

AGREEMENT OF COOPERATION FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A JOINT PROGRAM OF GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIPS BETWEEN THE ONTARIO COUNCIL ON GRADUATE STUDIES OF CANADA AND THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY OF THE UNITED MEXICAN STATES

The Ontario Council on Graduate Studies of Canada (OCGS) and The National Council of Science and Technology of the United Mexican States (CONACYT) hereinafter referred to as "the Parties";

DESIRING to promote, develop and strengthen the relationship between both countries;

RECOGNIZING that granting scholarships to Mexican citizens to facilitate graduate studies in both countries will contribute to enhancement the relationship between both Nations;

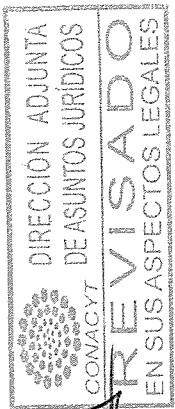
CONSIDERING the Renewal Protocol Agreement between **CONACYT** and **OCGS** signed in November 15, 2009 which aims to stimulate scientific collaboration and establish the basis to carry out a graduate program for the exchange of students of high level in areas of mutual interest.

The Parties agree as follows:

ARTICLE 1
Objective

The purpose of the present Agreement is to establish a joint funding program called CONACYT-OCGS linked to the development of high-level human resources, and also to promoting actions that lead to joint development of academic programs of excellence between CONACYT and the Universities of Ontario, who participate as members of the Ontario Council of Graduate Studies (OCGS).

Each member of OCGS, being an autonomous institution, will confirm their participation in this Agreement by signing its own Annex, same to be attached to this Master Agreement.



ARTICLE 2

Granting of Scholarships

The Parties share an interest in funding graduate scholarships to all students financed by CONACYT, accepted and enrolled in any graduate programs (Master and Doctorate) at the Universities who are members of OCGS under this Agreement and to all Canadian students who are accepted and enrol in any graduate programs registered in the National Quality Graduate Studies program (PNPC) under this Agreement.

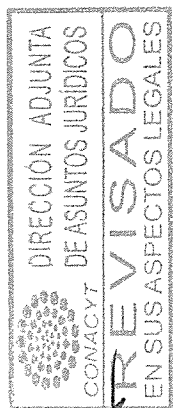
Each Ontario university participant in this agreement will determine how many scholarships will be co-financed under this Agreement. This will be expressed in the Annex attached to this Agreement. In return CONACYT will give the same number of seats to be occupied by Canadian students on the Universities members of the graduate program PNPC in Mexico. This agreement covers both Masters and PhD degrees in all disciplines supported by CONACYT, **but each university may select which programs are included in its Annex.**

Each year the Parties will co-finance the students under this Agreement in the following terms:

Mexican students at the participating universities of OCGS:

- a) In accordance with established standards, CONACYT will pay the resident tuition and provide a stipend¹ to cover living costs of not less than US \$12,000 per year and partial support of US \$715 per year for health insurance to all students supported by this Agreement during the student's academic program. CONACYT will grant the support provided in this agreement for a maximum period of two (2) years for Masters Students and four (4) years for Doctoral students.
- b) The host university will cover the differential cost of tuition normally charged to non-Canadian students. (The universities of Ontario are free to set their tuition fees applicable to local and international students; these fees may differ between institutions and programs.)
- c) The host university will cover the use of laboratory, library access, access to appropriate equipment and tools to develop research projects, under the same terms offered by these facilities for local students.

¹ This amount can be higher for students with family.



d) To the extent of the financial possibilities of the university and the students' academic achievement, the University may consider granting additional support for student living expenses through teaching assistant positions and research.

e) In addition, students co-financed under this agreement will be eligible to participate in professional development programs (conferences, workshops and research expenses) on a competitive basis from the host university.

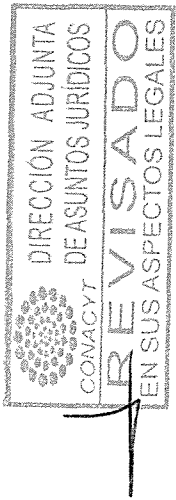
f) The host University will provide Mexican students with documentation indicating their acceptance to the University, and how study permits normally are obtained, but it is the student's responsibility to obtain the necessary study visas. The universities will provide information to Mexican students in how to obtain their students visas.

Also, each university will select, if desired, additional Mexican students for admission to its graduate programs outside the framework of this Agreement, which does not represent any commitment to CONACYT for these students.

For students to continue receiving the support established in this Agreement, the students must be enrolled and maintain their full-time registration and academic status.

OCGS and **CONACYT** recognizes that those students hereby supported by the present Agreement who have obtained a Master's degree from an accredited Mexican University through a program registered in the "Programa Nacional de Posgrados de Calidad (PNPC)" certified by **CONACYT**, and who have obtained a letter of offer to a PhD program at one of Ontario university signatories to this agreement, will be able to register in that PhD program of any OCGS University with the intention of receiving a PhD degree

The host University agrees to send all tuition fee invoices to **CONACYT** showing in detail the resident tuition fee.



ARTICLE 3

Extension Programs

These collaboration actions between CONACYT and OCGS may be extended, with prior written consent of the Parties to include the following programs:

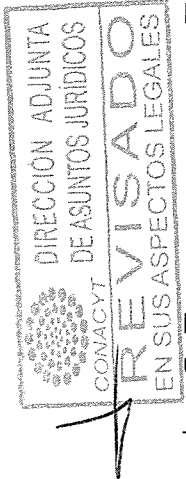
- Brief visits at institutions of higher education for students of both countries;
- Exchange of academic professors
- Conference Programs
- Visiting Postdoctoral Fellows
- Mixed Scholarships

- Sabbatical Fellowships

ARTICLE 4 **Financing**

The Parties agree to finance the fellowship program in accordance with the provisions of Article 2 with the possibility of finding alternate ways of financing, based on the requirements of each particular case.

