



AMENDMENT TO THE "SPECIFIC INTER-INSTITUTIONAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE INFORMATION SYSTEMS GROUP OF THE UNIVERSITY OF FRIBOURG FROM SWITZERLAND AND THE SECRETARIAT OF HIGHER EDUCATION, SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION FROM THE REPUBLIC OF ECUADOR"

At the signing of this Amendment, the Secretariat of Higher Education, Science, Technology and Innovation, legally represented by Adrián Augusto Barrera Guarderas, Secretary of Higher Education, Science Technology, in accordance to Executive Decree No.8, of May 24th 2017, and on the other hand the Information Systems Group of the University of Fribourg from Switzerland, legally represented by legally represented by Prof. Andreas Meier as Chair of the Information Systems Research Group.

The Parties, freely and voluntarily, in order to meet their interests and institutional objectives, agree to sign this document based on the following clauses.

ARTICLE 1: Background.-

- 1.1 On 4th April 2016, the Secretariat for Higher Education, Science, Technology and Innovation and the University of Fribourg signed the **"Specific Inter-Institutional Cooperation Agreement between the Information Systems Groups of the University of Fribourg from Switzerland and the Secretariat of Higher Education, Science, Technology and Innovation from the Republic of Ecuador"**, with the objective of extending the offer of applicants and projects, as well as strengthening the development of human talent of Ecuadorian citizens with higher academic performance, through the participation in doctoral programs offered by the Department of Informatics at the University of Fribourg (UniFR).
- 1.2. Article V – Duration of the Agreement – states as follows: "The following agreement shall be four (4) years from the date of its signing and will be renewed whenever the Parties indicated their willingness to do so by a notification signed by the highest authority of each of the Parties, thirty (30) days prior to the expiration of this Agreement, at which time the duration of the renewal shall be determined again, unless one of the Parties has notified its intention to terminate this Agreement at least thirty (30) days before the date that the complainant institution foresees for its termination."
- 1.3. Through Office No. MINFIN-DM-2013-0488 dated August 14th 2013, the Minister of Finance issue positive criteria for the Secretariat of Higher Education, Science, Technology and Innovation to be granted the Multiannual Budgetary Certification for the component "Develop and Implement the Scholarship Program for the Financing of Knowledge and Human Talent" for the period 2013 – 2017, for a total amount of USD \$530,321,149.00 (five hundred thirty millions three hundred twenty one thousand one hundred forty nine with 00/100).
- 1.4. Through Office No. MINFIN-DM-2017-0072, dated February 22nd 2017, the Ministry of Finance certifies that it will assign resources to the budget of the Secretariat of Higher Education, Science, Technology and Innovation, on the project "Strengthening of Knowledge and Human Talent" for a value of USD\$205,469,382.61 (two hundred five millions four hundred sixty nine thousand three hundred eighty two dollars with 61/100), for the period 2018 – 2020.
- 1.5 Through Executive Decree No.8, of May 24th 2017 and published on the Official Registry No. 16 of June 16th 2017 the Constitutional President of the Republic, Lenin Moreno Garcés,



designates to Mr. Adrián Augusto Barrera Guarderas as Secretary of Higher Education, Science, Technology and Innovation.

- 1.6 Reinsuring the bonds that strengthen the ties of friendship that bind both countries through cooperation in the areas of higher education, science, technology and innovation. Mr. Luis Terán, Representative of the Department for Informatics at University of Fribourg, states through electronic communication sent on 31st May 2017 the interest of amending the Specific Inter-institutional Agreement between the Department of Informatics and the Secretariat for Higher Education, Science, Technology and Innovation signed on 4th April 2016, with a duration of four years; with the objective of extending the offer of applicants and projects, as well as strengthening the development of human talent of Ecuadorian citizens with higher academic performance.

