

Memorandum of Agreement
To establish a
3+2 Integrated Bachelor's and Master's Degree Program
Between
East Carolina University
(Greenville, North Carolina, USA)
and
Jiangsu Normal University
(Xuzhou, Jiangsu, China)

Preamble:

After mutual consideration and review of programs and curricula offered at each institution of higher education, East Carolina University (ECU), an accredited and recognized university located in Greenville, North Carolina, USA and Jiangsu Normal University (JSNU), an accredited and recognized university located in Xuzhou, Jiangsu, China agree to establish a 3+2 Integrated Bachelor's and Master's Degree Program in Biology

Principles and Guidelines:

1. Mutual Consent: The Program will be established by mutual consent by the respective academic departments (or colleagues/schools) of both institutions.
2. Degree Program Guidelines: Guidelines for each degree within the Program are attached as Supplement A. Supplement A can be changed by written agreement of both sides if more majors/departments want to join this Program.
3. Conferring of Degrees: Successful completion of this Program will lead to a bachelor's degree conferred by JSNU, and a Master's degree conferred by ECU.
4. Study Plan: Students admitted to the Program must complete three years of undergraduate study at JSNU prior to attending ECU. Eligible students will then have the opportunity to apply for admission to ECU as a non-degree seeking student and complete their JSNU bachelor's degree by taking approved courses listed in Exhibit A at ECU during year four of the Program. Upon earning their bachelor's degree from JSNU, students may be invited to continue in year five with the Master's degree program at ECU.
5. Program Period: The Program is developed to allow for participating students to complete both the bachelor's and Master's degrees within a five (5) calendar year period. However, this is dependent on the performance of individual students.

6. Undergraduate Admission Criteria: JSNU students must meet the educational and admission requirements of JSNU. Neither acceptance by JSNU nor completion of the JSNU requirements alone will entitle students for admission to ECU. For completion of the JSNU bachelor's program at ECU, each student must meet all requirements for admission to ECU, including, but not limited to English language proficiency. Students will be required to have a minimum US equivalent cumulative grade point average (GPA) of at least 2.75, and TOELF of 71 or IELTS score of 6.0. As an alternative, JSNU students who do not meet the English language proficiency requirements may be admitted by attending and successfully completing the ECU Language Academy's academic preparatory program. ECU reserves the right to make all admission decisions based on its criteria, standards, and enrollment capacities.
7. Graduate Admission Criteria: Graduate Record Examination (GRE) scores and application fee will not be required as part of the ECU Graduate School application package for JSNU students who attended ECU while completing their bachelor's degree as part of the Program. ECU reserves the right to make all admission decisions based on their criteria, standards, and enrollment capacities. If a student does not receive his/her bachelor's degree from JSNU prior to the beginning of his/her second year at ECU, ECU reserves the right to terminate the student from this program.
8. Undergraduate Visa Status: ECU agrees, subject to the requirements detailed in Section 6 above, to enroll the JSNU students as non-degree seeking F-1 undergraduate students for the time period that the students are enrolled at ECU and completing the JSNU bachelor's degree. Students under this visa category are required to enroll for a minimum of 12 credits each semester they are enrolled at ECU and are subject to the same rules and regulations governing all students attending ECU on F-1 student visas.
9. Graduate Visa Status: ECU agrees, subject to the requirements detailed in Sections 4 and 7 above, to enroll the JSNU students who have completed their bachelor's degree as degree-seeking F-1 graduate students for the time period during which the students are enrolled at ECU and working exclusively toward their Master's degree. Students under this visa category are required to enroll for a minimum of 9 credits each semester they are enrolled at ECU and are subject to the same rules and regulations governing all students attending ECU on F-1 student visas.
10. Tuition and Fees: Neither ECU nor JSNU shall be responsible for the costs of tuition and fees, surcharges, books, equipment, room, board, travel, transportation, or other personal expenses. ECU will inform the students, at the time of their acceptance, of the approximate costs they will be responsible for.
11. Transfer Credits: JSNU agrees to recognize the transfer credits earned at ECU as detailed in Exhibit A, allowing the students in the Program to use the credits earned at ECU to meet the

requirements for a bachelor's degree. It is the responsibility of students to ensure that the specific courses taken (as well as the number of credits earned) will satisfy requirements for the bachelor's degree at JSNU.

