MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY
AND
MEKELLE UNIVERSITY

General
Texas State University and Mekelle University wish to establish this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) as a framework for cooperation in order to promote collaborative research activities, foster international academic exchange, ensure achievement of their strategic plans, and facilitate cross-cultural engagement for the enhancement of their programs, human resources, and countries.

I. Scope of Agreement
The terms of cooperation for each specific activity implemented under this MOU, including financial aspects, shall be mutually discussed and agreed upon in writing by both parties prior to the initiation of that activity. These activities shall be subject to the terms of this MOU. This agreement shall affirm each party’s intent to enter into, among others, the following types of collaborative activity:

A. Promote academic/scientific/professional relations between the institutions.
B. Develop teaching and research activities of common interest to both institutions.
C. Encourage teacher and student mobility and exchanges.
D. Promote discussion and the exchange of experience in all those areas of mutual benefit to both institutions.
E. Encourage collaborations between the LBJ Institute for STEM Education and Research and Mekelle University

II. Period of Agreement
This agreement shall be effective upon the date of final execution and will remain in force for a period of three years. This agreement may be renewed beyond three years by mutual written agreement. In addition, either party may terminate the agreement by providing ninety (90) days written notice to the other party.

III. Activities Under This Agreement
It is expected that activities taking place under this agreement will be initiated primarily by academic units within each university, and in coordination with their respective administrative units concerned with international activities. All activities undertaken must conform to the policies and procedures in place at each institution. For Texas State University, faculty and student exchanges will follow relevant university guidelines for such activities.
IV. Planning and Management of Activities
Each distinct activity will be described in a separate agreement drawn up jointly and signed by authorized signatories of each party. Such agreements will specify the names of those individuals on each campus responsible for the implementation of the activity and set forth all terms and conditions associated with the activity.

V. Financial Commitment
This agreement reflects the commitment of each party to collaborate as expressed, and it is not intended to be of a legally binding nature. As a result of this framework, neither party will incur any financial obligations resulting from the actions of the other party without a separate prior agreement in writing to accept specific financial obligations. Any additional agreement pertaining to financial matters will be negotiated separately and will be based upon the availability of funds for each party.

VI. Funding of Activities
Separate agreements under this MOU should make financial costs and obligations explicit. Collaborating units are encouraged to work together to identify and secure any outside funding which may be needed. Activities requiring funding must be approved by both parties. Each party will commit, to the extent allowed by law in their respective countries, the necessary resources of their respective institutions pledged under specific terms of supplemental agreements.

VII. Nondiscrimination
Texas State University and Mekelle University agree that no person shall on the grounds of race, religion, color, sex, age, national origin or ancestry, genetic information, marital status, parental status, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, disability, or status as a veteran be excluded from participation under the terms of this agreement.

In their execution of this agreement, all contractors, subcontractors, their respective employees, and others acting by or through them shall comply with all policies and laws of their respective countries prohibiting discrimination, harassment, and sexual misconduct. Any breach of this covenant may result in termination of this agreement.

VIII. Use of Name
Mekelle University will not use the name of Texas State University, nor of any Texas State University student, staff or faculty, in any publicity, advertising, or news release without the prior written approval of an authorized representative of Texas State University. Texas State University will not use the name of Mekelle University, or any employee or student of Mekelle University, in any publicity, advertising, or news release without the prior written approval of Mekelle University.
IX. Amendments
The terms of this agreement may be changed or modified only by written amendment signed by authorized agents of the parties hereto. Parties will notify each other in writing ninety (90) days in advance of modification of this agreement.

X. Export Control
It is recognized and understood that this agreement is subject to all applicable U.S. export control laws and regulations controlling the transfer of technical information or items out of the U.S. The transfer of certain technical information or items may require a license from the U.S. Government. All parties must comply with all applicable export control laws and regulations and no party may export or allow the export or re-export of any information or item when to do so would constitute a violation of those laws or regulations. The same will hold true for all applicable Ethiopian export control laws and regulations.

XI. Contact Persons
Each party will designate an individual who will serve as the contact person for this agreement.

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MEKELLE UNIVERSITY
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It is envisioned that both parties will engage in creative activities that will meet these mutually identified areas of interest with quality and a new sense of international cooperation. This agreement shall remain in force for three years from the date of the last signature below and shall be deposited at Texas State University and at Mekelle University.

So be it understood and enthusiastically supported by the undersigned.

Texas State University
Date: 1.12.2018
Dr. Gene Bourgeois
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

Mekelle University
Date: 12-05-17
Professor Kindeya Gebrehiwet
President of Mekelle University