



**Academic Cooperation Agreement
Between
Punjabi University of India
and
University of Northern British Columbia, Canada**



I. Nature of the Agreement

The Punjabi University of India (PBIU) and the University of Northern British Columbia (UNBC) enter into this agreement to promote academic cooperation. This agreement focuses upon international education opportunities for graduate students in Economics, and specifically, the UNBC MA Development Economics program. This Academic Cooperation Agreement builds upon the Memorandum of Understanding between UNBC and PBIU signed by Acting President Geoffrey Payne and Vice-Chancellor Ghuman.

Any future program collaborations and faculty exchanges will be developed through separate agreements.

II. MA Development Economics

A. Overview

UNBC and PBIU agree to facilitate the admission process for students into their respective graduate programs.

B. Admission Requirements

Students will be required to meet all admission requirements of the accepting institution.

Each applicant from PBIU to the UNBC MA Development Economics program is subject to the admission requirements as set by the Office of the Registrar at UNBC. The PBIU BA Honors Economics degree with a minimum grade point of 7 (in the PBIU grading scale) will meet the requirements for admission to the UNBC MA Development Economics degree program.

C. English Language Requirements

In order to receive a clear admission standing at UNBC, each applicant from PBIU must have proof of English Language proficiency as outlined by the Office of the Registrar. Mechanisms to demonstrate English language competency are outlined here:

<https://www.unbc.ca/calendar/graduate/admissions#English>.

D. Academic Program and Student Life

Each party to this agreement agrees to provide appropriate advisory and other academic services to students in this program. Each institution also agrees to work toward the integration of students into student life at their institution.

E. Tuition, Fees and Expenses

Students participating in this program, while studying at UNBC, shall pay all required tuition, fees and charges as required by UNBC. Current tuition, fees, and charges are available at:

<https://www.unbc.ca/apply/graduate/tuition-and-student-fees>

If PBIU students are admitted to the UNBC MA Development Economics program and register in the semester in which they were granted admission, the application fee will be deducted from the UNBC tuition.

Travel arrangements, expenses and the acquisition of all necessary student visas, residence permits, health insurance and the like are the responsibility of each student. All participating students are required to have adequate health insurance coverage and provide proof of immigration status to UNBC. Accommodation expenses and arrangements are the responsibility of the student. UNBC agrees to assist students from PBIU by providing information about housing options to the student or university directly. PBIU students are eligible to live in on-campus housing.

F. Credentials Granted

Each successful participant in the UNBC MA Development Economics program will receive, upon completion of their degree requirements, a parchment from the University of Northern British Columbia in Master of Arts in Development Economics, with all of the rights and privileges granted by the degree. Successful students are eligible to convocate with their peers in the UNBC Convocation and Conferring of degrees ceremony.

G. Scholarships and Funding

PBIU students admitted to the UNBC MA Development Economics program are eligible to apply for and be considered for applicable scholarships. Scholarships are allocated on a competitive basis to students. Some UNBC scholarships have citizenship and/or field of study requirements which PBIU students may not meet and hence would not be eligible to apply for these specific scholarships.

Information about UNBC graduate awards and how to apply is available on the UNBC Awards and Financial Aid website.

PBIU students admitted to the UNBC MA Development Economics program are eligible to apply for other types of UNBC graduate student funding such as conference travel awards, research travel awards, and research project awards.

H. Promotion

PBIU and UNBC will collaborate on student recruitment and promotion of the graduate programs.

I. Admission Process

Students should apply to UNBC through UNBC's online application portal. To aid in identifying PBIU students, PBIU will provide UNBC with a list of students who have applied and are being recommended for admission, along with their birthdate (birthdate will be used to more quickly identify the students who have applied for transfer into the MA Development Economics).

III. Responsibilities

UNBC shall be responsible for:

- Admitting students into the MA Development Economics;
- Developing promotional materials about the UNBC MA Development Economics program, considering feedback from PBIU, and providing PBIU with a workable UNBC promotional package;
- Fulfilling other responsibilities as indicated above.

PBIU shall be responsible for:

- Identifying qualified PBIU students for possible admission to the UNBC MA Development Economics program;
- Communicating all aspects of admission processes and relevant costs for PBIU students to study at UNBC;
- Assisting PBIU students to complete the processes required for their admission and transition to the UNBC MA Development Economics program and facilitating a smooth transition to UNBC;
- Providing feedback to UNBC on promotional materials and utilizing the UNBC approved promotional package to provide information about the UNBC MA Development Economics program;
- Fulfilling other responsibilities as indicated above.

IV. Data Protection

In relation to any personal data shared in relation to this agreement, the parties shall be considered data controllers in common and shall not be joint controllers.

Each party shall ensure that it complies with its obligations under data protection laws.

Each party shall take appropriate technical and organisational security measures against unauthorized or unlawful processing of personal data, or the loss, destruction, alteration, damage or access to any data.

V. Coordinating Officers

In order to carry out and fulfil the aims of this Academic Cooperation Agreement, PBIU and UNBC each appoint the following individuals to communicate in regards to the MOU:

- a) For PBIU:
Position:
- b) For UNBC:
Position:

These individuals, or their designate, will be the points of contact for the Agreement. Both parties will, to the best of their abilities, notify the other party if the above designate changes. It will be the responsibility of these two individuals to develop an annual protocol to this Agreement,

VI. Term and Termination

The terms and conditions of this agreement will remain in effect for three years.

Either university may terminate the agreement by providing the other university with written notice at least six (6) months prior to termination. If either party terminates this Agreement, each party agrees to carry out any obligations and responsibilities assumed prior to the termination date to ensure student success.

VII. Disputes and Mediation

Should any dispute arise relating to this collaboration, the assigned administrator or coordinator shall seek to resolve such dispute collaboratively by negotiating in good faith. Either party may give the other notice of a dispute setting out the nature of such dispute. Should the assigned administrator or coordinator fail to



achieve resolution within 30 days from the date of such notice, the issue will be elevated in each institution for resolution.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the parties hereto have executed the Agreement.

Dr. Geoffrey Payne
Acting President

Date: Feb 11/20

University of Northern British Columbia

Dr. B. S. Ghuman
Vice-Chancellor

Date: Feb 17, 2020

Punjabi University of India

Dr. Shannon Wagner

Interim Dean, College of Arts, Social and Health Sciences

Date: Feb 10/20

University of Northern British Columbia

Dr. G. S. Batra

Dean Academic Affairs

Date: Feb 17, 2020

Punjabi University of India