12. Housing: ECU will make every effort to assist participating students in securing on-campus housing for the period of time that they will be at ECU; however, on-campus housing is not guaranteed and if secured, the cost of room and board will be the responsibility of the student. The participating student is responsible for following ECU's on-campus housing application procedures and policies.
13. Student Standards of Conduct: Visiting students shall be governed by the same regulations and performance standards as all students in their host institution. The host institution reserves the right to require the withdrawal of any participating student whose academic standing or conduct warrants such action, provided that the student is notified of the intent to release him/her, and is provided the opportunity to respond. Whenever possible, the host institution will consult with the visiting student's home university before finalizing each such action. The host institution's Administrative Liaison will inform the home institution of the student's last date of attendance if such action is taken.
14. Access to Facilities: Students shall be entitled to participate in any introduction or orientation programs that may customarily be arranged for international students at ECU and shall have the same rights of access to academic and social facilities as all ECU students.
15. Administrative Liaison: Both universities agree to appoint a coordinator or administrative liaison to support the Program. Undergraduate students should identify a planned course of study and have this approved by the coordinator or administrative liaison prior to submitting an application to ECU. If a new coordinator or administrative liaison is appointed at either participating institution, a written notice of the change should be given to the other institution.
16. Academic Transcripts: Due to U.S. privacy laws, students must submit a written request to ECU that will allow ECU to release a copy of the student's transcript to JSNU at the conclusion of each semester. This request will be done in accordance with standard ECU policies and procedures. Pending receipt of the written request, academic achievement reports for undergraduate students will be sent to JSNU from ECU at the conclusion of each semester for which a student is enrolled at ECU. This will occur generally within one week, but in no case later than three weeks, after the last day of final examinations. In most cases, the reports will be in the form of a university transcript, to be used at the discretion of JSNU.
17. Academic Exchange: Both parties agree to facilitate the research and educational collaborations between faculty at ECU and JSNU. ECU may provide visiting professor positions for JSNU faculty members provided that ECU has sufficient availability of space and other resources. No remuneration will be associated with a visiting JSNU faculty

member's appointment. JSNU takes full responsibility to cover visiting JSNU faculty member's cost including airfare, housing, food, health insurance, as well as their personal and incidental expenses. Cooperative activities and teaching duties will be determined on a case-by-case basis, following the existing policies of the institutions. ECU will assist JSNU faculty with obtaining a J-1 exchange visitor visa. JSNU will assist ECU faculty with obtaining Chinese visa and providing potential office and resources for performing collaborative educational research in JSNU campus.

18. Intellectual Property: In the event an activity under this agreement contemplates Intellectual Property then both parties agree to negotiate a separate agreement based on context of the project.
19. Publications: Both universities agree to acknowledge participation of the other in publications resulting from activity under this Agreement and, subject to any conflicting rights of third parties, agree that both universities may use the results obtained from the activities conducted under this Agreement for internal education and research purposes.
20. Cost Sharing: No monetary consideration will be exchanged between the two institutions, nor any indemnities, reimbursements for expenses, or sharing of fees or profits arising from the exchange.
21. Definition of Relationship: The relationship between ECU and JSNU under this Agreement shall be that of independent contractors, and neither ECU nor JSNU shall be deemed, nor hold itself out as being, a partner or agent of the other party. Neither ECU nor JSNU shall be liable for acts of the other, nor shall they be liable for the acts of students participating in the Program. Neither institution will use the name or logo of the other except to accurately describe the services or benefits being provided by each institution. Any such description of services or benefits shall be reviewed and confirmed for accuracy by the institution of which the description is intended to reference. Neither ECU nor JSNU will in any manner state or imply that any degree will be or has been obtained from the other.
22. Equal Opportunity Policies: Both institutions subscribe to a policy of equal opportunity and shall not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, color, national origin, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, height, genetic information, marital status, disabled veteran status, veteran status, or disability.
23. Limitations of Agreement: The obligations of the two institutions under this Agreement are limited to transfer students only and do not extend to spouses or dependents.
24. Duration of Agreement: This Agreement is subject to review at the end of the first year and shall be effective for five (5) academic years beginning the semester after the final signature. It shall be subject to revision, modification or renewal by mutual written agreement. Either party may terminate the Agreement by written notice submitted at least 90 days in advance of

