COOPERATION AGREEMENT
BETWEEN
THE CENTRAL CHINA NORMAL UNIVERSITY (CCNU)
AND
THE UNIVERSITÉ DE MONTRÉAL
CONCERNSING CANDIDATES AT THE DOCTORAL LEVEL

Preamble
The Chinese Scholarship Council (hereafter CSC) has launched a new PhD Scholarship Program in 2007, planning to send 5,000 Chinese students abroad. In order to implement the Program, CSC has signed contracts with top Chinese Universities, allotting a scholarship quota to each of them.

The CSC Scholarships will be granted to the PhD students whose admission application has been accepted at the Université de Montréal (Hereafter UdeM). Applicants to the Scholarship program are supposed to apply individually to the UdeM, and when getting formal admissions, they can apply through their home institutions for CSC’s Scholarship.

The Chinese Universities will be responsible for the implementation and the announcement of the Scholarship Program as well as for the creation and distribution of all documents related to the Program.

The ultimate aim of this program is to encourage cooperation and exchange between Chinese Universities and foreign institutions. A maximum of 20 fellowships will be awarded to Chinese students, coming from the targeted Universities by the UdeM, annually in the first three years of the Program. There will be a maximum of 60 on-going doctoral students per year in the years to follow.

In this context, the UdeM propose the attached Agreement of Cooperation to develop research collaborations between CCNU and UdeM.

Central China Normal University (CCNU) and Université de Montréal (UdeM), in accordance with the principles of equality and mutual benefit and through friendly negotiation, hereby agree to establish a collaborative arrangement for the purposes of providing high quality research training to qualified students from CCNU with the aim of developing research collaborations between UdeM and CCNU.

1. Program overview: The program is offered to excellent candidates who will undertake doctoral programs. Selected Chinese students from CCNU will enroll in a designated program at UdeM and undertake study. If the selected Chinese students successfully complete the requirements of the designated program and defend their dissertation, they will be conferred the PhD degree by UdeM.
2. **General responsibilities of Parties in the implementation of the Scholarship Program:** CCNU will be responsible for the promotion of the Agreement of Cooperation, between CCNU and UdeM with the students applying for the PhD scholarships. The Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies (FGPS) of the UdeM will serve as a coordinating body for the implementation of the Fellowship Program and its follow-up in relationship with the academic units at the UdeM. The FGPS will also be responsible for creating and maintaining a follow-up network with the CCNU and the CSC to ensure that students registered at the UdeM are achieving their goals in relation to the program.

3. **Entry criteria and Conditions of Eligibility:** Students are expected to be exceptional in every respect; they will meet the selection criteria for the doctoral programs at UdeM, including academic performance and English or French language requirements. Applicants who intend to apply for CSC scholarship under this Agreement of Cooperation should:
   a) Be proficient in both English and/or French to the point where he/she is able to follow academic activities in either English or French at UdeM
   b) Hold an offer letter for a doctoral program at UdeM
   c) Be citizens and permanent residents of PRC China and study or work in Mainland China at the time of application
   d) Complete the CSC application form and employer reference form
   e) Sign with CSC an “Agreement for Study Abroad for CSC Sponsored Chinese Citizens,” wherein the applicants promise to return to China upon completion of their research within the set time.

4. **Selection Procedures:** The application and selection procedures go as follows:
   a) Applicants will submit their applications directly to UdeM before the application deadline and meanwhile submit to CCNU a copy of their applications.
   b) CCNU will send to UdeM a list of all applicants.
   c) UdeM will process the applications as soon as possible. When all applications have been processed, UdeM will inform the student and CCNU of the admission status of all applicants that UdeM considers a match with the Agreement of Cooperation.
   d) CCNU applicants who have received the offer letter from FGPS/UdeM are supposed to apply through CCNU Graduate School for the CSC Scholarships.
   e) It is CSC that processes and makes decisions on applications for the CSC Scholarships. CCNU will duly inform its applicants the decisions of CSC on their applications.

5. **Fields of Cooperation:** UdeM and CCNU undertake to collaborate in the following priority areas of study which have been selected by the CSC: Energy, Resources, Environment, Information Technology, Life Science, Biomedical Sciences and Public Health, Space study, Nanotechnology, New materials, Food and Land Resources, Humanities and Applied Social Sciences.
6. **Funding model:** For students recommended by CCNU who complied with the entry criteria and other requirements related to the PhD programs of UdeM, UdeM will waive their tuition fees (excluding fees related to Registration, e.g. Admission fee or student association fees) for four (4) years (2 years as full-time students and 2 years as "writing thesis" students) and CSC will grant the scholarship covering the living allowance as prescribed from time to time by the Chinese Government (which includes Student Health Coverage), a return airfare to Canada. Reimbursements of visa applications fees and airfare must follow CSC regulations.

7. **Supervision of candidates:** UdeM will provide the chief academic advisors for candidates. Wherever possible, co-supervision between UdeM and CCNU will be encouraged. This is seen as a channel for the development of long-term research collaboration between UdeM and CCNU, which all three institutions embrace as a long-term goal.

8. **Best endeavors:** Both CCNU and UdeM commit to making every administrative and faculty effort to ensure the success of this collaboration. Based on the successful running of the initial program both parties will actively pursue the possibility of strengthening collaborative ties more broadly across disciplinary fields and institutional partnerships and developing additional programs in the future. A coordinator has been nominated on both sides.

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9. **Agreement duration and review:** The Agreement of Cooperation shall become effective for 3 years in the first instance, commencing from the date of the signatures. The proposed date of the first intake of students is September 2013. It may be terminated by either party giving six months notice in written form of its intention to do so. The Agreement of Cooperation will be reviewed during its third year of operation. If the parties have no objection to the Agreement of Cooperation, it will be automatically renewed for a period of 3 years. In the event the program is discontinued, students admitted under the program will continue to receive support at the different levels and for the time periods stipulated above.

10. **Additional Activity and Dispute Resolution:** This Agreement of Cooperation can be modified and added to by the mutual consent of the parties. Matters not included in the Agreement of Cooperation, but directly related to it, may be addressed by the mutual agreement of the parties. Any such agreement must be appended to this Agreement of Cooperation and become valid upon the date of signing.
The parties commit to resolving any disputes on the terms of this Agreement of Cooperation by seeking friendly, mutually acceptable resolutions.

This Agreement of Cooperation shall be written in English, with two officially duplicated copies. The English version is legally binding for UdeM.

The English and Chinese versions are legally binding for CCNU.

Montreal, April 17, 2012

[Signatures]

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Prof. Wang Enke
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Montreal, April 17, 2012

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