks

President

University College Dublin, National
University of Ireland, Dublin

Date : 9 / 1 / 2020

Place : Dublin

Tlf.: + 1 716 1618

E Mail: president@ucd.ie



1. Prof. Celestino Obua

Vice Chancellor

Mbarara University of Science and
Technology, Mbarara, UGANDA

Date : 3 / 3 / 2020

Place :

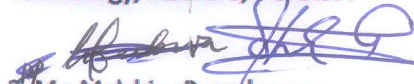
Tlf.: +256 4856 60208

Fax: +256 4854 20782

E Mail: vc@must.ac.ug /

celestino.obua@must.ac.ug

In the presence of for
Mbarara University of Science and
Technology, Mbarara, UGANDA



2/ Mr. Melchior Byaruhanga

University Secretary

Mbarara University of Science and
Technology, Mbarara, UGANDA

Date : 03 / 03 / 2020

Place :

Tlf.: +256 4856 60601

Fax: +256 4854 20782

E Mail: us@must.ac.ug /



3. Mr. Mugumya Timothy Ndiana

Legal Officer



Mbarara University of Science and
Technology, Mbarara, UGANDA

Date : 02 / 02 / 2020

Place :

Tlf.: +256 4856 60601

Fax: +256 4854 20782

E Mail: tmugumya@must.ac.ug/

tmndiana@gmail.com