

COOPERATION AGREEMENT

between

Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg (FAU)
Schloßplatz 4, 91054 Erlangen, Germany

represented by its

**Erlangen Graduate School in Advanced Optical Technologies
(SAOT)**

and

Lehrstuhl für Medizinische Biotechnologie (MBT)
Paul-Gordan-Str. 3
91052 Erlangen, Germany

and

Health Innovations Research Institute (HIRi)
Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology (RMIT) University
GPO Box 2476
Melbourne, VIC 3001
Australia

Preamble

The Erlangen Graduate School in Advanced Optical Technologies at the University of Erlangen-Nuremberg (hereafter referred to as SAOT) is a major research and educational institution with focus on the development and application of optical technologies in a broad range of areas in science, medicine and engineering. The Institute of Medical Biotechnology (MBT – Lehrstuhl für Medizinische Biotechnologie) is part of the Department of Chemical and Bioengineering (CBI) of the School of Engineering of the University of Erlangen-Nuremberg. MBT covers in education aspects of Advanced Optical Technologies in Medical Metrology, Applied Life Science Imaging and Research Activities in Multidisciplinary Fields of Neurology, Physiology, Biotechnology and Clinical Disciplines. Elucidating Disease Mechanisms and implementation of high-throughput screening assays and development of new treatment regimes is also a major focus.

The Health Innovations Research Institute (HIRi) was established in December 2009 to provide a focus for RMIT University's national biomedical and health sciences research agenda. The Institute leverages RMIT University's existing strengths, collaborating with researchers and industry around the world, to increase research in specific areas of socioeconomic health burden. HIRi connects key researchers and groups from the wide range of RMIT schools linked to biophysics, biotechnology, cell biology, chemistry, exercise metabolism, biomedical engineering, herbal medicine, complementary therapies, nanotechnology, physiology and pharmaceutical sciences. Its research programs bring together a growing team of more than 100 researchers and their collaborators. HIRi is an integral part of RMIT University and the College of Science, Engineering and Health, with links to the College of Business and the College of Design and Social Context. The major research programs focus on:

- Biophysics and Bioengineering
- Ion Channels and Transporters as Therapeutic Targets
- Metabolism, Exercise and Disease
- Traditional and Complementary Medicine

HIRi coordinates inter-disciplinary and cross-institutional research with industry partners and other stakeholders. This is underpinned by a platform of state-of-the-art infrastructure and technologies to allow sharing of research and development capabilities with industry partners.

The partners SAOT, MBT and RMIT-HIRi agree in their mutual interests to aim to develop and provide permanent support to the collaboration between all partners in the areas of research and education.

1. Objective

The purpose of this Agreement is to promote and expand international development, understanding and friendship by stimulating and supporting educational, professional and intercultural activities, as well as projects among researchers of RMIT-HIRi and SAOT-MBT.

The cooperation shall be carried out, subject to availability of financial sources and the approval of each institution, through such activities or programs as:

- a) Development and execution of collaborative research projects;
- b) Support of the partners research activities;
- b) Exchange of teaching and research staff of the QMNC and the SAOT-MBT;
- c) Exchange of graduate students;
- d) Organize and conduct joint conferences, workshops, study groups, courses or meetings.

2. Coordinators

For RMIT: Prof. Dr. David Adams (BSc, PhD), Acting Deputy Vice-Chancellor Research and Innovation and Vice President and Director of the Health Innovations Research Institute

For SAOT and MBT: Prof. Dr. Dr. Oliver Friedrich, SAOT Principle Investigator and Chair of Medical Biotechnology (Head of Institute).

3. Developing Collaborative Research Projects

Both parties shall regularly evaluate the collaborative research projects being undertaken, make appropriate adjustments whenever problems occur, sum up experience and seek more funding for developing new projects.

Any collaborative research project or research support arrangement between the parties will be the subject of a separate agreement between the parties.

4. Exchange of scientific staff

The RMIT-HIRi and the SAOT-MBT will work cooperatively to select exchange participants, to decide the exchange periods, and, in general, to provide the most appropriate solution for both institutions to any arising problems.

Unless otherwise agreed in writing, the staff does not become employees of the host institution. In this case, sufficient health and accident insurance shall be in the responsibility of the individual taking part in the exchange activities.

Any exchange of staff will be the subject of a separate agreement between the parties.

5. Exchange of graduate students

Exchange of students will be dealt with under the Specific Agreement for Student Exchange between Friedrich-Alexander University of Erlangen-Nurnberg and RMIT dated 31 October 2010.

6. Financial aspects / Intellectual Property

The partners do not go into any financial commitment by signing this agreement. Nevertheless they will undertake any effort to find financial sources or support for each research or exchange project defined. For each project defined the financial conditions will be laid down in separate agreements.

Should any collaborative research activities under this Cooperation Agreement result in any potential for intellectual property, both parties shall seek a fair understanding as to ownership and other property interests that may arise. In these cases the conclusion of a special agreement will be necessary in principle.

7. Duration / Termination of the Agreement

This Cooperation Agreement becomes effective after ratification of both sides. It will remain in force for a period of three years after signing, and any amendment and/or modification of the Agreement will require written approval of the coordinators of each contracting institution and shall be appended hereto.

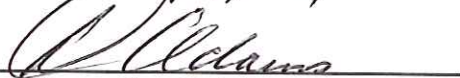
This Agreement will be extended automatically for another year if none of the partners states his interest to cease the Agreement at least three months before its validity expires. Any termination must take into account existing exchanges and cooperation programs which have to be finished.

For
RMIT University,
Health Innovations Research Institute

For
Friedrich-Alexander University
Institute of Medical Biotechnology,

Date, Place
17/04/2014, Melbourne

Date, Place
25/2/2014, Erlangen



Professor David Adams




Professor Oliver Friedrich

For
Graduate School of Advanced Optical
Technologies (SAOT)

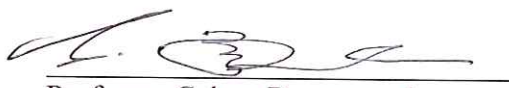
For
Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology
(RMIT)

Erlangen 25/02/14
Date, Place

03/04/14, MELBOURNE
Date, Place



Professor Michael Schmidt
Coordinator SAOT Graduate School



Professor Calum Drummond
Deputy Vice Chancellor, Research and
Innovation, and Vice President