FRAMEWORK COLLABORATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN MIGUEL HERNÁNDEZ UNIVERSITY OF ELCHE (SPAIN) AND UNIVERSITY OF PALERMO (ITALY)

The University of Palermo, hereinafter also referred to as the “UNIPA”, with registered office at Piazza Marina n. 61, 90133 Palermo, Italy, VAT number 00605880822, and on its behalf and represented by prof. Roberto Lagalla, Rector of the University of Palermo by virtue of Decree 63330/2008, of 08/08/2008, by which he is appointed Rector, and by virtue of Decree 12A07475/2012, of 19 June, by which the UNIPA Statute is published;

And the Universidad Miguel Hernández de Elche, with registered address Avenida de la Universidad, s/n, Postal Code 03202 Elche, (Spain), VAT number Q-5350015C, and represented by Prof. Jesús Tadeo Pastor Ciurana, Rector of the University.

State

1.- That both institutions share a mutual interest in cultural, technical, educational and scientific fields.
2.- That it is a priority for their Governments to consolidate links with countries of Europe, Asia, America, Africa, in order to promote the development of international relations.
3.- That the collaboration and the exchange of experiences and knowledge, as well as the rendering of services between both institutions are of major interest for their social and cultural progress.

For which reasons, they have decided to establish a Framework Agreement for Collaboration between both institutions in accordance with the following

CLAUSES

FIRST.- PURPOSE OF THE FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT
The aim of this Agreement is to establish a framework of action for collaboration between the University of Palermo and Universidad Miguel Hernández, in activities which will be encompassed within specific projects of mutual interest to both, and to promote mutual relations
of academic, scientific and cultural cooperation, as well as the exchange of lecturers, researchers and students, publications, academic programs and research projects between both institutions.

SECOND.- THE OBJECT OF THE AGREEMENT

The collaboration between both entities will be fundamentally based on the following actions:

1. Development of research and projects based on subjects of mutual interest.
2. Dissemination of knowledge through the organization of conferences, meetings, courses etc.
3. Exchanges between lecturers and/or researchers for giving courses and researching.
4. Graduate, Master and Doctorate student exchange for taking subjects at the corresponding level and receiving recognition of the credits achieved in the other institution.
5. Reciprocal support in activities of university extension of mutual interest.
6. To work on the possibility of carrying out shared or joint courses or degrees in order to facilitate the validation and recognition of student qualifications.

THIRD.- SPECIFIC PROJECTS

Each of the above mentioned cases of specific collaboration will require the drawing up of a specific project, which will determine the aims and means necessary for carrying it out. The specific contract proposals will be subject to the approval of the competent departments of each party. The specific contracts which are encompassed within this framework agreement will be added in an addenda. Each project, related to both research and teaching as indicated in a specific contract, will contemplate the following aspects if pertinent:

- Object.
- Competence and obligations of both parties.
- Persons in charge.
- Finance and resources provided.
- Human Resources, with indications of their corresponding tasks and their role and working situation in the entities they belong to.
- Calendar and project duration.
- Evaluation system.
- Regulation of other characteristics included in the activity.
FOURTH - FUNDING

This agreement places no financial obligations or supplementary funding commitments on either party. Expenses for travel, maintenance and accommodation, and insurance cover, besides any other economic aid for staff and student exchanges will be outlined in a specific regulation in agreed collaboration projects.

FIFTH - EXCHANGE

Faculty and Researcher exchange

In order to reinforce joint projects and activities from both Institutions the exchange between lecturers and researchers will be encouraged. To do so the specific agreements should contain:

- a) Funding for travel costs and accommodation
- b) The mode of travel, accommodation and any support necessary to carry out the projected activities and to help the visitor settle in.

Student Exchanges

Student exchanges will be possible for both undergraduate and post graduate students. The specific agreement should contain:

- a) The academic level to which the student would be accepted and the conditions of enrolment.
- b) The Degree, Master and Doctorate in which students would be enrolled.
- c) Number of students per degree.
- d) Mechanisms for the recognition of the studies done abroad.
- e) The selection process from the Home Institution and the acceptance of the receiving university
- f) Norms that would govern students.

SIXTH - MANAGEMENT

Each University will name an Agreement Coordinator who will be the contact between both Universities (see Annex I).

SEVENTH - DURATION

This agreement shall take effect upon the date of last signature below by UMH and UNIPA and shall remain in effect for a period of fourth years and can be renewed by the partners. No
amendment or modification to this Agreement, including any amendment or modification of this paragraph, shall be effective unless in writing and signed by both parties.

Either party may terminate this agreement with advance written notice to the other of at least thirty days. Its termination will not interfere with the continuation of any on-going project, which should be completed, except in cases where both parties agree to the contrary.

EIGHTH.- JURISDICTION

The University of Palermo and Universidad Miguel Hernandez promise to solve amicably any disagreement that may arise in the development of this contract.

Academic controversy regarding the interpretation of the present agreement will be evaluated by an Academic Commission, formed by a representative from each university and another chosen by mutual agreement.

In the case of conflict due to disagreements about the interpretation or execution of the present contract, both parties agree to comply with the procedural regulations which are specifically applicable.

This agreement is signed in duplicate.

Professor Manuel Miguel Jordán Vidal
Vice Rector for International Relations
Date: April 24th 2015

Professor Prof. Roberto Lagalla
Rector University of Palermo
Date: 19 Giugno 2015
ANNEX I

As stated in the collaboration agreement (Seventh Clause) each University shall name a representative who will be the contact person between universities.

Universidad Miguel Hernández names Professor Angel Solanes Puchol as representative.

University of Palermo names Professor Francesco Ceresia as representative.