JUSTUS-LIEBIG- UNIVERSITÄT GIESSEN	Der Präsident
	Mitteilungen der Justus-Liebig-Universität Gießen
29.06.2007	5.42.06 Nr.1 Auslandsbeziehungen/Kooperationsabkommen

	Präsident:
Kooperationsabkommen:	18.04.2007

INTERUNIVERSITY COOPERATION AGREEMENT FOR A DOCTORAL COURSE IN VISION AND MOVEMENT

Between

the Università degli Studi di Padova the Università Vita-Salute San Raffaele di Milano the Justus Liebig Universität Giessen the Albert-Ludwigs Universität München the Eberhard Karls Universität Tübingen,

considering that

The universities are interested in establishing a lasting relationship of collaboration and cultural exchange;

According to their national and local regulations the partner universities are allowed to award degrees jointly with other universities;

The partner universities signed a framework agreement for the implementation of the project 'International doctoral degree in Vision and Movement', co-funded by MIUR within the third call for the internationalisation of the Italian University System (see annex);

With respect to the laws and regulation of each country, the universities commit themselves, each one according to their means, to collaborate and to accept students, teaching and administrative staff participating in the programme described in the agreement

It is hereby agreed

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Art. 1 - Premises

The premises and the documents annexed are an integral part of the present agreement.

Art. 2 - Aim of the agreement

The Università degli Studi di Padova, the Università Vita-Salute San Raffaele di Milano, the Eberhard Karls Universität Tübingen, the Albert-Ludwigs Universität München and the Justus Liebig Universität Giessen agree to implement a joint doctoral course of study that involves the exchange of students, for a period of 13 months (12 months for research and 1 month for winter/summer schools), with the aim of issuing a joint title.

Art. 3 - Doctoral students

3.1. Doctoral students exchange

The programme will involve an exchange of students from each of the following Universities: Padova, Milano, Tübingen, München and Giessen.

Doctoral students involved in the programme will benefit from the facilities and will be subject to the rules of the institutions where their are following the courses.

3.2. Selection procedures of the doctoral students

The doctoral students admitted to the programme will be selected by each university among those who have already been accepted by each university, according to its regulations.

Students must be fluent in English.

The selection will be made by evaluating the proposed research project, the curriculum vitae, publications, thesis and two reference letters from the student's university. The committee will include at least one member of a partner university.

3.3. Enrolment

Doctoral students admitted to the programme will have to be regularly enrolled in the home university and in the host university where thy will spend their 12 months period of research training.

3.4. Fees exemption

Doctoral students participating in the programme will not have to pay fees to the host university.

All the other expenses, health insurance included, will be in charge of the doctoral students themselves.

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3.5. Insurance

Doctoral students must have tort liability insurance during their stay in the host university. This can be provided either by their home university, according to its own regulations, or it may be set up by the interested student.

3.6. Facilities and means

Doctoral students participating in the programme will benefit from all facilities offered by the host university to its students.

The host university/host Department will undertake to offer all the means necessary to develop the agreed research programme.

Art. 4 - Didactics

4.1. Joint training and research programme

The teaching programme will be offered and organized either by the local universities according to their programme and at network level.

The teaching at network level will be organized on a rotational basis in annual week-long summer or winter schools.

The students will have to spend at least 12 months in a partner university.

4.2. Academic Board

An Academic Board that will include the representatives from each of the institutions will decide on the academic and administrative issues related to the course.

4.3. Supervisors

Each doctoral student will have one supervisor from the home university and one from the host university. The supervisors will periodically monitor the research activities and the training of the doctoral student, according to the joint training and research programme.

4.4. Changes in the training plan

The specific programme can be modified by mutual consent of the parties without detriment to the doctoral students.

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4.5. Final exam

Doctoral students will be admitted to the final examination under approval of their thesis by both home and host university. The thesis will be written and discussed in English. The doctoral thesis shall be deposited at both Universities according to their respective regulations.

The exam for the achievement of the qualification consists of the discussion of the thesis. The thesis will be discussed at the home university in front of a Commission made up according to the regulations of each University and which includes at least one member from the host university not belonging to the Academic board.

4.6. Issue of the degree

A doctoral degree diploma will be awarded jointly and in both languages by the two universities involved in each student exchange. The diploma will bear the seal of the home and the host Universities and it will be signed by the Rectors of the two Universities. It will contain a reference to the fact that the doctoral procedure was administered jointly by the two universities.

4.7. Protection of the dissertation subject

Protection of the dissertation subject, as well as publication, exploitation and protection of the research results common to both Universities will be assured in conformity with the regulations of each country.

Art. 5 - Other activities

The partner Universities can improve the cooperation by organizing joint research programmes, seminars, conferences on subjects of common interest. These projects will be subject to specific annexes, agreed upon by the parties, to the present agreement.

Art. 6 – Person responsible for the agreement

Each university will nominate a person responsible for the cooperation agreement.

Art. 7 - Programme evaluation

The Universities will consult each time that they will think it convenient, but at least once a year in order to evaluate the development of the programme, to monitor the running enterprises and to develop new cooperation programmes.

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Art. 8 - Disputes

The cancellation of possible disputes concerning the interpretation and the implementation of the present agreement will be under the responsibility of a judging board made up of one member chosen by each university and one member chosen by mutual consent by the partner institutions.

Art. 9 - Duration

The agreement will become effective from the date of the signatures of the parties and will be valid until the completion of the course of study starting from the a.y. 2006/07. Each variation of the agreement will be made without detriment to the participants who have already begun the programme and who will finish the programme after the expiration of the cooperation agreement.

Art. 10 - Copies and language

The present agreement is signed by all partners in four copies, two in Italian and two in English, all valid according to law.

Padova.

the Rector

Università degli Studi di Padova Prof. Vincenzo Milanesi

Milano, the Rector

Università Vita-Salute San Raffaele di Milano Prof. Don Luigi Maria Verzé

Giessen,

the President

Justus Liebig Universität Giessen Prof. Dr. Stefan Hormuth

München, the Rector

Prof. Albert-Ludwigs Universität München

Tübingen, the Rector

Eberhard Karls Universität Tübingen Prof.