



MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

BETWEEN

UNIVERSIDAD AUTÓNOMA DEL ESTADO DE HIDALGO

AND

THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, BALTIMORE COUNTY

THROUGH

**The Graduate School and the Computer Science and Electrical Engineering
Department in the College of Engineering and Information Technology**

THIS MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT (hereinafter referred to as "MOA") is made on the

day of May, 2024,

BETWEEN

THE Universidad Autónoma del Estado de Hidalgo (hereinafter "UAEH"), public institution of the State of Hidalgo, located at Abasolo 600, Colonia Centro, C.P. 42000, Pachuca de Soto, Hidalgo, Mexico, UAEH will implement this Agreement through Colegio de Posgrado and Instituto de Ciencias Básicas e Ingeniería.

AND

THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, BALTIMORE COUNTY (hereinafter "UMBC"), a constituent institution of the University System of Maryland and an instrumentality and agency of the State of Maryland, located at 1000 Hilltop Circle, Baltimore Maryland 21250. UMBC will implement this Agreement through The Graduate School and the Computer Science and Electrical Engineering Department in the College of Engineering and Information Technology.

The UAEH and UMBC may sometimes be referred to as the "Parties" or individually as the "Party".

1. BACKGROUND

UAEH offers undergraduate degree programmes in Computer Science. The UAEH wishes to establish a process for interested students to matriculate into a cybersecurity master's degree programme that covers technical, operational, and policy issues in cybersecurity. UMBC's Graduate Cybersecurity Program, one of Maryland's leading cybersecurity graduate programmes, welcomes students from UAEH who desire to complete their graduate education in cybersecurity and join (or advance in) the global, regional, or local cybersecurity workforce.

2. PURPOSE

The purpose of this MOA is to specify the terms and conditions under which students of UAEH who are enrolled in an undergraduate degree program in Computer Science at UAEH and have completed the required courses herein, will be accepted into the UMBC Graduate Cybersecurity Program based on UMBC's matriculation and other admission requirements.

3. OBJECTIVE AND SCOPE

This MOA applies to UAEH, UMBC's Department of Computer Science and Electrical Engineering (CSEE) in the College of Engineering & Information Technology, and UMBC's Graduate School.

4. SPECIFIC RESPONSIBILITIES/AUTHORITY

UAEH and UMBC have designated persons identified in Clause 10 as their respective representatives to coordinate and manage the activities under this MOA. The representatives shall meet as needed to discuss the programmes, coordinate activities under this agreement, and/or any other topics of interest to either party.

5. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

5.1 The Parties agree and acknowledge that all intellectual property rights of the individual Parties whether owned by or licensed to them shall remain the sole and exclusive rights of the respective Parties.

5.2 Each party in this MOA retains full authority over and reserves the right to make changes in their respective courses, programmes, admissions, and credential requirements.

6. USE OF TRADEMARKS

6.1 Each Party hereby grants to the other a non-exclusive, royalty-free license to use the respective Party's Trademarks for the purposes of identifying, advertising or promoting the collaboration of the Parties under this Agreement for so long as this Agreement subsists provided that each party will obtain the prior written permission of the other party prior to such use in each instance. The use of such trademarks shall be in accordance with the policies, procedures, regulations, rules and/or protocols established by the Parties for such use. Use of UAEH's trademarks shall be subject to and governed by UAEH Brand Identity Guidelines as amended from time to time and use of UMBC's trademarks shall be subject to and governed by the UMBC brand and style guide (<https://styleguide.umbc.edu/>) as amended from time to time.

6.2 For the purpose of Clause 6 herein, the Parties trademarks are their names, logos, emblems or any abbreviation thereof or any other trademark which either Party uses to represent itself from time to time whether in existence now or in the future. Each Party shall therefore provide the other with a high-resolution logo file.

