VISITING STUDENT AGREEMENT

BETWEEN

NATIONAL CHIAYI UNIVERSITY, TAIWAN

AND

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-COMMERCE, USA

This Agreement applies to a visiting student program between National Chiayi University (NCYU) Taiwan (hereafter known as the "Home Institution") and Texas A&M University-Commerce (A&M-Commerce), USA (hereafter known as the "Host Institution"). Both institutions shall, on the basis of reciprocity, support and promote the spirit of this Agreement to encourage academic collaboration and to facilitate as much as possible the academic progress, physical relocation, and cultural orientation of all visiting students.

I. Principles

- 1. Each year the Host Institution will accept up to ten (10) students for a study period of one (1) semester or one (1) year in the areas of science or engineering.
- 2. Annually, both institutions will review the programs in which visiting students are enrolled.
- 3. It is understood that the absence of visiting students during any one academic year is possible. Should there be no visiting students in any one year, this should be discussed in the annual review of programs offered to visiting students.
- 4. Visiting students shall enroll at the Host Institution and will be subject to the Host Institution's admission requirements as described in item II below. The Home Institution shall review and approve the coursework to be completed at the Host Institution that will be transferable back to the Home Institution. Such coursework shall count towards the requirements for a student's bachelor's degree from the Home Institution.
- 5. This Agreement is not undertaken for purposes of degree completion and does not provide for a joint degree to be awarded by the Host Institution.

II. Selection and Application

1. The visiting student program shall be open to undergraduate students, who have completed at least one year of undergraduate study with a GPA of 2.75 and achieved a TOEFL IBT score of 79, PBI, 550, or CBT of 213. Students may also submit International English Language Testing System (IELTS) scores in lieu of the TOEFL, but must achieve at least 6.0 on this test. Students may not enroll at the Host Institution as visiting students in the first year of their degree program. Should visiting students from the

Home Institution enroll at the Host Institution in the final semester of their program, both the Home and the Host Institution shall make necessary arrangements to ensure that the visiting student will graduate from the Home Institution as scheduled.

- 2. Participating students shall be selected by the Home Institution, usually on the basis of academic merit and suitability to undertake a period of study abroad, and will be subject to acceptance by the Host Institution through the normal full admission procedures.
- 3. Selected students shall apply to the Host Institution at least 90 days prior to the semester they wish to attend. Each application must include a completed application form, an official transcript and a proposed plan of study, which has been approved by the Home Institution and by consulting the list of available courses provided by the Host Institution. Each applicant must show evidence of scholastic ability, proof of financial support, and an adequate command of the English language. Upon acceptance by the Host Institution, each student shall decide upon their plan of study.
- 4. If the Host Institution rejects any proposed candidates, the Home Institution may nominate additional candidates for consideration, provided there is sufficient time for the Host Institution to process the new application and arrange for visa documents.

III. Student Obligations

- 1. Visiting students shall pay tuition and any other study-related costs to the Host Institution.
- 2. Visiting students shall be responsible for their own financial support, including international transportation, accommodations, living expenses, and medical insurance. The Host Institution shall bear no financial responsibility for visiting students under any circumstances.
- 3. Visiting students shall be responsible for obtaining their own visa, passport and/or other necessary travel documents.
- 4. For the period of study at the Host Institution, visiting students shall decide on a plan of study in consultation with an adviser at their Home Institution.
- 5. Visiting students shall abide by the laws of the host country and the rules and regulations of the Host Institution.

IV. Institutions' Obligations

- 1. The Host Institution shall provide visiting students with an identifiable contact responsible for assisting students with enrollment and welfare issues.
- 2. The Host Institution shall make available to the visiting students a full list of available courses from which to choose to complete their plan of study.

- 3. The Host Institution shall send a pre-departure package to each of the visiting students, and organize an orientation program for the students upon their arrival. The Host Institution will assist the visiting students in settling into life in the host environment.
- 4. Whenever possible the Host Institution will endeavor to place visiting students in university housing facilities. However, when this is not possible, the appropriate office will provide alternative options for off-campus housing.
- 5. The Host Institution shall establish records of visiting students as if they were regularly enrolled students. At the completion of the study period, the Host Institution shall mail an official transcript to the responsible officer of the Home Institution.
- 6. The Home Institution and the Host Institution shall make every reasonable effort to assist visiting students in obtaining the appropriate visa for the period of their study visit. However the institutions shall not be liable to each other or to any participant for the failure of the visiting student in obtaining the necessary documents.
- 7. Texas A&M University-Commerce is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) to award baccalaureate, masters, and doctoral degrees. National Chiayi University (NCYU), Taiwan is not accredited by SACSCOC and the accreditation of A&M-Commerce does not extend to or include NCYU or its students. Further, although NCYU agrees to accept certain coursework from A&M-Commerce to be applied toward an award from NCYU, that coursework may not be accepted by other colleges or universities in transfer, even if it appears on a transcript from A&M-Commerce. The decision to accept coursework in transfer from any institution is made by the institution considering the acceptance of credits or coursework.
- 8. Neither Host or Home Institution may use the SACSCOC logo in any of its materials or on websites. Use of the logo is reserved exclusively for the SACSCOC.
- 9. Faculty teaching at A&M-Commerce must have credentials that meet the standards set forth in the *Faculty Credential Guidelines* by SACSCOC which references Comprehensive Standard 3.7.1 in the *Principles of Accreditation: Foundation for Quality Enhancement*.

V. Scholarship and In-state Tuition

Visiting students may apply for competitive scholarships with Texas residents. Students who are awarded academic scholarships by the Host Institution equal to or in excess of \$1,000 are eligible to receive in-state tuition to the Host Institution. To compete for academic scholarships, students must be fully admitted to the Host Institution.

VI. Duration of Agreement

- 1. This Agreement subject to amendment, renewal, or cancellation by mutual consent, shall remain in force for five years from the date of signing.
- 2. This Agreement may be extended by mutual consent for a further specified period.

3. Either institution reserves the right to terminate this Agreement by giving written notice of no less than 180 days. The termination of the Agreement shall allow for any participating students who have commenced their course of study by the date of the termination to complete their approved course of study.