Implementation Procedures for the International Dual Degree Program Jointly Held by National Central University and Foreign Universities and Colleges

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Article 1 "Implementation Procedures for the International Dual Degree Program Jointly Held by National Central University and Foreign Universities and Colleges" (hereafter referred to as "the Procedures") were stipulated according to the regulations of the "University Act," "Regulations Governing the Assessment and Recognition of Foreign Academic Records by Institutions of Higher Education," and "Regulations Governing the Assessment and Recognition of Academic Records by Institutions of Higher Education in mainland China" in order to strengthen academic exchange between National Central University (hereafter referred to as NCU) and Institutions of Higher Education in foreign countries/areas and mainland China (hereafter referred to as oversea universities/colleges), broaden students' visions, and improve their international competitive capability.

Article 2 The international dual degree program termed in the Procedures is a formal agreement between NCU and an oversea university/college to assist students from the university/college of one party in pursuing their further studies at another party's university/college. Also, upon the fulfillment of the students' respective graduation requirements, NCU and the oversea university/college will jointly or separately confer two same-level degrees (a bachelor's degree plus a bachelor's degree; a master's degree plus a master's degree; a PhD degree plus a PhD degree) or two degrees with different levels (a bachelor's degree plus a master's degree; a master's degree plus a PhD degree) on the students.

Article 3 Students taking courses from the international dual degree program jointly held by NCU and an oversea university/college should not take courses only at domestic universities/colleges throughout the entirety of their period of study. The total number of academic credits that the students acquire at domestic universities/colleges should exceed one third of the total number of academic credits required for their graduation. Regarding students taking courses from the dual degree program jointly held by NCU and a university/college in mainland China, the total number of academic credits earned at each of the two institutions should exceed one third of the total number of academic credits required for their graduation.

Students permitted to participate in NCU's international dual degree program for same-level degrees shall comply with the following terms regarding periods of study:

1. For students pursuing a bachelor's degree, the combined period of study at the two institutions shall not be less than 32 months.
2. For students pursuing a master's degree, the combined period of study at the two institutions shall not be less than 12 months.
3. For students pursuing a PhD degree, the combined period of study at the two institutions shall not be less than 24 months.

Students permitted to participate in NCU's international dual degree program for degrees of different levels shall comply with the following terms regarding minimum periods of study at the oversea university/college and NCU, respectively:

1. For students pursuing a bachelor's degree, the period of study at the oversea university/college shall not be less than 32 months.
2. For students pursuing a master's degree, the period of study at the oversea university/college shall not be less than 8 months.
3. For students pursuing a PhD degree, the period of study at the oversea university/college shall not be less than 16 months.

Any above-mentioned period of study that is not included in a formal educational system or not shown on a school calendar will not be admitted.

NCU students shall study at NCU for at least two semesters.

Article 4 Oversea universities/colleges shall meet the following requirements in order to jointly hold the international dual degree program with NCU:

1. The oversea universities/colleges must be the ones meeting the requirements of "Regulations Governing the Assessment and Recognition of Foreign Academic Records by Institutions of Higher Education" and "Regulations Governing the Assessment and Recognition of Academic Records by Institutions of Higher Education in mainland China."
2. The oversea universities/colleges must be the ones that have signed any agreement of academic exchange or memorandum of understanding on academic collaboration with any university-level unit of NCU or any college at NCU.

Article 5 Any department/institute and college participating in NCU's international dual degree program with any oversea university/college shall draft an "Agreement for a

Collaborative Dual Degree Program" in English or in both institutions' official languages (if the collaborating institution is in mainland China, then the agreement shall be drafted in both traditional Chinese and simplified Chinese). The agreement shall not come into force unless it is passed by the committees of department, institute, and college affairs, reviewed by the Office of International Affairs and the Office of Academic Affairs, and subsequently approved by the president of NCU. The drafting and signing of the agreement with an oversea university/college located in mainland China shall be in accordance with the regulations of "Guidelines for Review of Allies formed by Schools of All Levels in Taiwan and Schools in Mainland China and for the Review of Collaborative Behaviors Agreed upon in Written Form by Both Parties."

The content of the aforementioned "Agreement for a Collaborative Dual Degree Program" shall be in accordance with relevant regulations of both institutions and shall in principle include the following items:

1. Qualifications for the application
2. The regulations on the selection, review, and quota of candidates
3. The design of bridging courses—this item is not needed if the graduate institution of the collaborating oversea university/college only requires NCU students to write a thesis/dissertation.
4. The waiving and transferring of academic credits—this item is not needed if the graduate institution of the collaborating oversea university/college only requires NCU students to write a thesis/dissertation.
5. The periods of study for a student to study at both institutions
6. Conferment of degrees
7. Matters regarding student status management including enrollment, suspension of schooling, and resumption of schooling
8. Payments
9. Regulations on the amendment and termination of the agreement