the upcoming academic-year semester. Termination of the agreement by either party will not affect students already engaged in the Agreement, allowing students to remain enrolled for an amount of time necessary to complete the program, but in no event for a maximum period of time to exceed two (2) academic years. If the Agreement is not renewed by mutual consent, or sooner terminated as allowed, the Agreement will conclude at the end of the specified time period. Further, either party may terminate this agreement by giving notice in the event that there has been a legislative or regulatory change under the laws of the local jurisdiction or the United States of America or their respective subdivisions or a change in the accreditation requirements for parties respectively that makes participation in the matters contemplated in this agreement impractical. Termination shall be effective upon the date given in such notice, which shall be as close to the end of the next session as possible under the circumstances.

25. Limitation of Resources Committed: This agreement does not create an obligation for either party to provide resources necessary to carry out any part of the Agreement except as approved by the party responsible for providing these resources.
26. Compliance and Dispute Resolution: Each party agrees to comply with and to be separately responsible for compliance with all laws, including, but not limited to immigration compliance, employment and anti-discrimination laws, which may be applicable to their respective activities under the Program. The Parties record their intention that, if any dispute or difference arises out of or in relation to this Agreement, it will be resolved in a spirit of good faith and on a realistic basis by negotiation.
27. Accreditation statement: ECU is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) Commission on Colleges to award Bachelor's, Master's, Educational Specialist and Doctor's degrees. Jiangsu Normal University is not accredited by SACS Commission on Colleges and the accreditation of East Carolina University does not extend to or include Jiangsu Normal University or its students. Further, although East Carolina University may agree to accept certain course work from Jiangsu Normal University to be applied toward an award from East Carolina University, that course work may not be accepted by other colleges or universities in transfer, even if it appears on a transcript from East Carolina University. The decision to accept course work in transfer from any institution is made by the institution considering the acceptance of credits or course work.
28. U.S. Foreign Corrupt Practices Act: JSNU warrants that it is familiar with the U.S. laws prohibiting corruption and bribery under the U.S. Foreign Corrupt Practices Act. The parties agree that, in connection with the activities undertaken pursuant to this agreement, they shall not offer or provide money or anything of value to any governmental official or employee or any candidate for political office in order to influence their actions or decisions, to obtain or retain business arrangements, or to secure favorable treatment in violation of the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act, either directly or indirectly. Any breach of the U.S. Foreign Corrupt Practices Act shall be deemed a breach of this agreement for purposes of termination.

29. Export Control: Under no circumstances will any collaboration include or require disclosure of export controlled items or information, such as equipment, components, software, and technology specifications, subject to Export Administration Regulations (EAR)(CFR 15 Parts 300-799), International Traffic in Arms Regulations (ITAR)(CFR 22 Parts 120-130), or any other export control related regulations (including but not limited to, Office of Foreign Assets Control). ECU will conduct export control screens on all visiting faculty, staff and/or scholars selected for participation. Visiting students, faculty and/or scholars will not be accepted at ECU if they are listed on any U.S. federal restricted or prohibited list.

30. Notices: Any notices or other communications between the parties shall be in writing and shall be given effectively if: posted by certified United States Mail, postage prepaid, return receipt requested or delivered by an overnight delivery service that keeps proof of delivery. Any notice of communication shall be addressed as follows or at such other address as may be from time to time designated in writing in accordance with this Section 12.06:

If to ECU: Office of Global Affairs
306 East Ninth Street
East Carolina University
Greenville, NC 27858-4353

With a copy to: University Attorney
215 Spilman Building
East Carolina University
Greenville, NC 27858-4353

If to JSNU: Li, Zongyun, Dean and Professor
School of Life Science
No. 101, Shanghai Road, New District of Tongshan
Xuzhou, JiangSu Province 221116
P.R.China

31. Counterparts: This Agreement may be executed in counterparts, none of which need contain the signatures of all parties, and all such counterparts together shall constitute the entire agreement of the parties hereto. Facsimile signatures and signatures that are electronically transmitted shall be deemed to have the efficacy of an original signature.


