



UNIVERSITÄT
HEIDELBERG
ZUKUNFT
SEIT 1386

Memorandum of Understanding on participation in the Joint Heidelberg-DBT Graduate Program on Big Data Research

Heidelberg University ("Heidelberg");
represented by the Rector Professor Dr. Dr. h.c. Bernhard Eitel
Grabengasse 1
69117 Heidelberg
Germany

and

the Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IITM);
represented by the Director Professor Bhaskar Ramamurthi
IIT P.O., Chennai 600 036
India

hereinafter collectively referred to as the "**Parties**" have reached the following understanding:

PURPOSE

1. The purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding ("**MoU**") is formally to record the mutual interest of the parties in promoting and furthering links between the parties of this MoU. In particular, it is the interest of the parties to establish a cotutelle du thèse PhD program within the framework of the **Joint Graduate Program on Big Data Research**, initiated by Heidelberg University and Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science and Technology of the Republic of India ("**DBT**")

PRELIMINARY DISCUSSIONS

2. Heidelberg University and the DBT have already signed an MoU on the general framework of the Joint Graduate Program on Big Data Research. The parties of this MoU have discussed the possibilities of collaboration as partners in this program. The collaboration will focus on:
 - training highly talented young academics in big data research particularly in managing, processing, analysing and evaluating different text and image data types
 - supporting the establishment of sustainable research structures between the partnerssubject to negotiation of the appropriate contractual terms and to the necessary funding being available.

FUTURE STEPS

3. Following the project confirmation by the DBT, the parties aim to negotiate the details of the cotutelle program in a separate MoU and the formulation of the cotutelle individual contract for the participating students. Common workshops and meetings (live as well as by video conferencing) will be the basis to establish tandem research teams for the definition of common research projects and the joint selection and supervision of PhD candidates.

PUBLIC STATEMENTS

4. The parties acknowledge the merits of positive publicity but they recognise that no party should make any press announcement or public statement about the proposals or this MoU, which has not been agreed in advance by the other party.

BRAND PROTECTION

5. No party will use the name, trade name, trademark, logo or other designation of the other parties in connection with any products, promotion, advertising, press release, or publicity without the prior written permission of the other party.

EFFECT OF THIS MEMORANDUM

6. While the parties wish by this MoU to make clear their support of, and enthusiasm for, the proposals, with the exception of clauses 4 (Public Statements) and 5 (Brand Protection) and this clause 6, which the parties acknowledge to be legally binding upon them, this MoU is not intended to create any legally binding relationship between the parties. The parties recognise that any agreement or agreements involving the parties which may subsequently be negotiated will, prior to execution, require the express approval of specific bodies and duly authorised officers of both parties, and they acknowledge that at any time in advance of such execution the parties and each of them shall be free to propose arrangements different from those outlined in this MoU or unilaterally to cease any consideration or negotiation contemplated by this MoU without any liability whatsoever to the other parties.

This MoU will come into effect on the date of its signature. All activities in terms of this MoU shall be subject to the applicable domestic laws of the country where the activities are carried out.

This MoU may be amended at any time by mutual written consent of the parties.

Any difference arising out of the interpretation or implementation or application of any of the provisions of the MoU shall be settled amicably by mutual consultation or negotiation between the Parties.

Signed at DECHI on 27.10. 2017 in three originals in the English language.

Signed for and on behalf of **Heidelberg University** by **Professor Dr. Dr. h.c. Bernhard Eitel, Rector**

i.v. d. a.

Signed for and on behalf of **Indian Institute of Technology Madras** by **Professor Bhaskar Ramamurthi, Director**

B. Ramamurthi