

AGREEMENT FOR AN INTERNATIONAL DOCTORAL PROGRAM IN SCIENCE

This agreement (hereinafter, the “**Agreement**”) is made on May 12, 2016

BETWEEN

KATHOLIEKE UNIVERSITEIT LEUVEN - Leuven (Belgium),

PONTIFICIA UNIVERSIDAD CATOLICA DE CHILE – Santiago (Chile),

UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME DU LAC - Notre Dame, Indiana (USA),

UNIVERSITA' CATTOLICA DEL SACRO CUORE – Milan (Italy).

(hereinafter the “**Partner Universities**”)

And in due observance of the following:

- the Codex Higher Education, codified on 11 October 2013;
the resolution of the Flemish Government of 12 December 2014 for the stipulation of the form of degrees and the content of the accompanying degree supplement form issued by the institutions of higher education in Flanders, and in particular appendices 5 and 6;
the Regulation concerning the attainment of doctoral degrees at the KU Leuven, approved by the Academic Council on November 25, 2014 and having become operative on May 1, 2015.
- the Law nr.84-52 dating from the 26th January 1984, on the Higher Education of the Chilean legislation;
the General Statutes of the University, dully approved by decree protocol nr.665/81/B/31, dating from 26th September 1984;
the Resolution nr. 25/04 dating from the 17th March 2004, of the Vice-presidency for Academic Affairs from the University relative to the approval principles, procedures and conditions to make co-directed thesis agreements between Pontificia Universidad Catolica de Chile and other national or foreign institutions;
the General Regulation for Doctoral Programs and the Regulations for the Doctoral Students promulgated by the Rector’s Office decrees n°135 and n°136 dating from 2013, concerning the regulations of cotutelle and doctoral studies, and; the current legislation and other rules governing doctoral studies at the University.
- the policies of the University of Notre Dame regarding the conferment of graduate degrees.
- the Italian Ministerial Decree No 45/2013;
the statute of Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, issued by Rector’s Decree on October 24th, 1996, and its subsequent amendments and additions;
the regulatory norms of Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore . issued by Rector’s Decree on October 29th, 1999, and its subsequent amendments and additions; Rector’s Decree no. 1867 of June 16th. 2015, indicating the «Modifications to the “Regulatory norms of PhD Programmes and PhD Schools at Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore”».

WHEREAS:

- The purpose of this Agreement is to establish the criteria according to which the International Ph.D. Program in Science (hereinafter, the "International Ph.D. in Science" or "Program") will be regulated. The International Ph.D. in Science aims to expand the international relationships, by fostering excellence-driven scientific collaboration among the Partner Universities, sharing a common ethical and educational basis. This Program also will promote the mobility of scholars providing wide opportunities to learn and experience different environments. Moreover, the Program will favour the spread and dissemination of ideas and interconnections among the Partner Universities.
- The quality and the proficiency of each Partner University will allow the participants in the International Ph.D. in Science to get the best educational instruments from each Partner University. In addition, the participants will have the chance to work across the Partner Universities.
- The Program contents will extend over the research topics in Science available in the Partner Universities, including, but not limited to, Physics, Mathematics, Chemistry, Nanotechnology, Biochemistry and Biology, in an effort to promote interdisciplinary research.
- The advantages of the International Ph.D. in Science will be the establishment of a high level international doctoral program, the development of an effective international network among Catholic universities and the possibility of developing a worldwide network of partners to apply for external funding.
- In the framework of the above mentioned commitments, the Partner Universities agree to set up an International Doctoral Program in Science in accordance with the regulations mentioned above.
- Each Partner University will be responsible for administration procedures concerning to the requirements laid by each institution.

1. ROLES OF THE PARTNER UNIVERSITIES

- 1.1 **Supporting University** is the university that will grant the fellowship to one of its doctoral candidates. It is agreed that each university shall provide at least one fellowship per cohort as provided by Article 5.1. The Supporting University is also the Partner University where the participant shall spend most of his/her research time.
- 1.2 **Host University.** Each participant shall spend a research period of at least 12 (twelve) months at a Partner University other than the Supporting University. This shall be the Host University. Each Partner University shall be open to the possibility to be a Host University.

2. STRUCTURE OF THE PROGRAM

- 2.1 The International Ph.D. in Science is a four (4) year Doctoral dual degree.
- 2.2 It is agreed that there will be four cohorts of the International Ph.D. in Science over the period 2016-2017 to 2022-2023.
- 2.3 The International Ph.D. in Science allows participants to undertake the Program in two of the Partner Universities. Therefore, for each participant there will be one Supporting University and one Host University.
- 2.4 It is agreed that the participants will have an individual agreement that will define the research project and the specific requirements to complete the International Ph.D. in Science.

- 2.5 The International Ph.D. in Science is led by a Steering Committee, composed of members from each Partner University. The Committee is coordinated by the International Doctoral Program's coordinator, designated by the Steering Committee. Each Partner University will be equally represented.
- 2.6 The official language of the International Ph.D. in Science is English.

3. ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- 3.1 The recruitment rules for the applicants to participate in the International Ph.D. in Science will be provided by the Supporting University, according to its procedures.
- 3.2 Admission to the International Ph.D. in Science will be granted only to applicants who meet the academic requirements established by the Partner Universities and that are approved by the Steering Committee.

