



EU/13/UCP/2011

# EGERTON UNIVERSITY

## UNIVERSITY POLICY ON COLLABORATIONS

2011

*Transforming Lives Through Quality Education*  
Egerton University is ISO 9001:2008 Certified

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## UNIVERSITY POLICY ON COLLABORATION 2011

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Printed by  
DANSTE AGENCIES  
P.O. Box 9654-00300 Nairobi, Kenya

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## **1.0 Preamble**

Egerton University, as an outward looking institution, acknowledges the important role that academic and research collaborations play in the realisation of its vision that focuses on the advancement of humanity. The University Policy on Collaborations is therefore designed to focus on and to facilitate the development of relevant and appropriate academic and research partnerships locally and internationally. In seeking collaborations, the University emphasizes on the importance of establishing and maintaining partnerships in which relationships are balanced and the collaborating partners encouraged to derive equal benefit and to contribute fully in joint decision making processes.

Collaboration is a valuable tool that not only accelerates the progress and quality of research and teaching but also enhances the sharing of cultural experiences and flow of knowledge. It is beneficial to the faculty in learning new teaching and research tools, and to the students in increasing the breadth of their knowledge and learning different approaches to solving problems. For effective implementation of this policy, it is important that the participants in the policy understand the University's vision, mission and core values.

### **1.1 Vision**

A world class university for the advancement of humanity.

### **1.2 Mission**

To generate and disseminate significant knowledge and offer exemplary education that contributes to national and global development.

### 1.3 Core Values

Passion for excellence and devotion to duty, integrity, transparency and accountability, social fairness, and professionalism.

### 2.0 Justification

The following statements underpin the commitment of the University to start, safeguard and enhance the existing collaborations with other institutions:

- a) In the University Act (CAP 214) Part II 4.1(a), one of the functions and object of the University is "to provide directly or in collaboration with other institutions of higher learning, facilities for University education (including technological and professional education), the integration of teaching, research and effective application of knowledge and skills to the life, work and welfare of the citizens of Kenya".
- b) In the 2009-2015 Strategic Plan the University has defined the following Strategic Objectives (SO), among others, that embrace academic and research collaborations:

SOI: Provision of quality higher education and training.

S04: Staff to undertake research, disseminate findings, and develop innovations.

S05: Engage in consultancy, and public policy development and implementation.

S06:Develop and integrate ICT in teaching, learning, research, and management.

S07:Engage in priority areas of community development.

S09:Develop linkages with national and international institutions and organisations.

- c) The Government of Kenya has documented a "National Strategy for University Education (2007-2015)" which recommends the development of strong university linkages and partnerships in order to enhance mutual learning, research and innovation.
- d) The University Council, in it's signed 2010/2011 Performance Contract with the Kenya Government, has set targets for initiating new local and international linkages and partnerships.
- e) The ranking of world class universities considers among other parameters, the capacity to initiate and sustain linkages and collaborations with local and international institutions.
- f) Partnerships and collaborations are important for revenue generation in cases where academic and research programmes are offered jointly and proceeds shared.

### **3.0 Purpose**

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that all academic and research collaborations support the strategic direction of Egerton University, do not pose a risk to the University, and, where appropriate, are commercially viable.

## **4.0 Scope**

This is a University wide policy and relates to collaborations between Egerton University and other national and international organizations.

## **5.0 Policy Guidelines**

### **5.1 Role of the University Sponsor**

All agreements shall have a University sponsor who shall be responsible for developing the proposal and in particular shall ensure that:

- a) The agreement is in the University's best interests;
- b) The agreement satisfies the functions and objects of Egerton University Act Part II Section 4;
- c) The agreement is consistent with the strategic direction of the University; and
- d) All academic and research quality, policy and administrative issues arising from the proposed relationship are resolved to the satisfaction of all parties during the development phase to ensure that the agreement poses no risk to the University or the University's academic and research reputation.

### **5.2. Initiation of Collaborations**

- a) Egerton University recognises the benefits and risks associated with academic and research collaborations. Success depends upon working within available resources, managing risks, and identifying synergies with the potential partners.

Considerable emphasis shall be placed on the selection of relevant and appropriate partners.

- b) Before initiating a collaborative partnership, the institution shall be assured of the following principles, which should be scrutinised by the relevant Sponsor, in conjunction with the Division of Research and Extension, before moving to the programme planning stage:
  - i) that the activities of the proposed collaboration provide a close fit with the vision and strategic plan of Egerton University;
  - ii) that the proposed collaboration contributes to strategic targets related to either academic or research and/or knowledge transfer;
  - iii) that the discipline or subject area of the proposed collaboration falls within Egerton University's current or developing areas of expertise;
  - iv) that the educational mission and aims of the partner are consonant with those of Egerton University;
  - v) that the partner is of good academic, research or community/industry standing;
  - vi) that the partner is in a position to contract legally with the University;
  - vii) that the partner institution has robust and complementary systems of academic and/or research regulations, quality assurance and staffing policies;



- viii) that the expectations and requirements of both Egerton University and the proposed partner are clearly demonstrated; and
  - ix) that the collaborative programme can be delivered on the basis of an income stream that supports full-economic costs,
- (c) The principles stated above shall be assessed during the Due Diligence Stage. Where these principles do not apply in totality, the collaboration may still be approved. However, the basis of that approval must be resolved and minuted by the Sponsoring unit of the University, which should also provide details of the basis on which the collaboration can reflect the spirit of the University mission/vision statement and the steps which are to be taken to ameliorate the impact of any aspects of the above principles with which the proposal is not fully compliant.
- (d) Formats of Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) for collaborations are diverse. Partners shall therefore sign a MOU of an agreed format.

## **6.0 Management of Collaborations**

- 6.1 All collaborations shall be managed by the Division of Research and Extension as per the current laid down functions of the Division.
- 6.2 Signing of collaborations shall be done by the Vice-Chancellor and in his/her absence by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor in charge of Research and Extension.

- 6.3 A register and copies of all signed Collaboration Agreements will be held by the Office of Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research & Extension).
- 6.4 The University Policy on Collaborations shall be applied in conjunction with the University Research Policy, the Intellectual Property Rights Policy and with all other relevant academic policies.

## **7.0 Collaboration Grievances**

- a) All grievances related to the management of collaborations shall be reported to the Deputy-Vice Chancellor (R & E) within 14 days' of occurrence.
- b) All grievances shall be considered and necessary action taken within 14 days of reporting.

## **8.0 Termination of a Collaboration**

A Collaboration may be terminated under the following circumstances:

- a) If the Collaboration is not commenced within two years of signing of the Memorandum of Understanding.
- b) If the Collaboration appears to be incapable of meeting its objectives and/or is being implemented unsatisfactorily.
- c) If there is evidence of violation of any of the principles and requirements in this policy.

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