Agree upon following:

CLAUSE 1: PURPOSE.-

The purpose of this amendment aims to modify the following articles of the "SPECIFIC INTER-INSTITUTIONAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE INFORMATION SYSTEMS GROUPS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF FRIBOURG FROM SWITZERLAND AND THE SECRETARIAT OF HIGHER EDUCATION, SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION FROM THE REPUBLIC OF ECUADOR", by implementing the following reforms:

1. To replace throughout the Agreement the name "*Information Systems Research Group*" for the following: "*Department of Informatics*".
2. To *replace* throughout the Agreement the name of the program "Graph Based Recommender Systems for eParticipation" for "Doctoral Programs at the Department of Informatics".
3. In the **Third Clause**, numeral 3.1., regarding "COMMITMENTS OF THE PARTIES", replace the letters "b) and c)" for the following:
 - b) "*Grant each scholarship holder awarded annually, an economic amount in to cover air fare tickets in economy class or equivalent, one from the country of residence to the place of studies and also one return ticket to Ecuador in the same class, according to the specificities contained in the regulation for the scholarship program within this agreement*".
 - c) "*Complement each scholarship holder awarded annually, the living expenses amount, in accordance to the cost of living stipulated by the SECRETARIAT for Fribourg, Switzerland, according to the detailed specificities of the scholarships program normative, framed under this agreement.*"
4. Replace in numeral 3.2., the letters a), b) and c) regarding the "COMMITMENTS FROM THE INFORMATION SYSTEMS GROUPS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF FRIBOURG", with the following:



a) *"Grant annual scholarships for doctoral studies (PhD) within the programs offered by the Department of Informatics at the University of Fribourg to Ecuadorian citizens for a four (4) year period. The scholarships will cover:*

1. *Semiannual tuition fees for the doctoral program (for a four (4) year regular period of studies).*
2. *A monthly allowance for accommodation of 1.000,00 (one thousand) CHF (equivalent to approximately USD\$ 1.035, 59).*
 - i. *The payment will be made once the student is in Fribourg and is regularly enrolled in a doctoral program at the Department of Informatics at UniFR.*
 - ii. *The student is responsible to find his/her own accommodation and to make the monthly payments for the lease.*
 - iii. *The student is responsible for signing and present the lease contract to the Swiss authority for the procedure of his/her residence permit".*

b) *Select the best Ecuadorian candidates willing to pursue doctoral studies (PhD) within the offered programs by the Department of Informatics at UniFR.*

c) *Notify to the SECRETARIAT the name of the admitted candidates to the doctoral program (PhD), in order to grant the scholarship in accordance to the norm issued for that effect".*

5. In Article IV, regarding Funding, erase the text "two (2)", throughout the first paragraph.

6. In Article IV, regarding Funding, "With the budget of the SECRETARIAT", erase the text "two (2)" in the paragraph regarding air tickets.

7. In Article IV, regarding Funding, "With the budget of the SECRETARIAT", erase the text "two (2)" in the paragraph additional living expenses.

8. In Article IV, regarding Funding, "With the budget of the SECRETARIAT", erase the text "two (2)" in the paragraph health and living insurance.

9. In Article IV, regarding Funding, "With the budget of the RESEARCH GROUP", erase the text "two (2)" in the same paragraph.

10. In Article V, regarding the "Duration of the Agreement", replace the text for the following:

"The present Agreement will have a term of six (6) years from the date of signature and will be renewed whenever the parties express their willingness to do so by a notification signed by the highest authority of each of the Parties, thirty (30) days prior to the expiration of this Agreement, at which time the duration of the renewal shall be determined again, unless one of the Parties has notified its intention to terminate this Agreement at least thirty (30) days before the date that the complainant institution foresees for its termination."



11. In Article IX, replace the numeral 2) regarding "THE RESEARCH GROUP", with the following text:

a) *All matters affecting the terms of this Agreement*

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b) *All matters concerning individual students*

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CLAUSE 2: RATIFICATION.-

The Parties ratify the provisions given in all and every one of the Articles contained in the "SPECIFIC INTER-INSTITUTIONAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE INFORMATION SYSTEMS GROUPS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF FRIBOURG FROM SWITZERLAND AND THE SECRETARIAT OF HIGHER EDUCATION, SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION FROM THE REPUBLIC OF ECUADOR", the same which are in force and with the same legal force as they were agreed, once they do not oppose or contradict the ones pointed in this agreement.

Given in the City of Fribourg on the 15 of September 2017, two (2) copies in Spanish and two (2) in English, the four (4) texts having the same content and legal force.



REPRESENTING THE SECRETARIAT OF HIGHER EDUCATION, SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION OF ECUADOR POR LA SECRETARÍA DE	REPRESENTING THE DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATICS AT UNIVERSITY OF FRIBOURG	REPRESENTING THE DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATICS AT UNIVERSITY OF FRIBOURG POR EL
Dr. Augusto Barreña Secretariat for Higher Education, Science, Technology and Innovation	Prof. Dr. Jacques Pasquier President of DIUF	Dr. Luis Terán Representative of the DIUF