



**COLLABORATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE UNIVERSITAT ROVIRA I VIRGILI
AND THE SHANDONG UNIVERSITY FOR THE JOINT SUPERVISION OF THE
DOCTORAL THESIS BY MR/MS Xuzhao Zhang**

BY AND BETWEEN

Mr Josep Anton Ferré Vidal, Rector of the Universitat Rovira i Virgili (hereafter, URV) by virtue of Decree 72/2014, of 27 May (DOGC 6633, of 29 May 2014), who represents this institution in accordance with the competencies established in article 66 of the Statute of the URV, which was approved by Decree 202/2003, of 26 August (DOGC 3963, of 8 September 2003), and modified by the Agreement GOV/23/2012, of 27 March 2 (DOGC 6100, of April 2012). The URV's address is C/Escorxador, s/n, post code 43003 Tarragona, and its tax identification number is Q-9350003-A.

And Mr /Ms *Zhang Rong*, President at Shandong University (hereafter *SDU*). The address of the SDU is South of Shanda road, post code 250100 Jinan, and its tax identification number is 370112495570303.

LEGAL BASIS

For the URV:

- Royal Decree 1393/2007, of 29 October, modified by Royal Decree 861/2010, of 2 July, which establishes the regulation of official university courses.
- Royal Decree 1002/2010, of 5 August, regarding the issuance of official university degree certificates.
- Royal Decree 99/2011, of 28 January, modified by Royal Decree 534/2013 and Royal Decree 43/2015, which regulates the official doctoral courses.
- The Academic and Registration Regulations of the URV.

For the SDU:

- According to the "higher education law of the people's Republic of China" (by 2015/12/27, modified), which establishes the regulation of the education of students in universities.
- According to the "Degree regulations of the people's Republic of China" (by 2004/08/27, modified), regarding the application of university degrees.

- The student enrollment and training management regulations of the Shandong University.

ANTECEDENTS

I. Both institutions agree on the importance of cooperation as a means of achieving better quality in education and research.

II. In order to achieve greater efficacy and efficiency in their respective scientific ambits, both institutions wish to develop collaborative research initiatives.

To do this, the signatory institutions agree on the following

CLAUSES

One. Object

The aim of this agreement is to establish a collaboration framework between the URV and the SDU to promote the development of scientific research in the form of a jointly-supervised doctoral thesis.

Two. Registration

The URV and the SDU, on the basis of the merits valued, propose Mr /Ms Xuzhao Zhang (hereafter, the doctoral student) to carry out a doctoral thesis within:

- the doctoral programme of Nanoscience, Materials and Chemical Engineering at the URV.
- the doctoral programme of Materials Physics and Chemistry at the SDU.

The conditions for registering for and defending the doctoral thesis, within the frame of the joint supervision agreement, are governed by the regulations applicable to each university regarding doctoral studies, notwithstanding the following provisions.

Three. Access, admission and registration

To access the doctoral programme, the candidate must meet the following requirements for access and admission that are stipulated by the URV and the SDU.

The doctoral student must register at both universities during the entire period of the thesis. At the URV, the doctoral student must pay the registration fees (tuition and administrative fees) each academic year.

Four. Supervision of thesis

The doctoral student must write the doctoral thesis under the supervision and responsibility of a thesis supervisor at both universities.

- At the URV, the thesis will be supervised by Dr Xavier Mateos
- At the SDU, the thesis will be supervised by Dr Xinguang Xu

The thesis supervisors agree to fully carry out their roles as supervisors to the doctoral student.

The competencies awarded to the thesis supervisor, in accordance with the regulations applied at both universities, must be jointly exercised by both supervisors.

Quality assurance systems will be established at both universities and the thesis supervisors will be responsible for ensuring that the relevant established procedures and reports are complied with at each university.

Five. Research periods

Joint-supervision of the doctoral thesis with research carried out in alternative periods at each university. These periods must have a duration of at least nine months at each university and they will be carried out as follows:

Second year (2016-2017 at the URV). The doctoral student must carry out the research at the URV for [September 2016-August 2017].

The host institution must provide the doctoral student with the necessary information regarding accommodation. Doctoral students must pay for their accommodation and other costs, unless alternative funding is provided for this purpose.

CASE 1 (doctoral students carrying out the research visit at the URV)

During the research visit at the URV, in accordance with the period established in clause five of the present agreement, the health care and civil liability costs for Mr/Ms Xuzhao Zhang will be covered by the compulsory insurance premium included in the URV's doctoral registration fees. Furthermore, the doctoral student must take out an additional insurance policy to cover healthcare, invalidity, death and repatriation.

CASE 2 (doctoral student carrying out the research visit at the SDU)

During the research visit at the SDU, in accordance with the period established in clause five of the present agreement, Mr/Ms Xuzhao Zhang must take out an insurance policy to cover healthcare, invalidity, death and repatriation. Furthermore, Mr/Ms Xuzhao Zhang will pay the health care and civil liability fees according to the relevant provisions of Shandong University students' medical insurance.

