

# **MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**

for

## **Seas of Norden Research School (SEANORS)**

**promoting collaborative marine research and training in the**

**Nordic countries**

**partners:**

**THE UNIVERSITY OF BERGEN**

**THE UNIVERSITY OF OSLO**

**UIT THE ARCTIC UNIVERSITY OF NORWAY**

**ÅBO AKADEMI UNIVERSITY**

**UNIVERSITY OF HELSINKI**

**STOCKHOLM UNIVERSITY**

**UNIVERSITY OF GOTHENBURG**

**UNIVERSITY OF LUND**

**TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY OF DENMARK**

**UNIVERSITY OF AKUREYRI**

**March 1, 2016**

The aforementioned Nordic universities have formed the Seas of Norden Research School (SEANORS) in recognition of:

- the growing challenges facing the marine environment in the Seas of Norden and elsewhere,
- the necessity and mutual benefit of enhanced collaboration across the Nordic countries
- **the need to** motivate and educate the next generation of scientists
- the urgency to develop and mature transdisciplinary education programs

The following articles govern the cooperative activities:

#### ARTICLE 1

The parties agree on the importance of enhanced collaboration in areas of marine sciences as may be agreed upon on the basis of equality and mutual benefit.

The principal areas of the cooperative activities and their specific subjects to be conducted under this memorandum of understanding (MOU) shall be specified in the Appendix: Principal Areas of Cooperation.

Each of the parties shall designate one person for each activity listed in the appendix to be responsible for contact and implementation (Contact).

## ARTICLE 2

Cooperative activities under this MOU may include:

- Develop and run new Nordic research schools
- Carry out joint PhD courses with open student and faculty participation from partner institutions
- Joint research projects involving Early Stage Researcher as well as Senior Researchers aiming at publishing research papers in the best possible journals
- Mutual utilization of facilities and equipment of each Party
- Workshops and symposia on topics of mutual interest
- Exchange of personnel
- Exchange of information and data
- Development of joint strategic perspectives
- Entertain various outreach activities of relevance for the consortium

Other cooperative activities shall be determined by mutual consultation.

## ARTICLE 3

In implementing a specific cooperative activity, the Parties may agree by mutual consultation upon matters such as sharing of expenses, publication of scientific results, ownership of research output and other relevant matters.

The Parties shall thrive to make scientific results of cooperative activities publicly known to the scientific community at large, primarily through publications, seminars, lectures and conference contributions.

## ARTICLE 4

To achieve effective implementation of this MOU, executives of the Parties shall meet alternately in any of the Nordic countries at mutually agreed times, at least once every year. Meeting topics may include:

- Review of current cooperative activities and emerging questions
- Future prospects for cooperation, including adoption of new areas of cooperation
- Consider applications for prospective members and partnerships
- Other topics by mutual consent

#### ARTICLE 5

The implementation of this MOU shall be subject to the availability of appropriate funds to each Party and to the applicable laws and regulations of each country.

The cost of the cooperative activities under this MOU, shall in principle, be shared by the Parties based on their respective expenses to conduct these activities.

#### ARTICLE 6

If research results impacting upon matters of intellectual property rights are expected to arise in the course of collaborative projects carried out under this MoU, the parties shall discuss in good faith and agree in a separate document the conditions regarding the treatment of intellectual property rights so arising, prior to the start of the collaborative project in question and in accordance with the policies of each party.

#### ARTICLE 7

This MOU shall enter into force on the date of signature thereof. It shall remain in force for ten (10) years and continue thereafter unless terminated by either Party at the end of the initial five-year period or at any time thereafter by giving the other Parties at least six months written advance notice of the intention to terminate the MOU.

This MOU may be amended by mutual agreement of the Parties.

The Parties shall endeavour to settle amicably any disputes that may arise concerning this MOU, which shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of Norway.

#### ARTICLE 8

Matters not provided for in this MOU shall be determined by mutual consultation.

## **SIGNATORIES:**

Dag Rune Olsen  
Rector, University of Bergen

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Ole Petter Ottersen  
Rector, University of Oslo

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Anne Lise Husebekk  
Rector, UiT The Arctic University of Norway

.....

Mikko Hupa  
Rector, Åbo Akademi University

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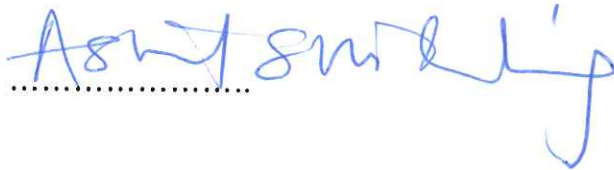
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Astrid Söderbergh Widding

Vice-Chancellor, Stockholm University



Pam Fredman  
Vice-Chancellor, University of Gothenburg

.....

Anders Overgaard Bjarklev  
President, Technical University of Denmark

.....

Eyjólfur Gudmundsson  
Rector, University of Akureyri

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## APPENDIX 2016 (Subject to triennial revisions)

### PRINCIPAL AREAS OF COOPERATION

The following list outlines topical and strategic research themes of mutual interest. Current joint programs and centres are shown in *italics*.

#### Marine and related sciences

Ocean and human health

Physical- and chemical oceanography

Marine geology and geophysics

Geobiology

Climate research and resilience

Marine Ecosystems

Fisheries

Microbial and plankton ecology

Ecological Economics

International politics and legal frameworks (governance)



## **Infrastructure, equipment, databases and personnel**

- Exchange of marine equipment
- Exchange of physical oceanography equipment (CTDs etc.)
- Exchange of data and databases
- Access to research infrastructure
- Exchange of personnel

## **Joint strategic perspectives**

- Building the attractiveness of Nordic Universities in order to enhance recruitment of international talents. One of the favoured mechanisms here will be International Research Schools.
- Strengthen Nordic participation in international scientific committees and programs.
- Cooperation in communication with Nordic Council of Ministries (including Nordforsk) and EU.
- Developing joint research campaigns that actively pursue holistic and sustainable approaches.

## Contact persons

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