COOPERATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE UNIVERSITY OF CUENCA
AND THE FEDERAL INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY OF SOUTH OF MINAS GERAIS (IFSULDEMINAS - BRAZIL)
THE UNIVERSITY OF CUENCA, REPRESENTED BY PRESIDENT DR. PABLO VANEGAS PERALTA PhD, AND IFSULDEMINAS
REPRESENTED BY RECTOR MARCELO BREGAGNOLI, SIGN THE FOLLOWING AGREEMENT

BACKGROUND INFORMATION
I. UNIVERSITY OF CUENCA

The University of Cuenca is a public institution of higher education established by a legislative decree issued by the Senate and the Chamber of Representatives of Ecuador in the Congress of October 15, 1867, and approved by the President of the Republic on October 18 of the same year.

The University of Cuenca is a state-funded academic institution with its own legal status, as well as academic, administrative, financial, and organic autonomy. It is also a legal entity of public law, secular, nonprofit, pluralist, and opens to all trends in beliefs. It is part of the higher education system in Ecuador.

It is a public university focused on teaching and research. Its mission is to train professionals and scientists committed to improve the quality of life in regard to intercultural contexts and harmonious relationships with the environment. The basis of the University of Cuenca is its high academic quality, creativity, and innovation which aim to face current scientific and human challenges and fulfill its commitment in regard to the establishment of a regional, national, and international society featuring equality, solidarity, and efficiency.

II. FEDERAL INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY OF SOUTH OF MINAS GERAIS (IFSULDEMINAS).
Created in 2008, The Federal Institute of Education, Science and Technology of South of Minas Gerais (IFSULDEMINAS) is a public institution linked to the Ministry of Education of Brazil (MEC). Its eight campuses are located in the southern part of Minas Gerais State, and the headquarters is in the city of Pouso Alegre.

Today, IFSULDEMINAS operates on several levels of degrees, offering professional and technological education in different modes, integrating graduate, undergraduate, basic and technological levels, in 27 different areas. Nowadays, the Institute has more than 20 thousand students and about one thousand employees.

The Institute incorporates important elements for its identity, assuming the representative role of the true incubator for social policy, building a network of knowledge and blending culture, work, science and technology in favor of society.

WHEREAS

The goal of both universities is to support high quality in higher education;

Both universities have common interests in different fields;

The cooperation between both universities contributes to their institutional development by increasing their teaching capability and scientific research;

The institutions signing this document, according to their nature and objectives, are destined to play a crucial role for the development of their societies;

The exchange of experiences and knowledge between both institutions represents a major concern for their progress and development;

IT IS RESOLVED

To set up a cooperation agreement between both institutions in accordance with the following clauses:

GENERAL OBJECTIVE

To establish the formal basis of cooperation between the University of Cuenca and IFSULDEMINAS in order to encourage, formulate, and develop coordinated actions and projects in regard to:
(i) scientific research;
(ii) training and teaching of students and academic professionals;
(iii) academic mobility and exchange of students, professors, and researchers;
(iv) cooperation to strengthen their institutional capabilities;
(v) dissemination and transfer of science, knowledge, and technology;
(vi) development of cultural activities and community outreach.

SECOND: JOINT COMMITMENTS

a) To establish projects of mutual interest;

b) To set up specific agreements for each project, which will be attached to this agreement. Such agreements will establish the specific fields of work, the activities to be performed, the responsibilities of each party, the conditions for funding, and the supervision systems, among others.

c) To support the development of activities established in specific agreements by providing their human, scientific, technological, financial, and infrastructure resources.

THIRD: VALIDITY AND DURATION

This agreement will come into effect on the date of its signing, and it will be valid for five years. This agreement may be extended in writing according to the interests of both institutions.

FOURTH: TERMINATION

This agreement will be terminated in normal conditions when the deadline is met. Additionally, this agreement may be terminated before the term set forth in by mutual consent of both parties.

FIFTH: COMMUNICATIONS

All communications between both parties will be in writing. These will be submitted to the following addresses:
SIXTH: DECLARATION OF CONFORMITY

Both universities express their desire to make a big effort to fulfill this agreement successfully. In witness thereof, both parties sign this document on four samples with the same content and validity in the city of Cuenca and in the city of Pouso Alegre.

Ing. Pablo Vanegas Peralta Phd
President of the University of Cuenca

Prof. Marcelo Bregagnoli
Rector of IFSULDEMINAS