32. Supersession: This Agreement embodies the entire understanding between ECU and JSNU regarding the subject matter. All past discussions, agreements, and understanding, whether oral or written, whether formal or informal, are superseded by this Agreement.

33. Language of Agreement: Should this document be executed in both English and Chinese, the English version of this Collaboration Agreement represents the understanding of both universities. Any other version is provided as a translation. In the event of conflict between the two versions, the English version will prevail.

In witness whereof, the parties have caused this Collaboration Agreement to be duly executed.

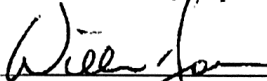
For East Carolina University

For Jiangsu Normal University



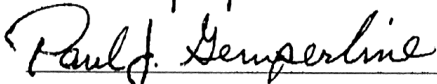
Cindy Putnam Evans
Interim Chair, Department of Biology

Date: 4/16/19



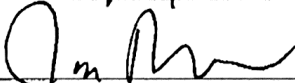
William Downs
Dean, College of Science and Arts

Date: 4/19/19



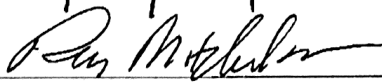
Paul Gemperline
Dean, Graduate School

Date: 4/26/2019



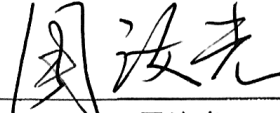
Jon Rezek
Assistant Vice Chancellor for Global Affairs

Date: 4/10/2019



Ronald L. Mitchelson
Provost and Senior Vice Chancellor for
Academic Affairs

Date: 4/30/19



Ruguang Zhou, 周汝光

President

Date: 5/7/2019

Supplement A

ECU-JSNU Integrated Bachelor's and Masters' Degree Program in Biology

1. Administrative Liaisons:

ECU:

Pan, Xiaoping, Ph.D.
Graduate Director
Department of Biology
East Carolina University

Phone: 01-252.3285443 (Office)
Email: panx@ecu.edu
Address: N108 Howell Science Complex
East Carolina University
Greenville, NC 27858
USA

JSNU:

Li, Zongyun, Ph.D.
Dean and Professor
School of Life Science
JiangSu Normal University

Phone: 86-516.83403172 (Office)
Email: zongyunli@jsnu.edu.cn
Address: School of Life Science
JiangSu Normal University
No. 101, Shanghai Road
New District of Tongshan
Xuzhou, JiangSu Province 221116
P.R.China

2. **Admissions:** JSNU students who have successfully completed the first three years of Bachelor's degree program in Biology (School of Life Science) at JSNU with a minimum GPA of 2.75 and who have scored 71 or above on the TOEFL exam or 6.0 or above on the IELTS exam may apply for admission to ECU as non-degree seeking undergraduate students.

JSNU students who have not scored 71 or above on the TOEFL exam or 6.0 or above on the IELTS exam may apply for *conditional admission* to ECU.

- Students who have scored between 55 and 71 on the TOEFL exam or between 4.5 and 6.0 on the IELTS exam will be admitted to the ECU Language Academy (ECULA) and must successfully complete one semester of English Language training.
- Students who have scored between 45 and 55 on the TOEFL exam or between 4.0 and 4.5 on the IELTS exam will be admitted to ECULA and must successfully complete two semester of English Language training.

- Students who have scored below 45 on the TOEFL exam or below 4.0 on the IELTS exam will be admitted to ECU and must successfully complete three semesters of English Language training.
- Students who do not have TOEFL or IELTS scores will be admitted to ECU and must successfully complete between one and three semesters of English Language training, depending on an internal evaluation of their proficiency.

The ECU Language Academy offers up to 18 hours of academic English training per semester, some of which may be transferred to JSNU and considered as part of the student's undergraduate degree program.

