AGREEMENT OF COOPERATION
BETWEEN
SICHUAN UNIVERSITY
AND
UNIVERSITÉ de MONTRÉAL
ÉCOLE POLYTEHNIQUE de MONTRÉAL
CONCERNING CANDIDATES AT THE DOCTORAL LEVEL

Preamble

The Chinese Scholarship Council (hereafter CSC) has launched a Ph.D. Scholarship Program in 2007, planning to send 6,000 Chinese students abroad from 2007-2011. In order to implement the Program, CSC has signed contracts with 49 top Chinese Universities, allotting a scholarship quota to each of them. The CSC Scholarships will be granted to the Ph.D. students whose admission application has been accepted at the University de Montréal (UdeM) or École Polytechnique de Montréal (EPM). Applicants to the Scholarship program are supposed to apply individually to the UdeM or EPM, and when getting formal admissions with full tuition waiver, 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 Program.

The ultimate aim of this program is to encourage cooperation and exchange between Chinese Universities and foreign institutions. A maximum of 30 fellowships (20 UdeM, 10 EPM) will be awarded to Chinese students, coming from the 12 targeted Universities by the UdeM, annually in the first three years of the Program. There will be a maximum of 90 (60 UdeM, 30 EPM) on-going doctoral students per year in the years to follow.

In this context, the UdeM and EPM propose the attached Agreement of Cooperation to develop research collaborations between Sichuan University and UdeM/EPM.
Sichuan University (hereafter SCU), Université de Montréal (UdeM) and École Polytechnique de Montréal (EPM) 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 SCU with the aim of developing research collaborations between SCU, UdeM, and EPM.

1. **Program overview:** The program is offered to excellent candidates who will undertake doctoral programs. Selected Chinese students from SCU will enroll in a designated program at UdeM or EPM 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 Ph.D. degree by UdeM or UdeM/EPM.

2. **General responsibilities of Parties in the implementation of the Scholarship Program:** Sichuan University will be responsible for the promotion of the Agreement of Cooperation, between SCU, UdeM and EPM, with the students applying for the Ph.D. 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 SCU and the CSC to ensure that students registered at the UdeM are achieving their goals in relation to the program. EPM will be responsible for the follow-up of the Chinese students registered at EPM.

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 or EPM, including academic performance and English language requirements. Applicants who intend to apply for CSC scholarship under this Agreement of Cooperation should:

   a) Be proficient in English or French to the point where he/she is able to follow academic activities in either English or French at UdeM or EPM
b) Hold an admission letter to a doctoral program at UdeM or EPM

c) Hold a letter from the FGPS certifying that he/she has obtained a full tuition waiver Scholarship

d) Be citizens and permanent residents of PR China and study or work in Mainland China at the time of application

e) Complete the CSC application form and employer reference form

f) 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 or EPM before the application deadline and meanwhile submit to SCU a copy of their applications.

b) SCU will send to UdeM a list of all applicants.

c) UdeM or EPM will process the applications as soon as possible. When all applications have been processed, UdeM or EPM will inform the student and SCU of the admission status of all applicants that UdeM or EPM considers a match with the Agreement of Cooperation.

d) Having received the Admission and Scholarship letters from FGPS/UdeM or EPM, the students may apply through SCU for the CSC Scholarship.

5. **Fields of Cooperation:** UdeM and SCU undertake to collaborate in the following:

a) Information Technology

b) Life Sciences and Public Health

c) Material Sciences and New Materials

d) Energy and the Environment

e) Agriculture; Food and Land Resources

f) Applied Social Sciences and Humanities

g) Manufacture

h) Biomedical Sciences
i) Space Study
j) Nanotechnologies

6. **Funding model:** For students recommended by SCU who complied with the entry criteria and other requirements related to the Ph.D. programs of UdeM or EPM, UdeM or EPM will waive their tuition fees (excluding fees related to Registration, e.g. Admission fee) and CSC will grant the scholarship covering the living allowance as prescribed from time to time by the Chinese Government (which includes Student Health Cover), a return airfare to Canada by the most economical route, and visa application fees.

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

8. **Best endeavors:** Both SCU and UdeM or EPM 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. At both sides a coordinator has been nominated.
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 2010. It may be terminated by either party giving six months notice 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 prolonged for a further 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 three officially duplicated copies. The English version is legally binding.

Signed for:

Sichuan University

[Signature]

Professor Heping Xie
President
Dated: Jan. 15, 2010

Université de Montréal

[Signature]

Professor Luc Vinet
President
Dated: March 26, 2010

École Polytechnique de Montréal

[Signature]

Christophe Guy
General Director
Dated: Feb 17, 2010