PROGRAM SPECIFIC AGREEMENT FOR A
COLLABORATIVE GRADUATE STUDENT TRAINING PROGRAM IN
RESPIRATORY THERAPY

Between

BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF GEORGIA
BY AND ON BEHALF OF GEORGIA STATE UNIVERSITY AND ITS
BYRDINE F. LEWIS SCHOOL OF NURSING AND HEALTH PROFESSIONS,
ATLANTA, U.S.A.

And

TAIPEI MEDICAL UNIVERSITY AND ITS COLLEGE OF MEDICINE,
TAIPEI, TAIWAN

The Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia by and on behalf of Georgia State University and its Byrdine F. Lewis School of Nursing and Health Professions’ Department of Respiratory Therapy, Atlanta, Georgia, United States of America (“Georgia State”) and Taipei Medical University and its College of Medicine Taipei, Taiwan (“TMU”) agree to institute a graduate student 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 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 Respiratory Therapy 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 be initiated by the Department of Respiratory Therapy in the Byrdine F. Lewis School of Nursing and Health Professions.

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 and, in no event shall the term of this Agreement extend beyond five (5) academic years. This Agreement may be renewed for
additional academic years 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 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 Fall semester 2017, a maximum of ten (10) new Master-level students from TMU may enroll each Fall semester in the Program at Georgia State as transfer students.

4. **Units Involved in Program**

Participants in the program will be drawn from the School of Respiratory Therapy at TMU.

5. **Graduate Student Program**

   A. **Requirements for Students to Participate**

TMU will select outstanding graduates from their MSc program to earn an MSc in Health Sciences with a concentration in Respiratory Therapy at TMU. The selected MSc students will apply to the Integrated Master’s degree in Respiratory Therapy program at Georgia State as transfer students.

The TMU student will fulfill all application requirements, including the submission of a graduate application and other supplemental materials, for their chosen academic program at Georgia State. 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. The Department of Respiratory Therapy will waive GRE testing and accept two (2) letters of recommendation from clinical or academic staff at TMU for each student.

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. TMU students at Georgia State will complete all Georgia State Integrated Master’s degree in Respiratory Therapy program requirements. Course credits earned at Georgia State will be transferred back to TMU to complete course requirements for TMU’s Master’s in Respiratory Therapy degree. 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 stipends and supply funds ("Funds") in the amount of $10,000 per academic year per student. The Funds will be transferred directly to Georgia State through the Georgia State Research Foundation. With the guarantee of these Funds, Georgia State will grant each student from TMU a graduate assistantship, which will be $2,000 stipend per semester for each semester in attendance. The students will work in the Respiratory Therapy Labs at Georgia State throughout the academic year. Under this Agreement, TMU students will be required to pay tuition and fees at TMU, while payment of the graduate admission application fee and tuition at Georgia State will be waived for TMU students. TMU students are responsible for paying mandatory Georgia State fees and any charges not covered by Georgia State assistantship (e.g. health insurance) each semester by published deadlines. TMU students will also be responsible for completing a health screening that includes all vaccinations and test needed to attend clinical rotations. A criminal background check is also required.

C. Visa Requirements

The Department of Respiratory Therapy at Georgia State 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 the 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 three (3) to four (4) 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 & 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.

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 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.

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 not to disclose any intellectual property developed as a result of joint research to both Georgia State and TMU unless such nondisclosure is unlawful under the law of the country.

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:
For Georgia State

Name: Douglas S. Gardenhire, EdD, RRT-NPS, FAARC
Title: Chair and Clinical Associate Professor
Department: Respiratory Therapy
Address: Georgia State University
1228 Urban Life
Atlanta, GA 30303
Phone: 404-413-1270
E-mail: dgardenhire@gsu.edu

For TMU

Name: Mauo-Ying Bien, PhD, RRT, RPT
Title: Associate Professor and Director
Department: School of Respiratory Therapy
Address: Taipei Medical University
No. 250, Wuxing St, Xinyi District
Taipei City, Taiwan 110
Phone: +886-2-27361661 ext 3516
E-mail: mybien@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 and its Byrdine F. Lewis School of Nursing and Health Professions

By: Nancy Kropf Dean

Date: May 31, 2016

Taipei Medical University and its College of Medicine

By: Chao-Ching Huang Dean

Date: May 11, 2016