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Memorandum of Understanding

Between



Institute of Rural Management Anand (IRMA),
Anand, Gujarat

And



Sardar Patel University (SPU),
Vallabh Vidyanagar, Anand, Gujarat



This memorandum of understanding (hereinafter referred to as MoU) is made on this 20th Day of the Month of January in the year 2021 by and between the Institute of Rural Management Anand (IRMA) having its Head Office at Anand, Gujarat - 388001 [hereinafter called "IRMA"/First Party], on the ONE PART and Sardar Patel University, Vallabh Vidyanagar, Anand [hereinafter called "SPU"/Second Party] on the OTHER PART (who for the purpose of this MoU are hereinafter collectively referred to as the parties).

The parties, having discussion on recognition of Fellow Programme in Management (Rural Management) offered by IRMA as equivalent to Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) degree offered by SPU and have decided to enter into long-term collaboration for recognition of Fellow Programme in Management (Rural Management) as Ph.D from SPU.

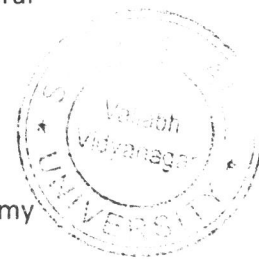
About IRMA (First Party)

The IRMA is driven by the dream of serving under-served segments of the economy through professional management.

Founded in 1979, IRMA is focused on creating management professionals who can bring about the change by applying their management acumen at the grass root level while influencing the public policy narrative at a national and a global level. Creating management professionals who can bring about sustainable, ecologically-friendly and equitable growth is the mission of IRMA.

Dr. Verghese Kurien, known as the 'Father of the White Revolution in India', founded IRMA at Anand, Gujarat with the support of the Swiss Agency for Development Cooperation (SDC), the Government of India, Government of Gujarat, the erstwhile Indian Dairy Corporation and the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB).

IRMA is a premier institution of professional learning offering Management programmes with a focus on understanding real management problems and socio-economic realities of under-served communities through intensive fieldwork.



A series of handwritten signatures in black ink, including a large signature that appears to be "Sardar Patel University".

A circular stamp of the Institute of Rural Management, Anand. The text around the border reads "INSTITUTE OF RURAL MANAGEMENT" and "ANAND". In the center, there is a logo with the text "IRMA" and "Institute of Rural Management".

- Influencing public policy.

About IRMA's Fellow Programme in Management (Rural Management)

Fellow Programme in Management (Rural Management), hence forth FPM(RM), is a doctoral-level programme in Rural Management approved by the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE). FPM(RM) is for aspirants and professionals seeking careers in research, teaching, and specialized knowledge based positions in institutions of higher learning, research, and development organizations.

FPM(RM) is a doctoral/Ph.D. level research programme in Rural Management leading to the title of "Fellow, Institute of Rural Management, Anand". It has a minimum residency requirement of three years. Participants of the programme get associated with one basic disciplinary area even though the topic of research they pursue could have interdisciplinary perspectives. In order to make it more resilient, the FPM(RM) curriculum has been recently redesigned based on the recommendations of a review committee. The curriculum of 2018 carries many of the new features recommended.

Overall Goals of the Progamme:

- Promote scholarship and build knowledge in the field of Rural Management;
- Develop scholars and teachers in Rural Management; and
- Stimulate academic and research work in IRMA.

Specific Objectives of the Progamme:

- Facilitate the development of academic/scholarly orientation among participants;
- Provide guidance in identifying research areas/topics and in the development of research proposals, conducting research, and thesis writing;
- Promote an inter-disciplinary orientation among the participants;
- Provide a boost to the scholarship and pedagogy of the Institute by linking and contributing to the academic processes; and



Experienced faculty members from reputed national and international institutions collaborate to inspire and create the thinkers of tomorrow for a better world. IRMA offers world-class infrastructure for learning at their 60-acre-green campus.

IRMA's synergy with the Government and Non-Government Institutions as well as International Development Organizations provides the students, an ideal ecosystem for learning, research as well as implementation experience of real on-the-ground projects.

IRMA's Vision

- To make continuous and significant contributions to the transformation of rural India through
 - Leadership in cutting-edge knowledge creation,
 - Innovations in education
 - Pursuance of the ethical imperative of sustainability
 - Policy oriented research.



IRMA's Mission

To promote sustainable, ecologically friendly, and equitable socio-economic development of rural people through professional management

IRMA's Objectives

- To achieve this mission IRMA has set for itself the following objectives:
 - Creating a new breed of professional rural managers with the appropriate ethos and values;
 - Helping rural organizations and institutions professionalize their management;
 - Empowering rural people through self-sustaining processes;
 - Creating new rural management knowledge and theories through action-oriented and problem-solving research and consultancy;

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- Foster a rich academic environment with a concern strongly aligned with the Institute's mission.

About SPU (Second Party)

SPU's Mission

Regeneration of rural Indian life with the application of the study and research in all the disciplines of knowledge in tune with the modern global developments.

SPU's Vision

- SPU envisages blossoming of human potential through:
 - Nurturing of talent, skill, and scientific temper.
 - Creation of knowledge.
 - Incubation of wisdom.
 - Sustenance of blithesome spirit.