If a student's thesis co-advisors are from NCU and the other collaborating university/college, respectively, the teaching units of both institutions shall produce an "Agreement of Co-advising a Thesis" that shall be countersigned and be saved as a record. The agreement does not have to be sent to the Office of Academic Affairs for review. The content of the agreement shall include the following items:

1. The name of the graduate student

2. The names of the thesis co-advisors

3. Thesis title

4. Regulations on the periods of study for the student to study at both institutions and the allocation of the periods of study

5. The language used in the writing of the thesis and its abstract

6. The formation of the degree examination committee and the way the oral examination is conducted

7. The publication of the master's/PhD thesis and its ownership

8. Regulations on the amendment and termination of the agreement

9. Other matters

An "Agreement of Co-advising a Thesis" is not needed if a student has only one thesis advisor or if a student only needs to earn academic credits at the collaborating oversea university/college.

Article 6 A department, institute, or college may collaborate with any collaborating oversea university/college to determine a curriculum, required courses, and the numbers of academic credits according to actual needs. The determination will be implemented after it is approved by the Curriculum Committees of the department, institute and/or college as well as the Curriculum Committee of NCU and subsequently reviewed by the Academic Affairs Committee.

Article 7 An oversea university/college collaborating with NCU in the international dual degree program shall gather a list of applicants as well as relevant documents and submit them to the Office of International Affairs at NCU by the date designated by both parties to facilitate the procedures of selection and review.

Article 8 Any department, institute, or college at NCU that processes candidates' applications for studying abroad through the international dual degree program shall submit a list of accepted applicants to the Office of International Affairs after the result of selection and review is announced. After the Office of International Affairs has compiled a full list of accepted applicants, the full list shall be sent to the Office of Academic Affairs for future reference.

Article 9 The procedures of admission application and enrollment for students who come from an oversea university/college to study at NCU through the international dual degree program shall be in accordance with NCU's "Procedures Governing the Admission of International Students" and "National Central University Study Regulations."

Article 10 Students admitted into NCU's international dual degree program shall complete the procedures of health examination and enrollment by the deadlines marked on NCU's school calendar. When going through the enrollment procedure, students should submit the documentation of health insurance and accident insurance whose periods of insurance shall include the students' period of study at NCU. Any students who have not paid for any insurance before the enrollment procedure may pay the insurance fees to NCU during the enrollment procedure, and then NCU will purchase required insurance on those students' behalf.

Article 11 Matters concerning the enrollment status, performance evaluations, scholarships, accommodation, and daily-life guidance of students admitted into NCU's international dual degree program shall be dealt with in accordance with relevant regulations.

Article 12 Courses taken and passed or academic credits earned previously by students admitted into NCU's international dual degree program shall be dealt with in accordance with "National Central University Course Credit Waiver Guidelines."

Article 13 The courses taken and passed and the academic credits and grades earned abroad by NCU students admitted into an oversea university/college's international dual degree program shall be within the period of study regulated by NCU and shall be dealt with in accordance with "Implementation Guidelines for Inter-university Course Selection at National Central University" and "Guidelines for Dealing with Students' Study and Students' Status during Students' Being Abroad."

Article 14 If any NCU student admitted into an oversea university/college's international dual degree program could not complete his or her study at an oversea university/college for any reason, and the combined duration of his or her periods of study at both institutions does not exceed the time limit regulated by NCU, then the student may apply to the Office of Academic Affairs at NCU for coming back to study at his or her original department/institute/division at NCU. The application, which should contain a report and relevant documentation, must be submitted two weeks before the beginning of the semester following the one wherein the applicant terminates his or her study at the oversea university/college.

Article 15 For male NCU students who have been admitted into an oversea university/college's international dual degree program but have not yet fulfilled their mandatory military service, their departure from and re-entry into Taiwan shall be dealt with in accordance with "Regulations for Exit of Draftees" stipulated by the Ministry of the Interior and other relevant laws and regulations concerning the departure and re-entry.

Article 16 Students of oversea universities/colleges admitted into NCU's international dual degree program shall abide by the laws of Taiwan and the regulations of NCU throughout the period of their study at NCU.

Article 17 If an NCU student who follows the Procedures to participate in the international dual degree program fail to obtain a degree at NCU, then the degree he or she has obtained at an oversea university/college shall be dealt with in accordance with Paragraph 1 to 4 in Article 9 of "Regulations Governing the Assessment and Recognition of Foreign Academic Records by Institutions of Higher Education" and each subparagraph in Paragraph 1 in Article 7 of "Regulations Governing the Assessment and Recognition of Academic Records by Institutions of Higher Education in mainland China."

Article 18 Matters not specified in the Procedures shall be dealt with in accordance with relevant regulations stipulated by the Ministry of Education and NCU.

Article 19 These Guidelines shall be implemented upon approval by the Academic Affairs Committee. The same procedure applies to any amendment to these Guidelines.