The execution of this Agreement is subject to budget availability from all Parties, as well as to any legal provisions in force, and therefore it does not constitute in any way a commitment of resources in subsequent fiscal years, any extra expenses or future economic obligations, although all financial obligations for students enrolled in the program will be met.



ARTICLE 5 **Coordination Areas**

Each Party will designate an Activities Coordinator who will be in charge of the following-up and evaluation of the fellowships program, informing the others at all times.

The Activities Coordinators designated by the Parties are:

For **CONACYT**:

Dr. Roberto Contreras Zarate
Director of Scholarships
Av. Insurgentes Sur 1582
Colonia Crédito Constructor
Delegación Benito Juárez
México, D.F. 03940
Tel. (52) 55 5322-7700
rcontreras@conacyt.mx

For **OCGS**:

Mr. John Manning
Senior Policy Analyst

Council of Ontario Universities
180 Dundas Street West, Suite 1100
Toronto, ON, M5G 1Z8, Canada
Tel: (416) 979-2165 ext. 207
jmanning@cou.on.ca

ARTICLE 6

Handling of Information

Students studying in Ontario universities will be subject to the Rules and Regulations of the graduate program in which they study, including the university's policies on intellectual property, patents, and handling of information.

ARTICLE 7

Dispute Resolution

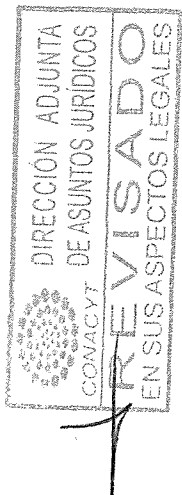
If there is a difference in the interpretation or implementations of this Agreement, both Parties agree that they will endeavour to resolve it by informal discussions between the respective Activities Coordinators established in this Agreement. If the parties cannot resolve the dispute, they agree to submit to an alternative dispute resolution, subject to the rules that the Parties themselves decide to adopt.

Final Provisions

This Agreement will enter into force on the date of its signing and will be terminated on December 31st, 2015. It may be extended by written agreement, before its expiration, by mutual consent and after an evaluation of the results of the Agreement. Students enrolled in programs before the expiration date will receive their full allocation of funding (2 years for Master's; 4 years for PhD).

This Agreement may be modified by mutual consent of the Parties, formalized through written communications specifying the date on the entry into force of such modifications.

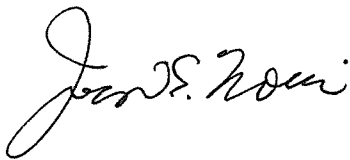
If either Party decides to terminate this Agreement, it must be done so by written communication addressed to the other Parties six (6) months in advance.



Early termination of this Agreement will not affect the conclusion of the activities formalized while it was in force.

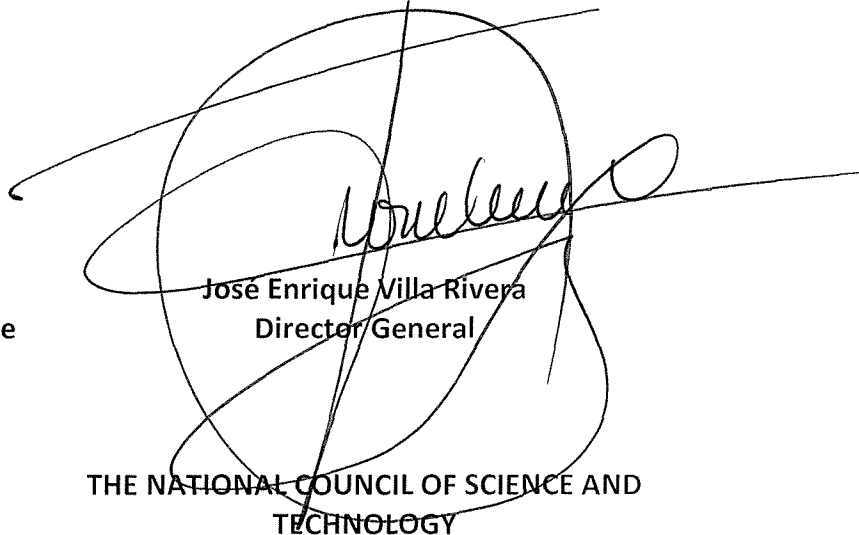
Sign on March 31, 2011 in two original copies in Spanish and English languages, all texts being equally authentic.

**THE COUNCIL OF ONTARIO
UNIVERSITIES**



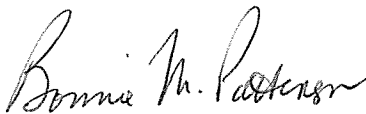
Joan Norris
Chair, Ontario Council on Graduate
Studies

**THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF SCIENCE AND
TECHNOLOGY**



José Enrique Villa Rivera
Director General

**THE COUNCIL OF ONTARIO
UNIVERSITIES**



Bonnie Patterson
President and CEO
Council of Ontario Universities

**THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF SCIENCE AND
TECHNOLOGY**



Silvia Álvarez Brunellere
Deputy General Director of Scholarships
and Graduate Studies

