Memorandum of Understanding

BETWEEN

Université Laval, a private corporation duly incorporated under the provisions of an act of the National Assembly, sanctioned on December 8, 1970 (S.Q. 1970, c. 78), having its head office at 2325, rue de l'Université, Québec (Québec) Canada G1V 0A6, hereafter designated as “Université Laval”;

AND

Universidade de Lisboa, hereby referred to as ULisboa, located at Alameda da Universidade – Cidade Universitária, 1649-004 Lisboa - Portugal, VAT registration Number 510739024, represented by its Rector, Professor António Cruz Serra;

Hereafter designated individually as the “Party” or collectively as the "Parties".

WHEREAS Université Laval has an interdisciplinary research unit called Centre d’Études Nordiques (CEN);

WHEREAS Universidade de Lisboa has a school called Instituto de Geografia e Ordenamento do Território (IGOT) and another called Instituto Superior Técnico (IST);

WHEREAS the Parties wish to establish the principles upon which the aforementioned exchange of resources shall occur in this Memorandum of Understanding (“MoU”).

NOW THEREFORE the Parties hereto agree to the following:
Article 1

Background

Centre d’Études Nordiques

The Centre d’Études Nordiques (CEN) is a research centre of excellence involving three academic institutions, the Université Laval, the Université du Québec à Rimouski and the Centre Eau, Terre et Environnement of the Institut national de la recherche scientifique. CEN researchers are also found at the Université du Québec à Trois-Rivières, the Université de Sherbrooke and five other academic institutions in the province of Québec. At the Université Laval, eight departments are involved (Biochemistry and Microbiology, Biology, Plant Science, Civil and Water Engineering, Geography, Geology and Geological Engineering, History, and Land Use Planning). CEN membership comprises approximately sixty researchers, around two hundred graduate students and forty employees.

The scientific mission of the CEN is to contribute to the sustainable development of the North by way of an improved understanding of the dynamics of cold-dominated environments (northern regions, and alpine and other areas that experience cold winters). These environments are presently affected by the impacts of human activities through climate change and economic development. Training the next generation of specialists in cold regions ecosystems and ecosystems is also a priority for CEN, and graduate students and postdoctoral researchers are at the forefront of CEN scientific discoveries. The CEN also provides fundamental support to the development and environmental quality of northern regions via its implication with scientific, governmental, first nations and industrial organizations. Research resources operated by CEN include the Qaujiasvik network of nine field research stations in eastern Canada, from northern boreal forest to the northern limit of High Arctic polar desert, the SILA network of automated climate stations throughout this 3500 km transect, and the CEN Community Science Centre at Whapmagoostui-Kuujjuarapik on the shores of Hudson Bay, Québec.
Instituto de Geografia e Ordenamento do Território

Instituto de Geografia e Ordenamento do Território (IGOT) is a school of Geography and Spatial Planning offering BS, MA and PhD degrees, which also hosts the Centro de Estudos Geográficos (CEG), the leading national research center in the field of Geography. CEG comprises 181 researchers (67 PhD graduates, as Integrated Members) and has also a crucial role in advanced training, namely in 5 MA programs and especially in 4 PhD programs offered by IGOT. CEG is organized into 7 research groups, of which the Climate Change and Environmental Systems Group (Zephyrus) includes as a key research subject the environmental changes in the Polar Regions, with research activities in the Arctic and Antarctica. CEG is responsible for a number of permafrost observatories in the Antarctic Peninsula region and is a leading organization on Antarctic permafrost research. IGOT coordinates the Portuguese Polar Program, which also counts with the participation of IST.

Instituto Superior Técnico

Instituto Superior Técnico (IST) is the largest and most reputed school of engineering, science and technology in Portugal, with long tradition in teaching, and excellence in research, innovation and training activities. Since its creation in 1911, IST’s mission is to contribute for the development of the science, economy and society by promoting a higher degree of education in the areas of Science, Engineering and Technology at the under and graduate levels and by delivering highly qualified professionals in the public and private sector, strengthening the National and European R&D effort. IST is involved in some of the most prestigious RD&I and technology transfer institutions in Portugal, with remarkable impact internationally at many scientific and technological domains.

Article 2

General objective

This memorandum of understanding (hereinafter referred to as “the MoU”) provides the framework within which detailed proposal for programs of cooperation in mutually agreed areas and detailed plans of implementation are to be jointly considered between the Parties.
Article 3

Areas of cooperation

The Parties agree that cooperation may include all areas of Arctic research including frozen soil engineering, permafrost environments, cold region ecosystems and other mutually agreed areas. Also, academic activities and graduate student education are included.

Article 4

Forms of cooperation

The Parties will promote scientific and technological cooperation mainly through the following forms:

1. Exchange of scientists

The exchange of scientists is designed to enable interested scientists who are members, students or employees of each Party to conduct and develop cooperative activities between the Parties.

2. Cooperation projects

Based on the development of cooperation on exchange of scientists between the parties, cooperation projects can be established by written agreement of the Parties. Also, the Parties can apply for the international cooperation projects supported by both the Portuguese government and Canadian government or other types of cooperation projects.

3. Joint supervision of Master and Doctoral theses

4. Organize and participate in joint research meetings and conferences

5. Other activities may be added upon written agreement of the Parties.

Article 5

Intellectual property rights

The Parties agree that ownership and use of the outcome derived from the cooperation within the framework of this MoU shall be shared in proportion to the scientific and
inventive contribution by each party (normally equal), subject to the intellectual property rights policies at each institution, and may not be disclosed to or used by any third party without prior written consent of the other Party.

Article 6

Financial support

Unless otherwise mutually agreed in writing by the Parties, each Party shall bear all costs of its respective activities under the MoU, and there shall be no financial or other obligations associated with this agreement.

Article 7

Effect of the Memorandum of Understanding

The MoU shall enter into force upon signature of the Parties and shall remain in force for a period of five (5) years.

The MoU may be terminated at any time at the discretion of either Party upon six (6) months advance notification in writing by the Party seeking to terminate the MOU.

The MOU may be amended or extended through mutual written agreement of the Parties.

The Parties have signed this agreement in Québec, Canada, and Lisbon, Portugal:

For the Université Laval

For the Universidade de Lisboa

Dr. Denis Brière, Rector

Prof. Doutor António Cruz Serra, Reitor

Date: Québec on 3/6/2014

Date: Lisbon on 16/6/2014
For the CEN
Dr. Warwick Vincent
Directeur

Date: Lisbon on 16/6/2014

For the IGOT
Prof. Doutora Maria L. Fonseca
Presidente

Date: Lisbon on __/__/2014

For the IST
Prof. Doutor Arlindo Oliveira
Presidente

Date: Lisbon on 16/6/2014

Prof.ª Doutora Maria Lucinda Fonseca
Presidente do IGOT-UL