Exchange Agreement
between
Justus Liebig University Giessen (JLU),
Faculty 05 – Language, Literature and Culture – and
Hong Kong Baptist University,
Department of Government & International Studies

Hong Kong Baptist University, formerly known as Hong Kong Baptist College, was founded in 1956. The institution started receiving Government funding in 1983 and acquired university status and changed to its current name in 1994. It is an academic community with a higher education mission to incorporate teaching, research and service. It is headed by Professor Albert S C Chan and is located in Kowloon Tong, Kowloon, Hong Kong.

Justus Liebig University Giessen is a lawful corporation under public law and at the same time a state institution, which was founded in 1607 and is dedicated to research and education. According to the “Hochschulgesetz” (§ 44 Section 1, clause 1, HHG) its representative is the University President, Prof. Dr. Joybrato Mukherjee. Its seat is Ludwigstrasse 23, 35390 Giessen, Germany.

In accordance with the request for the establishment of cooperation between the two universities, Justus Liebig University Giessen (Germany) and it’s Faculty of Language, Literature and Culture and the Department of Government and International Studies, Hong Kong Baptist University agree to the following exchange agreement:

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**Contract conditions**

**Paragraph 1: Purpose**

The aim of the agreement is to promote international student exchange and closer cooperation in research and teaching as well as the development of joint projects between the Justus Liebig University Giessen and Hong Kong Baptist University. The agreement forms the basis of an enhanced cooperation comprising all areas of interest and a wide range of activities in different fields.

**Paragraph 2: Goals**

The cooperation between the partner institutions is planned in the following fields:

1. Exchange of teaching staff, researchers, students and/or technical staff for the planning or implementation of research and teaching projects.
2. Exchange of information about courses of study and study projects, as well as corresponding research activities and/or intentions to expand the teaching or research fields of the respective organization.
3. Exchange of scientific publications.
4. Deepening of scientific relations through joint symposia/summer-schools/conferences/workshops.

Exchange students will be given full registered status at the host institution, and accorded all rights and privileges commensurate with this status. It is understood that exchange students will continue as candidates for degrees at their home institution, and will not be candidates for degrees at the host institution.

**Paragraph 3: Coordinator**

To ensure and facilitate the implementation of the measures of this agreement, each institution shall appoint a faculty member from the department or college participating in the exchange program to serve as its Faculty Exchange Coordinator. The Faculty Exchange Coordinator or his/her representative shall work closely with students to ensure the implementation of their proposed program of study and shall also function as the first point of contact in any matters pertaining to student discipline or in the case of an emergency.

**Paragraph 4: Student Selection**

Both universities agree to admit qualified students from the partner university to a course of studies. Exchange students from both institutions will be selected by the home institution and recommended to the host institution. The host institution retains the right to approve or reject the recommendation based on the students’ qualifications in meeting the admission requirements at the host institution.

**Paragraph 5: Student Exchange**

(1) The number of exchange students from each institution will be no more than four each year. Exchange students may study at the host institution for either a semester or a full academic year.

(2) The host institution shall assist the guests of the partner institution to the best of its ability in obtaining the respective permits (visa, research permits, etc.) that are necessary to enable the implementation of this agreement. The parties of this contract shall permit the exchange participants who are sent on the basis of this agreement to use their academic and social facilities during their stay. Both parties agree upon the exchange of information about courses of study and study projects.
(3) Students who take part in the exchange shall pay any tuition or other academic and related fees to their home university, and are exempted from such payments to the host university. Expenses for transport, administrative fees, residence (board and lodging), as well as health insurance in accordance with the regulations of the host country, shall be carried by the respective students. During the stay in the host country the students are obliged to have sufficient health insurance coverage. No financial transaction will occur between partner universities.

(4) Each University will (make every reasonable effort to) ensure that university – approved housing accommodations are made available to the other’s students.

**Paragraph 6: Exchange of teaching staff**

(1) Both parties agree upon the exchange of academic staff, covering the following fields: Curriculum development, mutual counseling, mutual research projects.

(2) If the participating institutions agree upon a regular exchange of staff for language classes and if Justus Liebig University appoints staff to this end, the period of such employment, in the interest of a lively partnership, shall not exceed two years. The Hong Kong Baptist University may recommend suitable staff for such employment.

**Paragraph 7: Liability**

It shall be laid down that none of the parties of the contract enter into liability for possible loss or restrictions that arise unintentionally or by force majeure, especially because of the cancellation of working hours in administration and academic teaching.

**Paragraph 8: Changes and validity**

(1) This agreement may be altered by mutual agreement in writing.

(2) This agreement shall come into effect as of the day of its ratification by the representatives of both universities and is valid for three years effective as of the day of ratification. The agreement shall be renewed automatically on a yearly basis if notice of termination is not given six months before expiration.

Student exchange programs that have already begun at the time of termination shall be carried out and supervised until the originally planned termination.

(3) In order to realize and implement the agreement, two identical copies of the contract shall be signed by the partners. One copy shall remain with each partner.

This exchange agreement is an expression of goodwill on both sides. Problems that might arise due to interpretation, fulfilment or further development of the agreement, shall be solved by mutual agreement.

For Hong Kong Baptist University
Kowloon Tong
Prof. Albert S C Chan
President & Vice-Chancellor

For Justus Liebig University
Giessen
Prof. Dr. Joybrato Mukherjee
President

Date: 26.10.2010