7. PUBLICATIONS AND ADVERTISEMENTS

7.1 Under this Agreement, both parties may advertise this collaboration and matriculation agreement to their students, prospective students and alumni through print, online, and interactive marketing materials such as flyers, websites and other advertisements, subject to the guidelines and restrictions described in Clause 6.

7.2 Notwithstanding Clause 7.1 above, any and all press releases and other material for publication shall be pre-approved as to form and content by both Parties in writing.

8. ELIGIBILITY FOR ADMISSION

8.1 As a result of this MOA, the Department of CSEE at UMBC will accept, based on UMBC's matriculation and other admission requirements, qualified UAEH graduates into the Masters' of Science (M.S.) degree in Cybersecurity (CYBR) offered by the UMBC Cybersecurity program.

8.2 UMBC will admit UAEH students into the M.S. in Cybersecurity subject to the following:

- (i) UAEH students, in their senior/final year of the B.S. in Computer Science programme apply to the CYBR MS degree program at UMBC via the regular UMBC Graduate School application procedures;
- (ii) UAEH students interested in attending UMBC must complete the following courses at UAEH and achieve at minimum a 'B' grade (3.0 on a 4.0 scale);

DCCO009	Open Systems
DCCO015	Computer Networks
DCCO16	Network Security

- (iii) UAEH students maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale;
- (iv) UAEH students successfully complete the BSc in Computer Science programme at The UAEH.

8.3 UAEH undergraduate students should contact the relevant Office or Division of Student Services and Development to discuss their interests in the matriculation opportunity provided under this MOA, potential funding, and course requirements/progression.

8.4 After UAEH graduation, students will enroll at UMBC and complete the remaining cybersecurity degree requirements (7 courses, 21 credits), following which, the following degree will be awarded from UMBC: **Masters' of Science in Cybersecurity**.

9. TUITION, FINANCIAL AID, AND DISTRIBUTIONS

UAEH students admitted to the UMBC Graduate Cybersecurity Program will pay the prevailing UMBC graduate tuition rates and fees for international students. Students enrolled under this agreement may be eligible to apply for scholarships or graduate teaching/research assistantships that may be available to qualified/eligible students at UMBC in addition to any funding from Mexican educational organisations.

10. COORDINATION

The following persons will serve as points of contact (POC) at UMBC and UAEH for this agreement. They will communicate mainly by email and phone as necessary to ensure the smooth implementation and coordination of this MOA:

Richard Forno, Ph.D.
Graduate Program Director (Cybersecurity)
Assistant Director, UMBC Center for Cybersecurity
UMBC, 1000 Hilltop Circle ITE 325A
Baltimore, MD 21250
T: 410-455-3788
rforno@umbc.edu

José Luis Sosa Martínez
Head of International Affairs and Academic Exchange Office
Pachuca-Tulancingo, km 4.5, Carboneras
CEVIDE, Ciudad del Conocimiento
Mineral de la Reforma, 42184, Hidalgo, Mexico
JoseLuis_sosa@uaeh.edu.mx

11. DATA PROTECTION

Each of the Parties shall at all times comply with relevant data protection laws and all other applicable local laws and/or regulations and policies of either Party. The Parties therefore, shall at all times recognise the right to the protection of personal data and shall not use personal data for any other purpose except for the purpose for which it is collected. The parties may only share personal data in lawful circumstances and shall protect personal data against unauthorised access.

12. CONFIDENTIALITY

12.1 Each party who receives any information from the other marked as “Confidential” (“Confidential Information”), agrees to treat, with the utmost confidentiality, all documents, information and/or data obtained in the course of the execution of this Agreement, and must take reasonable steps to protect its confidentiality. Neither Party shall disclose to any third party such Confidential Information without the prior written consent of the other Party. The Parties agree to only use such Confidential Information for the purposes contemplated in this Agreement.

12.2 For the purposes of this Agreement, Confidential Information does not include information (i) that is or becomes part of the public domain through no act of the receiving party, (ii) that was in the receiving party’s possession before receipt from the disclosing party, (iii) that was rightfully received by the receiving party from a third party without a duty of confidentiality, or (iv) that is required to be disclosed under any applicable law or by order of a court.

