DEED OF COLLABORATION BETWEEN RMIT AND FUNDACION GUATEFUTURO

A. BACKGROUND

RMIT University and Fundación Guatefuturo both have an interest in strengthening bilateral cooperation in the field of education between Guatemala and Australia, and enhancing the links between RMIT University and its academic counterparts in Guatemala. An important means of fostering such cooperation and links is the provision of loan-scholarship opportunities to talented Guatemalan students wishing to pursue graduate degree programs at RMIT University. The purpose of this agreement is to provide shared financing for Guatemalan students at RMIT University, within the framework of a joint graduate sponsorship program.

B. AGREEMENT

The parties hereby agree that the joint graduate sponsorship program will operate as follows:

1. The program shall apply from the date of signature and for [5] intake(s) of students. The parties may agree to extend or vary this term and the program by agreement in writing.

2. Students in Guatemala interested in the program will seek their admission, following the normal application procedures, and meeting all the standard admission requirements established by RMIT University, including all English language requirements.

3. Students unconditionally accepted by RMIT University will submit a sponsorship application to Guatefuturo, following the normal application procedures, and meeting all the standard requirements established by Guatefuturo.

4. Students who are offered a place for full-time study in RMIT University, and who are selected for a sponsorship by Guatefuturo, will then be eligible for shared financing under this agreement.

   (a) RMIT University will provide a 100% discount on the tuition fees to the recipients with pre-sessional language training (up to 10 weeks) at RMIT English Worldwide, conducted prior to commencement of study at RMIT University and delivered in Melbourne.

   (b) Guatefuturo will provide the remainder of the tuition and other associated fees (including OSHC), as well as a stipend for living expenses, according to its established norms, i.e. up to US$25,000 per year for a maximum of two years. Students will have to provide from other sources any further amount required to meet the full costs of their programme of study.

5. The parties agree that the students participating in this arrangement will, unless otherwise specified under this agreement, be responsible for arranging and liable to pay the costs for:

   (a) visa and any associated fees;
   (b) Overseas student health cover (OSHC);
   (c) Student Services Amenities Fees (SSAF);
   and
   (d) accommodation, international travel, travel in the host country, books, equipment, consumables, hospitalisation, travel insurance, and other incidental expenses.

   Students may expend the Guatefuturo sponsorship funds on these costs.

6. Each institution will designate a named coordinator to implement and monitor the programme. In particular, named coordinators will be responsible for ensuring:

   (a) That RMIT University provides Guatefuturo with all relevant promotional material and prospectuses in order to encourage interest in its programs in Guatemala.
   (b) That RMIT University provides all Guatemalan students unconditionally accepted in RMIT
University with information about the sponsorship program and encourages them to contact and submit an application to Guatefuturo. That Guatefuturo forwards details of the selected students to RMIT University.

c. That the necessary financial arrangements are made for confirmed students.

d. That Guatefuturo uses all reasonable endeavours to ensure that each student understands that he or she must comply with all Australian laws and RMIT’s own regulations, policies and procedures. If a student does not comply, RMIT may direct the student to do so and notify Guatefuturo of this direction.

The named coordinators are:

For RMIT University
Louise Ballard
Senior Project Officer – Academic Advisor
Collaborative Research Training

For Fundación Guatefuturo
Juan José Ramírez Ochoa
Academic Advisor

7. Both institutions will publicise the agreement to prospective Guatemalan graduate students.

8. In accordance with the Education Services for Overseas Students Act 2000 (Cth.) and subject to applicable privacy laws and university policies, RMIT will in relation to each student monitor and provide Guatefuturo with information on the following matters:

a. attendance where applicable at lectures and other teaching sessions
b. academic progress;
(c) enrolment and other relevant information;
(d) academic progress and reporting, transcripts issue, supplied to You at end of the semester;
(e) the date of completion of program by a student; and
(f) reporting of welfare incidents.

Guatefuturo acknowledges and accepts that RMIT cannot guarantee the performance of a student’s studies at RMIT.

9. Guatefuturo will respond to reasonable requests by RMIT for any information relating to a student. This information is required for RMIT to properly manage the student’s enrolment and to assist RMIT to comply with its legal requirements.

10. This deed is governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Victoria, Australia provided that nothing in this deed shall compel Guatefuturo to act contrary to the laws of Guatemala. The parties also submit to the non-exclusive jurisdiction of the courts of Victoria and the Commonwealth of Australia.

EXECUTED AS A DEED AND SIGNED SEALED AND DELIVERED ON BEHALF OF THE PARTIES BY THEIR AUTHORISED REPRESENTATIVES:

Professor Swee Mak
Acting Deputy Vice-Chancellor
Research and Innovation
and Vice President
RMIT University

Date: 12/12/2018

Yolani Soto Menegazzo
Executive Manager
Guatefuturo

Date: 12.12.2018