

MoU signed between TMU and University of Philippines

The University of the Philippines Manila (UP Manila), recognized as the national university of the Philippines, has a strong reputation for excellence in health sciences research and graduate education. Established through Act 1870 and further institutionalized via Republic Act No. 9500, UP Manila continues to advance knowledge and innovation in accordance with its public and secular mission. A recent significant development is the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between UP Manila and the College of Paramedical Sciences, Teerthanker Mahaveer University (TMU) in Moradabad, Uttar Pradesh, India.

This MoU, marks a strategic partnership intended to expand academic, research, and professional collaborations in health and forensic sciences. It was signed by representatives from both institutions, including Chancellor Michael Tee of UP Manila and Dean Manjula Jain of TMU. The document emphasizes the mutual desire to foster cooperative relations and interdisciplinary engagement for the benefit of students, faculty, and the broader scholarly community.

Objectives and Scope

The general purpose of the MoU is to lay the foundation for robust educational ties, prioritizing academic learning, research, training, and forensic consultancy work. Key objectives include:

- Joint organization of professional training and research projects particularly in forensic sciences.
- Exchange of academic publications, teaching materials, and library resources.
- Collaborative sponsorship of research and consultancy initiatives.
- Coordination of seminars, online and offline conferences to enhance competencies in ethics and professionalism within forensic sciences.

- Opportunities for both student and staff visits, incorporating internships, research participation, and completion of joint projects.

Both institutions recognize the importance of international scholarly collaboration, aiming to further knowledge and foster awareness on a global level. The MoU also outlines provisions for joint supervision of dissertations and research, co-authored publications, and the sharing of infrastructure and facilities to support academic and research endeavors.

Collaboration Framework and Terms

To ensure the partnership's success, the MoU details the terms of engagement and cooperation. Both parties agree to identify specific training and research areas for cooperation and will exchange scholars, faculty, and trainers as scheduled by either institution. Several provisions address logistical concerns:

- Advance negotiation on expenses related to travel, lodging, and program participation.
- Proper recognition and honorarium for visiting staff and experts, whether participation occurs online or in-person.
- Commitment to confidentiality regarding shared reports, plans, and academic strategies.
- Joint decision-making and responsibility regarding course deliverables and cooperative events.

Financial obligations are not directly enforced but are to be negotiated and formalized prior to any specific project or assignment. Administrative authorities from both sides will determine the allocation of resources for each cooperative effort.

The agreement further specifies facility sharing—including honoraria and travel arrangements for visiting lecturers and teachers in areas relating to forensic sciences.

Eminent scholars with relevant expertise are encouraged to visit and offer lectures at the partner institution, strengthening the exchange of academic leadership.

Amendment and Duration

The MoU is set to take effect from the date of signing and remains valid for five years, subject to renewal upon mutual agreement. The contract allows for amendments based on joint appraisal and may be terminated with a six-month notice if either party finds the collaboration unsatisfactory. Such flexibility demonstrates a forward-thinking approach, prioritizing adaptability and responsiveness to the evolving needs of both institutions.

Witnesses and Verification

The signing of the MoU was witnessed by officials from both universities, reinforcing its legitimacy and shared commitment. These include:

- Dr. Ma. Teresa G. De Guzman, Dean and Professor, College of Arts and Sciences, UP Manila.
- Prof. Dr. Navneet Kumar, Principal, College of Paramedical Sciences, TMU.
- Dr. Jay T Dalet, Associate Dean, UP Manila.
- Mr. Ravi Kumar, Assistant Professor HoD, TMU.

This partnership represents a concrete step towards the internationalization of academic research, reinforcing UP Manila's strategic position as a leading health sciences institution and expanding TMU's research capacity and educational ecosystem. Both universities have pledged to work together as a team, ensuring smooth conduct of cooperative courses, direct interface between faculties, and maximum support for shared programs in forensic science and related disciplines.