



COOPERATION AGREEMENT

between

Université Laval Québec City (Québec), Canada,

Institut National d'Optique, Québec City, Canada,

**Erlangen Graduate School in Advanced Optical Technologies,
Friedrich-Alexander-University Erlangen-Nürnberg, Germany,**

and

Bayerisches Laserzentrum GmbH, Erlangen, Germany

individually referred to as a "Partner" and collectively referred to as "the Partners".

PREAMBLE

Université Laval, through its Centre for Optics, Photonics and Lasers, Québec City (Québec), Institut National d'Optique (INO), Québec City, Erlangen Graduate School in Advanced Optical Technologies (SAOT), Friedrich-Alexander-University Erlangen-Nuremberg, and Bayerisches Laserzentrum, Erlangen, are interested in the development of a mutually beneficial cooperation in the field of scientific research and education and agree upon the following articles:

Article 1 Aims and Forms of Cooperation

The partners will promote scientific research in the development and application of optical technologies in different fields of common interest and the education of post-graduate students in carrying out these research activities. Such cooperation will be realized by:

1. Setting up joint research projects which are financed totally or in part by appropriate funding authorities of both countries, e.g., the German National Science Foundation (DFG) on the German side and the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) on the Canadian side. Further funding opportunities will be the Bavaria-Quebec partnership and the Fonds québécois de la recherche sur la nature et les technologies (FQRNT).

2. Exchange of students for carrying out parts of these research projects. For this also the laboratories and the equipment of the partners will be available. Institut national d'optique (INO) in Quebec City and Bayerisches Laserzentrum (blz) in Erlangen will also offer internships for students.
3. Exchange of scientists or post-graduate students for carrying out parts of these research projects.
4. Participation of professors, scientific experts, staff members and post-graduate students in scientific conferences, seminars and training courses which are held by the partners and organization of co-joint events.
5. Taking part in the education programs of the partners.
6. Mutual information exchange of the results of each partner as published in scientific papers.
7. Mutual exchange of the equipment and samples.

Article 2 Financing of Cooperation

Each partner is responsible for the funding of his own part of the joint research projects. The usage of any equipment by students and visiting scientists in the partners' laboratories is free of charge during the course of the cooperation projects.

During the exchange of scientists or students, the visitors are responsible for their own personal social services and for all traveling and living expenses. The visiting people may financially be supported by the hosting partner which has to be discussed in each case separately by the partners.

Article 3 Intellectual Property (IP) and Confidential Agreement

If an IP issue is expected as an outcome of the joint project, the Confidential Agreement should be signed before any public disclosure of the results of the project.

Article 4 Entry of the Agreement into Force and Duration

1. The present agreement is signed in English.
2. The present agreement enters into force after being signed by the partners.
3. The present agreement is valid for five years after signing. It will be extended automatically for another year if none of the partners states his interest to cease the agreement at least three months before its validity expires.

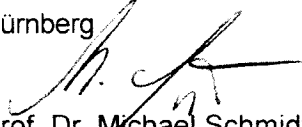
For Université Laval's Centre for Optics,
Photonics and Lasers, Québec City



Prof. Denis Brière
Rector

Date _____

For Erlangen Graduate School in
Advanced Optical Technologies (SAOT),
Friedrich-Alexander-University Erlangen-
Nürnberg




Prof. Dr. Michael Schmidt
Co-Coordinator

Date _____

For Institut National d'Optique Québec
City (INO)

Jean-Yves Roy,
President and CEO



Date _____

For Bayerisches Laserzentrum Erlangen
(blz)



Prof. Dr. Michael Schmidt
Managing Director

Date _____