MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Between



Forman Christian College (A Chartered University), Lahore, Pakistan

And



Bratislava International School of Liberal Arts, Bratislava, Slovak Republic

Provision for Academic Collaboration

February, 2023

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

This Memorandum of Understanding [MoU]

Is made and entered into on this 13 of February, 2023

Between

Recipient

A. FORMAN CHRISTIAN COLLEGE (A CHARTERED UNIVERSITY) (hereinafter referred to as "FCCU"), whose address is at Ferozepur Road,54600, Lahore, Pakistan, represented by Head CLT, Dr. Rukhsana Zia, on the one part;

And

Partner

B. BRATISLAVA INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF LIBERAL ARTS, (hereinafter referred to as "BISLA"), n. o, Grösslingova 53, 811 09 Bratislava, Slovak Republic, ID 37924133, represented by Coordinator of TLC, Mgr. Dagmar Kusá, of the other part.

FCCU and Bratislava International School of Liberal Arts hereinafter may also be referred as "Recipient" and "Partner" respectively or together as "Parties".

WHEREAS:

- A. The legacy of Forman Christian College (A Chartered University) spans 155 years of quality education. The recipient is ranked as a 'W' Category University by the <u>HEC</u> and is the only member of <u>The Global Liberal Arts Alliance</u> in all of Asia. The University offers Baccalaureate (Hons), PharmD and Postgraduate degrees and diplomas in a wide range of disciplines that include Humanities, Computer Science, and Mathematical Sciences, Social and Natural Sciences, Business, Public Policy, and Education.
- B. Bratislava International School of Liberal Arts (BISLA) is a liberal arts college, the first of its kind in central Europe. Situated in Bratislava.
- C. It is the desire of the Parties named herein that an MOU is formalized based on the headings as hereinafter appearing.

AND WHEREAS the Parties have reached the following understandings:

Article 1

Statement of Purpose

- 1.1 CLT at FCCU and BISLA recognize that the Parties have many interests in common and that there will be mutual benefits from academic collaboration and cooperation.
- 1.2 The subject of this Memorandum of Understanding is external cooperation with new partnerships connecting the university and the professional sphere in Slovakia, as well as in the implementation and sustainability of the project "Development of the Internal System of the Teaching and Learning Centre", ITMS project code 312011BPI2.
- 1.3 The parties recognize that systematic development of teaching and learning at their institutions is among the primary needs and goals of present-day academic institutions.[N2]
- They acknowledge, that the fastly developing societies of the digital era require teaching and learning approaches that are student-centered and focused on the development of critical thinking, independent research, interdisciplinary, and an inquisitive stance,
- They underscore the centrality of democratic values of openness, tolerance, exchange of ideas, and community engagement in teaching and learning processes,
- They recognize the importance of the interconnectedness of the learning process with practice through internships, volunteering, co-op projects, and more,
- They realize that as several of today's problems and challenges are of a global nature, the education process should encourage interaction among students and faculty on an international level, especially around practices of teaching and learning.
- 1.3 This MOU provides the mechanism through which the expressed intent of the Parties can be realized.

Article 2

The Subject Areas

- 2.1. The subject areas for potential collaboration and cooperation have been identified as, but not limited to, the following activities:
 - a. Workshops, seminars, discussions among the leadership and staff of the teaching and learning centers and programs,
 - b. Exchange of ideas and experiences among student tutors employed in the programs for the advancement of writing, peer mentoring, critical thinking mentoring, or other programs,
 - c. Cooperation on training offered to faculty and student mentors and tutors employed in teaching and learning programs

d. Faculty and students exchange inter-institutional visits within the teaching and learning programs at partner institutions to facilitate learning from the best practices, and exchange of experiences, strategies, methods, and educational materials.

2.2 Each mutually identified and agreed activity, shall be covered by separate Agreement(s) which will be an annex to this MOU. The terms and conditions under which a specific program and activity shall be undertaken under the terms of this MOU and any necessary financial arrangements to facilitate these will be mutually discussed and agreed upon in writing by the Parties prior to the initiation of the particular program or activity.