Both institutions must help the visiting student to integrate as far as is possible.

Six. Duration of the thesis

For full time students, the period for preparing the doctoral thesis may not be greater than three years from the date on which this agreement is signed. For part time students, the period for preparing the doctoral thesis may not be greater than five years from the date on which this agreement is signed.

The period for preparing the doctoral thesis may only be extended at the proposal of the thesis supervisors and with the approval of the URV and the SDU.

Seven. Language of the thesis

The doctoral thesis must be written in Chinese and be accompanied by an abstract in [English].

The jointly-supervised thesis must be defended in Chinese. Part of the oral presentation must be made in English.

Eight. Format of doctoral thesis

The doctoral thesis must be written in the format established at each university.

Nine. Exploitation and protection of results

The authorship and ownership of the exploitation rights that may be generated by the doctoral thesis are governed by the current legislation on intellectual property in each country and in accordance with the statutes of the signatory universities.

Students must maintain complete confidentiality regarding all data, results, activities, businesses or concerns relating to either the SDU or the URV of which they may become aware during the execution of experimental research tasks, regardless of whether these are part of their specific work. The student must maintain this confidentiality for a period of 5 (five) years after the collaboration has finished or until an independent party who is not subject to any confidentiality obligation makes public this information.

Ten. Examination panel

The examination panel for the defence of the doctoral thesis must be appointed after the thesis has been deposited. It must be made up of members who are agreed on by both signatory universities of this agreement, and it must be formally appointed by the two universities.

The examination panel must be constituted in accordance with the regulations of the university in which the defence is to take place.

CASE 1 [*If the defence is to be held at the URV, the examination panel must be constituted in the following manner*]

The examination panel must consist of three members (president, secretary and standard member) and three substitutes, all of whom must be experts in the subject matter. At least two members must be external to both universities and the collaborating entities. The thesis supervisors may not be members of the examination panel. The same proportions must be maintained if a substitute member has to be used.

The members of the examination panel must be holders of doctoral degrees and have proven research experience.

Nevertheless, when the thesis is deposited, the number of members on the examination panel may be increased to five to ensure the presence of representatives from the universities participating in the joint supervision, provided that these members meet the requirements to be members of a thesis examination panel.

CASE 2 [*If the defence is to be held at the SDU*]

The examination panel should consist of five to seven members. More than half of the members should be the tutor of the doctoral students. The member must include two to three specialist (external to both universities, at least one doctoral tutor) with a professor or equivalent technical post. The chairman of the examination panel should be the tutor of the doctoral student.

A secretary is set up to be responsible for the defense of the thesis.

Doctoral thesis defense secretary should have a doctoral degree or deputy senior technical positions and above.

Eleven. Defence

The doctoral thesis must be deposited at both universities, but the public defence of the thesis will only be conducted at SDU.

The fees for defending the thesis must have been paid at both universities.

Twelve. Doctoral degree certificate

After the single defence of the doctoral thesis, each of the universities agrees to issue the corresponding doctoral degree certificate, provided the issuance fees have been paid.

Thirteen. Administrative management

Any questions regarding the administration of the present agreement and its annex may be addressed to:

- At the URV:

Escola de Postgrau I Doctoral
(Postgraduate and Doctoral School)
Campus Sescelades
Carretera de Valls, s/n
43007 Tarragona
convenisepd@urv.cat

- At the SDU:

Graduate School
Central Campus
South of Shanda Road, NO.27
250100, Jinan
pgs@sdu.edu.cn

Fourteen. Duration

This agreement will terminate once the degree certificate is issued and the corresponding issuance fees have been paid at both universities.






Fifteen. Resolution of disputes

The signatories must negotiate and resolve by common agreement any issue or problem that may arise regarding the present agreement. Should they be unable to reach a common agreement, the signatories will resolve their differences regarding the interpretation or fulfilment of this agreement by another means that they will determine by common agreement.

Sixteen. Data protection

All parties agree to respect the legislation on personal data protection for all matters where this legislation is applicable to the information that is the object of this agreement.

And, as proof of their conformity, the representatives of the URV and the SDU sign this document in duplicate in English, in the place and on the date indicated below.

<p>Xuzhao Zhang</p> <p>Xuzhao Zhang Jinan, 29/09/2016</p>	
<p>Thesis supervisor from the URV</p>  <p>Dr. Xavier Mateos Tarragona, date:</p>	<p>Thesis supervisor from SDU</p> <p>Xinguang Xu</p> <p>Prof. Xinguang Xu Jinan, 29/09/2016</p>
<p>Coordinator of the doctoral programme at the URV</p>  <p>Dr. Alex Fragoso Tarragona, date:</p>	<p>Coordinator of the doctoral programme at the SDU</p> <p>Zhengping Wang</p> <p>Prof. Zhengping Wang Jinan, 29/09/2016</p>
<p>Rector of the URV</p>  <p>Prof. Josep Anton Ferré Tarragona, date:</p>	<p>President of the SDU</p>  <p>Prof. Zhang Rong Jinan, date:</p> 

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