

## MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

This MOU made and entered into on this 12 day of October month in 2022 year by and between "Forum for Global Studies", and "Woxsen University", collectively referred to as "Parties" and each referred to individually as "Party".

### **1. Background:**

Centre of Excellence (COE) is a body that provides leadership, best practices, research, support, training of trainers and skill training for a specific sector/s. COE in skilling ecosystem is envisioned to be one-stop resource centre, established/working in partnership with industry to raise training standards, boost productivity, address emerging skill gaps and align training and research with industry needs. The purpose of this MOU is to establish the COE in the area of Public Policy Research.

### **2. Infrastructure:**

The infrastructures for the Centres for Excellence would be provided by Woxsen.

### **3. Core Group for COE:**

Chairperson	Dr. Raul V. Rodriguez, Vice President
Co-Chairperson	Dr. Srinivas Junuguru
Academic Experts (Woxsen)	Dr. Satya Prasad, Dr. Mallesh Ummala
Academic Experts (Adjunct)	Dr. Goran Llik
Professor-in-charge of the COE	
Research project Coordinator	

### **4. Quorum:**

The Core Group may meet as and when required but shall meet at least twice in a calendar year. The quorum for the purpose of the meeting of the Core Group shall be 50% of the Members including the Chairperson, Co-Chairperson or his nominee. Decision of the meeting shall preferably be by consensus failing which by majority of the members present in the meeting.

### **5. Functions of Centre of Excellence:**

The core functions of CoE would be:

- To conduct high-quality training in specific sectors with a special focus on Public Policy.
- To develop an association between academia and industry for the benefit of the skill development sector.
- To conduct Research and Development in related fields and disseminate the results of the R&D and other activities through filing of patents and transforming them into sustainable business proposals/ solutions.
- To upgrade the Centre's technical capacity, and information architecture.
- To support creative and innovative proposals in terms of functions and facilities.
- To establish a sound new institutional base for executing the programmes/projects by strengthening the existing infrastructure.

- To foster relations across countries, between governments, workers, chambers of commerce, academia, industry and other Industrial associations in establishing collaborations of various projects of Institute/Organizations.
- To create network of nearby institutes for capacity building and mentoring support.

#### **6. Nomenclature of COE:**

The Centre shall be named as “Centre of Excellence for Public Policy Research”.

#### **7. Roles & Responsibilities:**

##### **Woxsen:**

- Facilitate Undergraduate, Postgraduate, and Doctoral students to participate in various roles for fulfilling the objectives of the Centre and also recruit suitable resource persons including Research faculty and Research Scholars to execute the project and technology development activity.
- Provide requisite technical and residential infrastructure (existing/augmented) at Woxsen campus for the proposed COE suitable for taking up the activities enunciated above and as directed by the core group from time to time.
- Make provision for internship to selected students to promote serious studies/research in the Public Policy domain.
- Facilitate the centre to work out annual/long term plan of deliverables/research output linked with quantum of grants. The expected deliverables from the Centre in the form of commercialization, innovations, patents, published papers, pilot sample development, project/study reports, application development, etc., may be evolved with mutual consent.
- Organize seminar and workshops as may be mutually decided from time to time.
- Shall facilitate project review meetings at least once in six months by the core group.

##### **External Academic Expert:**

- Help provide necessary technical information that may be necessary to execute assigned projects.
- Facilitate attachment of the students/research scholars to the industry for study/data collection/ vocational training as and when the need arises.
- Help Woxsen in working out desired deliverables on an annual basis prior to obtaining the Core group’s approval.

Note: There will not be any incentives for the research collaboration under COE.

#### **8. Force Majeure:**

If performance of any obligation under this MoU is prevented, restricted, or interfered with by causes beyond either party's reasonable control ("Force Majeure"), and if the party unable to carry out its obligations gives the other party prompt written notice of such event, then the obligations of the party invoking this provision shall be suspended to the extent necessary by such event. The term Force Majeure shall include, without limitation, acts of God, plague, epidemic, pandemic, outbreaks of infectious disease or any other public health crisis, including quarantine or other employee restrictions, fire, explosion, vandalism, storm or other similar occurrence, orders or acts of military or civil authority, or by national emergencies, insurrections, riots, or wars, or strikes, lock-outs, work stoppages. The excused party shall use reasonable efforts under the circumstances to avoid or remove such causes of non-performance and shall proceed to perform with reasonable dispatch

whenever such causes are removed or ceased. An act or omission shall be deemed within the reasonable control of a party if committed, omitted, or caused by such party, or its employees, officers, agents, or affiliates.

**9. Dispute Resolution:**

The parties will attempt to resolve any dispute arising out of or relating to this MoU through friendly negotiations amongst the parties. If the matter is not resolved by negotiation, the parties will resolve the dispute using the Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) procedure.

Any controversies or disputes arising out of or relating to this MoU will be submitted to mediation in accordance with any statutory rules of mediation. If mediation is not successful in resolving the entire dispute or is unavailable, any outstanding issues will be submitted to final and binding arbitration under the Indian laws of Arbitration and Conciliation. The Arbitrator's award will be final and judgement may be entered upon it by any court having proper jurisdiction.

**10. Liability:**

Except for loss or damages caused through gross negligence or intent, the Parties shall have no liability to each other hereunder.

**11. Legal Relationship:**

This MoU shall be construed as a statement of purpose to promote a genuine and mutually beneficial collaboration between the Parties. Nothing in this MoU shall create any legal relationship between the Parties.

**12. Duration/Term of the MoU:**

This MoU shall be valid for two years from the date of its entering into and may be mutually extended from time to time in writing by the parties.

**13. Termination:**

Either Party may terminate this MoU by giving six (6) months' notice in writing to the other Party.

This MoU has been drawn up in two (2) original copies in the English language, each Party receiving one duly signed copy hereof.

SIGNATURES AND DATES



27/09/2022

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name & Designation

Dr. Sandeep Tripathi  
Founder and President  
Forum for Global Studies, New Delhi

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Witness: Dr. Saumya Tiwari  
Member, Board of Governors, FGS, New Delhi.

Woxsen University, India

*Raul V. Rodriguez*

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Vice President  
Dr. Raul V. Rodriguez

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Date: 12-10-2022

Witness: Dr. Naveen  
Kolloju, Associate  
Professor, SOH, Woxsen  
University  
Date: 12-10-2022