2.3 Both Parties shall enter into a separate and detailed Agreement which all specify the terms and conditions of this collaboration and is subject to the express approvals of the Ministry of Higher Education and other relevant Government Agencies from the Country.

Article 3

Coordination of this MOU

3.1 The Parties to this MOU will, within a reasonable time from the date of execution of this MOU, designate a key contact person on behalf of each Party who will take responsibility for the development and achievement of the Objectives of this MOU and when mutually agreed, will take responsibility for the development of the separate Agreement(s). The partner and recipient [N3] shall be liable for its own costs and expenses if any

<u>FCCU</u> <u>BISLA</u>

Attention: Dr. Rukhsana Zia Attention: Mgr. Dagmar Kusá

Address: Forman Christian College (A Chartered Address: Grösslingova 53, 811 09

University) Ferozpur Road, 54600, Lahore, Pakistan Bratislava, Slovak Republic

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Article 4

Terms of this MOU

4.1 The Memorandum of understanding is voluntary and both parties are entitled to revise or abolish their participation in the collaboration at any time.

4.2 Two originals will be signed, always, and to be retained by each party.

Article 5

Financial Matters Relating to this MOU

- 5.1 The Project "Development of the Internal System of the Teaching and Learning Centre", ITMS project code 312011BPI2, is financed from a non-refundable financial contribution of the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak Republic.
- 5.2 Unless otherwise agreed, Recipient and Partner shall be responsible for their own financial contributions during the implementation of this MOU.

Article 6

Disclaimer

- Nothing shall diminish the full autonomy of both the parties, nor will any constraints or financial obligations be imposed by either Party upon the other in carrying out this MOU.
- 6.2 The Parties agree that this MOU will act only as an interim understanding until further Agreement(s) is reached for the separate activities identified within this MOU.
- 6.3 The Parties hereto shall keep in confidence all information disclosed to the other Party or exchanged and neither Party shall without the consent of the other Party release any such information to any third party other than those duly authorized for the purposes herein.
- 6.4 Nothing in this MOU shall prohibit either Institution from entering into similar collaborative arrangements with any third party in respect of the subject matter herein

Article 7

Nature of MOU

- 7.1 This MOU shall be construed as a statement of intent and is not binding on either Party but rather to describe, nurture and suggest guidelines for mutually beneficial cooperation.
- 7.2 This MOU relates only to the intention contemplated herein and nothing contained herein shall be deemed to create an association, partnership or principal/agent relationship between the Parties hereto or impose any partnership obligations or liability to either Party. Neither Party shall have any right, power nor authority to enter into any agreement of commitment, act on behalf of or otherwise bind the other Party in any way until separate Agreement(s) has or have been reached between the Parties.

Article 8

Miscellaneous

- 8.1 The Parties recognize that it is impractical to make provision for every contingency that may arise in the course of the performance of the provisions hereof and accordingly declare their intention that this MOU shall operate with fairness between them and without detriment to the interest of either Party and that each Party will endeavor to ensure that full effect is given to the terms of the MOU in the spirit in which it was initially agreed.
- 8.2 No exercise or failure to exercise or delay in exercising any right, power or remedy vested in any Party under or pursuant to this MOU shall constitute a waiver by the Party of that or any other right, power or remedy.
- 8.3 This MOU shall be governed by and construed with the prevailing laws and regulations in the relevant country in which the activity is being undertaken

End of Clauses

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the Parties have here to set their hands and seal the day and year first above written.

SIGNED by

Dr Rukhsana Zia

Head, CLT

Prof of Education

SIGNED by

Mgr. Dagmar Kusá

Asst. Professor/Undergraduate Studies Coordinator

for and on behalf of

FORMAN CHRISTIAN COLLEGE (A CHARTERED UNIVERSITY)

for and on behalf of

BRATISLAVA INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF LIBERAL ARTS