3. **Student Visa:** If the student is successfully admitted to ECU, the Office of Global Affairs will assist the student in obtaining their F-1 Student Visa to study in the United States. ECU will issue students the Form I-20, also known as the Certificate of Eligibility for Nonimmigrant (F-1) Student Status For Academic and Language Students. To issue the Form I-20, admitted students must provide ECU's Office of Global Affairs with the following documents.
 - a. Copy of passport identification page
 - b. ECU's Confidential Financial Information Form
 - c. Documents demonstrating sufficient financial resources to fund U.S. education

4. **Program Structure:**

- a. **JSNU enrollment period:** JSNU participants will enroll in and successfully complete three years of undergraduate study at JSNU according to standards set by JSNU. In the third year participants will apply to ECU as non-degree visiting undergraduate students for enrollment in their fourth year.
- b. **Dual enrollment period:** During the fourth year of the program, participants will be considered to be enrolled in both JSNU and ECU. Participants fulfill the fourth year of JSNU bachelor's degree requirements through coursework taken at ECU as per agreement with the Department of Biology at ECU and approval jointly by JSNU and ECU. The courses student participants take at ECU during year 4 will transfer to JSNU and be credited towards the completion of the bachelor's degree from JSNU.

During the first semester, students are expected to take one 3 credit hour English course, one 3 credit hour biology elective, and two 3 credit hour biology research courses. At the end of the first semester, students will choose between two program options: (1) a thesis-based Master's degree and (2) a non-thesis based Master's degree.

If they select thesis-based Master's degree, the students, with help of the Graduate Program Director, will find a host lab and perform thesis research.

During the second semester, students are expected to take two 3 credit hour biology elective courses and two 3 credit hour research courses.

The Undergraduate Program director at JSNU and Graduate Program Director at ECU will work together to assist the students in the selection of appropriate biology courses, depending upon their background and research interests, and also make sure the taken courses can be count for both the Bachelor degree in their home institution (JSNU) and the Master degree in the host institution (ECU). The total of 24 credits will be transferred back to JSNU for the completion of their bachelor's degree conferred by JSNU.

A bachelor's degree will be conferred by JSNU upon successful completion of year 4 courses and submission of an official transcript from ECU. Once JSNU confirms student participants have completed the undergraduate degree and ECU confirms student participants meet all ECU graduate admission requirements/contingencies, the student participants' provisional admission to the master's program will be confirmed and their student visa will be automatically transferred to the corresponding ECU Master's program.

- c. *ECU enrollment period:* During the fifth year of the program students will be enrolled as Master's students in Biology at ECU. Students will take 9 credit hours of course work during the first and second semester according to the advice of the Graduate Program Director. All degree requirements including coursework, research, and thesis, are required for completion of the program. A Master's degree will be conferred by ECU upon successful completion of the program.
5. **Time Limit:** It is expected, but not guaranteed, that the participating students will complete the requirements for a master's degree within two years in the host university. If necessary, the participating students may extend their time for another one or two semesters for completing the requirements for a Master's degree. Semesters spent in the ECU Language Academy will not count against student's time limits in the program.

Exhibit A

ECU-JSNU Integrated Bachelor's and Masters' Degree Program in Biology

The following ECU courses have been evaluated by JSNU and will transfer to JSNU in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the JSNU bachelor's degree.

ECU Courses	SHC	SHC	JSNU Courses
BIOL 5260/5261: Microbial Ecology and Lab	4	4	18120106004/18120206008: Microbial Ecology and lab
BIOL 5450/5451: Histology and Lab	4	3+1	18120106006 /18120206007/1812030618/: Developmental Histology -and- 18120204006: Animal Histology lab
BIOL 5510/5511: Transmission Electron Microscopy Lab	4	4	18120105010/18120204010/18120304013/ 18120304014: Cell Biology and lab
BIOL 5630/5631: Comparative Animal Physiology and Lab	4	4	18120105003/18120105004 /18120304011/18120304012: Animal anatomy and physiology and lab
BIOL 5870: Molecular Biology of the Gene	3	3	18120105011/18120204013/18120304007: Molecular Biology
BIOL 5890: Virology	3	3	18120106026/18120206037: Virology
BIOL 5900 – Biotechniques	2	2	18120205010/18120304015: Gene and Bioengineering
BIOL 5901 - Biotechniques Lab	3	3	18120105012/18120204014/18120304008: Molecular Biology and lab
BIOL 5930 - Microcomputer Applications in Molecular Biology	2	2	18120106003/18120205013/18120306033: Computational Biology and Bioinformatics
ENGL 1100 - Foundations of College Writing	3	3	18060003008: English Writing
ENGL 3820 - Scientific Writing	3	3	18120106021/18120206001/18120306029: Scientific Writing in English