COOPERATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE UNIVERSITY OF CUENCA
AND THE TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY OF CIVIL ENGINEERING BUCHAREST

THE UNIVERSITY OF CUENCA, REPRESENTED BY PRESIDENT FABIÁN
CARRASCO CASTRO, AND TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY OF CIVIL
ENGINEERING BUCHAREST, REPRESENTED BY RECTOR IOHAN NEUNER,
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. TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY OF CIVIL ENGINEERING BUCHAREST

Higher education in civil engineering in Romania was founded in 1864, in Bucharest by setting up a "School of Bridges and Roads, Mines and Architecture" which, in 1867 became the "School of Bridges, Roads and Mines" and "the National School for Bridges and Roads" in 1888. In 1921, the "National School of Bridges and Roads" became the "Polytechnic School of Bucharest", where the engineers' training was carried out in the Engineering Department which, in 1938, came to be known as the Faculty of Civil Engineering.

In 1948, following an Education Reform, the Faculty of Civil Engineering was separated from the Polytechnic School (which became the Polytechnic Institute) and became an independent higher education institution, called the Civil Engineering Institute of Bucharest. Starting with the academic year 1994-1995, the Civil Engineering Institute of Bucharest became The Technical University of Civil Engineering of Bucharest.

From 1864 till 1948, The National School of Bridges and Roads and then the Civil Engineering Department of the Polytechnic School trained 2,137 engineers, under the guidance of renowned teachers such as: Spiru Haret, Anghel Saligny, Elie Radu, Gheorghe Titeica, David Emanuel Andrei Ioachimescu, Gheorghe Filipescu, Ion Ionescu, whose endeavors and achievements have laid the foundation of the Romanian science and technology in civil engineering.

From 1948 to 2008, over 37,000 engineers graduated from the Technical University of Civil Engineering of Bucharest. During this interval, the university teaching staff included outstanding personalities in the field of science and engineering; among them: the academicians Aurel Beles, Cristea Mateescu, Dumitru Dumitrescu, Stefan Balan, Michael Hangan, Victor Smith, Alexander Steopoe, Priscu Radu, Emil Botea, Alexander Gheorghiu, Andrei Caracostea, Panaite Mazilu, Ion Stanculescu and others who have all carried on their predecessors' tradition.
The Technical University of Civil Engineering of Bucharest includes seven faculties, of which six provide tuition in Romanian and one in foreign languages (English and French). In addition, there is a Department of Foreign Language Studies. The six faculties that employ Romanian as a teaching vehicle (the Faculty of Civil, Industrial and Agricultural Engineering, the Faculty of Hydrotechnics, the Faculty of Railways, Roads and Bridges, the Faculty of Building Services, the Faculty of Technological Equipment, the Faculty of Geodesy) offer academic education for the first graduation cycle (Bachelor of Science) of four years, its completion being awarded with the qualification of engineer, as well as for the second cycle (Master of Science) with the duration of 4 semesters.

The Faculty of Engineering in Foreign Languages offers a 4-year academic education for future engineers, whereas the Department of Foreign Languages and Communication offers a three-year university education in Applied Modern Languages (specialization - Translation and interpretation).

TUCEB also offers evening classes; these courses cover five years and are held at the Faculty of Building Services and the Faculty of Technological Equipment.

Today, thousands of graduates of the Technical University of Civil Engineering of Bucharest are working in the U.S., Canada, Germany, France, Italy, Spain, Israel, South Africa etc.

The solid knowledge acquired in this university has enabled them to rapidly integrate and adapt to the conditions and working methods in other countries. Everywhere in the world, civil-engineers trained at TUCEB rank among the best professionals in the domain.

The reorganization of the national system of higher education in Civil Engineering, in accordance with the Bologna Process opens up new recognition prospects for the graduates of the Technical University of Civil Engineering of Bucharest (TUCEB) as well as better chances of integrating into the European occupational market.
The Technical University of Civil Engineering of Bucharest is the initiator and coordinator of the EUCEET Thematic Network, which includes 131 partner institutions from 29 European countries.

On the other hand, the Civil Engineering at the University of Cuenca began in 1939, and which became the first professional race at the Faculty of Engineering, has traditionally been performed on the basis of an organization that has only led efforts towards the formation of professionals with proven technical excellence in the fields of applied engineering. However, the current challenges of a globalized world, demand the inclusion of processes of technological development and scientific research in accordance with the institutional mission and vision.

The efforts and actions of the School of Engineering are directed toward increasing awareness and implementation of research. For them there is provided an organizational model that allows not only linked to the fields of applied engineering, but also integrate and develop different dimensions of action of teachers and their academic units in order to achieve development in the field and development technology and science, in addition to support postgraduate training. The research organization will develop in the Department of Civil Engineering in order to help to coordinate the activities of research centers.

In this regard it is relevant and necessary to set up strategic alliances to linking the Faculty of Engineering academic networks for collaboration with universities that have their actions in the same field and disciplines.

WHEREAS

The goal of both universities is to support high quality in higher education;
Both universities have common interests in various 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 OBJECTIVES AND SCOPE**

Conclude a framework cooperation agreement between the Department of Civil Engineering at the University of Cuenca and the Department of Hydrotechnical Engineering at the Technical University of Civil Engineering Bucharest to contribute to the management of Scientific Knowledge and Technology in the fields of Civil Engineering, constituting a strategic alliance as an academic model for the management of scientific research, technological innovation, and the development of undergraduate and graduate students.

The scope of the Framework Agreement is:

(i) Manage change to promote the participation of the Technical University of Civil Engineering Bucharest through their teachers in undergraduate and graduate level.

(ii) Encourage the development of research projects.

(iii) Promote the incorporation of highly trained human talent (students and visiting professors) of the Technical University of Civil Engineering of Bucharest, involved in the fields of Structural Engineering & Construction and Water Engineering under the figures of Prometheus.

(iv) Encourage the development and linkage of graduate programs in the areas of Structures & Construction and Water Engineering.
(v) Linking with the Technical University of Civil Engineering of Bucharest in an academic research network.

(vi) To boost the development of scientific-technical capacity.

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.

Fabián Carrasco Castro
Rector of the University of Cuenca

07 ENE 2016

Iohan Neuner
Rector of Technical University of Civil Engineering Bucharest