4. ENROLLMENT AND FEES

- 4.1 Each participant will enrol as a doctoral student each academic year at both the Supporting University and the Host University.
- 4.2 The tuition fees (if required) will be paid by the participants only to the Supporting University according to each Partner Universities' Regulations.
- 4.3 Participants will be exempted from paying tuition fees to the Host University.
- 4.4 Each Partner University will ensure access to infrastructures (including use of laboratories and other facilities) and all services provided to other students and researchers.

5. FINANCIAL MATTERS

- 5.1 It is agreed that each Partner University shall provide at least one 4-year fellowship per cohort in the International Ph.D. in Science.
- 5.2 The above commitment, will be guaranteed for four (4) cohorts.

6. SUPERVISION AND RESEARCH PERIOD ABROAD

- 6.1 Each participant will be co-advised at least by two scientific supervisors (one from the Supporting University and one from the Host University). The names of the scientific supervisors shall be mentioned in the individual agreement for each participant.
- 6.2 The supervisors will jointly exercise the function of scientific guide of the participant and are jointly responsible for his/her research training over the entire period up to the defence of the thesis.
- 6.3 During the four (4) years of the International Ph.D. in Science, the participants will be required to spend at least 12 months at the relevant Host University, as provided by Article 1.2, with timing determined by the mutual consent between the participant and the supervisors.

7. STUDYING ACTIVITIES

- 7.1 The main activities that the participant shall carry on during the International Ph.D. in Science will be detailed for each participant in the individual agreement.
- 7.2 Students participating in the Program are personally responsible for all travel, visa, textbook, equipment, food, housing and other incidental expenses incurred, in connection with their period of study abroad and their stay in the country in which the Host University is situated.

8. DEFENSE OF THE DOCTORAL THESIS AND FINAL EVALUATION COMMITTEE

- 8.1 A positive assessment of the participant's thesis from each supervisor is the mandatory requirement to be admitted to the defence of the thesis.
- 8.2 The public defence of the thesis shall take place at the Supporting University according to the procedures and policies of the Supporting University. The public defence shall be recognized also by the Host University.
- 8.3 The evaluation committee set up for the defence of the Ph.D. shall be designated by the rectors or according to the policies of the Partner Universities.
- 8.4 The evaluation committee has preferably an international character and shall, among others, consist of members (including the supervisors) from the Supporting University and the Host University. There needs to be at least one member on the evaluation committee who is external to both the Supporting University and the Host University.

9. FINAL DEGREE

- 9.1 Upon successful completion of the International Ph.D. in Science, and in conformity with the policies in force within the Supporting University and on the basis of a favourable report from the evaluation committee, the Supporting University will undertake to award a doctoral degree to the successful participant.
- 9.2 Jointly with the doctoral diploma, a final certificate/transcript will be issued, on which it will be mentioned the collaboration among the Partner Universities, with a specific acknowledgement to the International Ph.D. in Science.
- 9.3 The Host University will have the possibility to issue its doctoral degree in conformity with its policies if initially agreed upon in the participant individual agreement and if all academic requirements have been met.

10. PROTECTION OF THE RESEARCH RESULTS AND INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

- 10.1 The presentation, deposit and reproduction of the thesis shall be done in each country in accordance with the applicable laws and the policies of the Supporting University and the Host University.
- 10.2 It is agreed that Intellectual Property Rights shall be always explicitly indicated in every single agreement to be signed by the participants, the Supporting University and the Host University.
- 10.3 The publication, use and protection of the results obtained by the participant's research shall be subject to the applicable law in force and with regards to the specific policies of each Partner University involved in the joint supervision of the thesis.

11. ENTRY INTO FORCE, VALIDITY

- 11.1 This Agreement will be effective after its signature by all parties. It shall be valid for four (4) cohorts of the Joint International Doctoral Program in Science.
- 11.2 This Agreement may only be modified or renewed by the mutual written agreement of the Partner Universities in writing.

12. GOVERNING LAW AND JURISDICTION

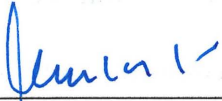
- 12.1 This Agreement and any dispute or claim arising out of or in connection with it shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of Italy.

In the event of any dispute, controversy or claim arising out of, connected with, or relating to this Agreement, or to the breach, termination, invalidity, existence or interpretation thereof, the rectors/presidents of the Partner Universities or their designees will mediate. Any disputes which may not be settled amicably shall be submitted to the competent courts of Italy.

The signatories declare that they have read and accepted the terms and conditions set out in this Agreement.



FOR KU LEUVEN:

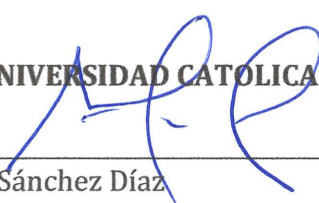


The Rector, prof. dr. Rik Torfs

The Research Co-ordinator of Science, Engineering & Technology, prof. dr. Johan Martens



FOR PONTIFICIA UNIVERSIDAD CATOLICA DE CHILE:



The Rector, Ignacio Sánchez Díaz



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FOR UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME DU LAC:

Laura Carlson
The Vice President and Associate Provost, Laura A. Carlson



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FOR UNIVERSITA' CATTOLICA DEL SACRO CUORE:

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The Rector, Professor Franco Anelli



VISTO
Il Direttore Amministrativo
(Prof. Marco Elefanti)

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