13. EFFECTIVE DATE

This MOA will be effective from the date of final signing and remain in effect for a period of five years.

14. TERMINATION AND WITHDRAWAL

14.1 Either party may withdraw from this understanding upon 90 days’ written notice to the other institution made to the institutional point of contact.

14.2 If this Agreement is terminated, in accordance with this Clause 14, both UMBC and UAEH will continue to perform their respective obligations under this Agreement in respect to any students who, at the date of termination, have already been admitted to the UMBC MS Cybersecurity degree.

14.3 Termination of this agreement must be in writing and signed by the authorized officials or their designated personnel. The authorized official for UMBC is Dr. Manfred H.M. van Dulmen, Provost & Senior Vice President and for UAEH is Dr. Octavio Castillo Acosta, Rector of this Institution.

15. DISPUTE SETTLEMENT

In the event that a dispute arises out of or concerning this Agreement, which the Parties cannot resolve amicably through discussions between the Provost & Senior Vice President for UMBC and Dr. Octavio Castillo Acosta, Rector of UAEH (and/or any other relevant personnel) the Parties agree that efforts will be made in good faith to settle the matter by means of mediation. If mediation fails to resolve the dispute, the Parties agree to terminate this Agreement.

16. AMENDMENT

Any changes made to this MOA, other than of an administrative programmatic nature, such as the routine updating of course equivalences, must be forwarded to all of the undersigned parties.

17. RELATIONSHIP OF THE PARTIES

The relationship of the parties to each other is solely that of independent parties.

18. APPROVAL

The duly authorised representatives of respective Parties identified below agree to the provisions and terms of this MOA.

APPROVED:

For **UMBC:**
DocuSigned by

Richard Forno

7/15/2024 | 4:28 PM EDT

Richard F. Forno, Ph.D.
Graduate Program Director (Cybersecurity),
Department of Computer Science and Electrical Engineering
University of Maryland, Baltimore County
Hon. International Professor, UAEH

Date

DocuSigned by:

Mohamed Younis

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7/15/2024 | 4:31 PM EDT

Mohamed Younis, Ph.D.
Chair, Dept. of Computer Science and Electrical Engineering
University of Maryland, Baltimore County

Date

DocuSigned by:

Anupam Joshi

7/26/2024 | 10:40 AM EDT

Anupam Joshi, Ph.D.
Acting Dean, College of Engineering and Information Technology
University of Maryland, Baltimore County

Date

DocuSigned by:

Manfred H.M. van Dulmen

7/15/2024 | 4:23 PM EDT

Manfred H.M. van Dulmen, Ph.D.
Provost & Senior Vice President
University of Maryland, Baltimore County

Date

DocuSigned by:
UMBC Approval for Legal Sufficiency

John Burke

7/10/2024 | 9:15 AM EDT

John Burke

Date

For UAEH

10/08/2024

Dr. Jesús Patricio Ordaz Oliver
Jefe del Área Académica de Computación y Electrónica
Universidad Autónoma del Estado de Hidalgo

Date

10/08/2024

Mtro. Gabriel Vergara Rodríguez
Director del Instituto de Ciencias Básicas e Ingeniería
Universidad Autónoma del Estado de Hidalgo

10/08/2024

Dra. Anilú Franco Arcega
Coordinadora de la Licenciatura en Ciencias Computacionales
Universidad Autónoma del Estado de Hidalgo

Date

10/08/2024

Mtro. José Luis Sosa Martínez
Director de Relaciones Internacionales e Intercambio Académico
Universidad Autónoma del Estado de Hidalgo

Date

10/08/2024

Dr. Octavio Castillo Acosta
Rector
Universidad Autónoma del Estado de Hidalgo

Date



DIRECCIÓN GENERAL
JURÍDICA
REVISADO

Octavio