SPU's Goal

- To serve the rural population by providing them with access to higher education.
- To continually explore new frontiers in the areas of Science and Technology.
- To constantly set and reach new levels of achievement in research in areas within Humanities and Social Science.
- To continue to focus on thrust areas in all the disciplines through indigenous research and collaborative ventures at the international level. To become a financially vibrant and sound institution of international standard.

SPU's Motto

WE STRIVE FOR EXCELLENCE, FOR EXCELLENCE MATTERS

IRMA and SPU seems to be working in harmony to achieve the same outcomes for the underserved people and hence n affiliation of IRMA's FPM(RM) as PhD by SPU will strengthen the work done by these distinguished institutions.



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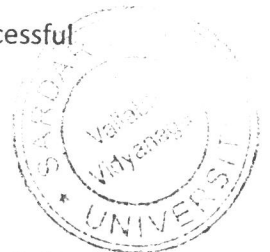


Terms of References

SPU agrees to recognize IRMA's FPM(RM) as equivalent to SPU's Ph.D. (in Management) subject to the following:

The recognition of Fellow Programme in Management (Rural Management) (FPM(RM)), IRMA, Anand as Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Management, degree of Sardar Patel University (SPU), Vallabh Vidyanagar, Anand be provided subject to

1. Fulfillment of academic requirement for Ph.D. as per the rules of UGC, New Delhi and Ph.D. rules of SPU and any changes which may be brought about from time to time. IRMA would ensure that the academic requirements are being abided by in full.
2. SPU would have no role in selection of FPM(RM) candidates
3. For current and prospective FPM(RM) students admission/registration/recognition procedure to be adopted by Sardar Patel University
 - Registration as Sardar Patel University student
 - Registration Fee to be paid at Sardar Patel University
 - The fee is to be paid by IRMA students only twice – at the time of registration and at the time of submission of synopsis, as applicable to SPU Post-Graduate Departments Ph.D. student.
4. Following academic requirements as stipulated by SPU have to be fulfilled:
 - Presentation – public session of proposal at SPU at the time of registration with SPU
 - Presentation – public session of research work at SPU at the time submission /defense of thesis by FPM(RM) student.
 - IRMA would send a Course Completion Certificate to SPU upon successful completion of course work by the Student.



- IRMA would provide Six monthly progress report to SPU about the progress of Student in the programme.
 - The thesis will undergo a plagiarism check and will be accepted only if the similarity is less than 10%.
 - One professor from SPU be nominated as advisor for thesis work. The research scholar would interact with the advisor from time to time. However, the advisor nominated by SPU would not be a part of Thesis advisory committee (TAC) formed by IRMA for FPM(RM).
 - One copy of thesis of FPM(RM) student be submitted to SPU after successful completion of defense at IRMA.
5. A FPM(RM) candidate
- Must give presentation at SPU after finalization of proposal (as indicate in point 4).
 - Must give pre submission presentation at SPU (as indicated in point 4).
6. As a part of academic exchange, between IRMA and SPU a lecture series will be arranged under 'SPU-IRMA joint Lecture Series' initiative. This will comprise of delivering special lectures (four in number during a year, one in each quarter) by Professors (preferably from TAC) from IRMA at SPU and Professors (four in number during a year, one in each quarter) from SPU will deliver special lectures at IRMA. For such lectures no honorarium will be payable by either party.
7. Further, to enhance academic interaction between IRMA and SPU, the following is suggested:
- Professors of IRMA to deliver invited lectures at SPU.
 - Professors of IRMA to deliver lectures at FDP organized by SPU. Professors of IRMA to be nominated on Board of Studies of relevant faculty of SPU.
 - Information related to academic workshops/ symposia/ seminar /conferences organized by IRMA be shared with Registrar SPU for participation by its faculty.



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- Explore and promote any other ways and means for enhancing academic and research interaction among students and faculty of IRMA and SPU.
8. This MoU can be terminated with mutual understanding at any time but the FPM(RM) students in the pipeline or registered should not be affected.
 9. This MoU conditions will be monitored regularly by a committee of two office bearers: FPM(RM) Chair, IRMA and Director, Business Management Programme, SPU.

For SPU



 Dr. Jyoti Tiwari
 Registrar [I/C]
 Sardar Patel University
 Vallabh Vidyanagar - 388120
 Anand
 Gujarat

Place: Vallabh Vidyanagar
 Incharge Registrar
 Sardar Patel University
 Vallabh Vidyanagar
 Date: 20/1/2021


 Dr. (Prof.) Shirish R Kulkarni
 Vice-Chancellor
 Sardar Patel University
 Vallabh Vidyanagar - 388120
 Anand
 Gujarat

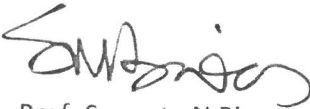
Place: Vallabh Vidyanagar
 Vice-Chancellor
 Sardar Patel University
 Vallabh Vidyanagar-388 120.
 Dist. ANAND. Gujarat.
 Date: 20/1/2021

For IRMA


 Prof. Indranil De
 FPM(RM) Chair
 Institute of Rural Management Anand
 Post Box No. 60
 Anand - 388001
 Gujarat

Place: Anand

Date: 20/1/2021


 Prof. Saswata N Biswas
 Acting Director
 Institute of Rural Management Anand
 Post Box No. 60
 Anand - 388001
 Gujarat

Place: Anand

Date: 20/1/2021

