



MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING  
(UREG-FEANI)



**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**  
**FOR COORDINATING AND MENTOR-NOMINATING INSTITUTIONS**

BETWEEN

UNIVERSITÄT REGENSBURG,  
UNIVERSITÄTSSTRASSE 31, D-93053 REGENSBURG  
LEGALLY REPRESENTED BY ITS HEAD OF ADMINISTRATION,  
DR. CHRISTIAN BLOMEYER, CHANCELLOR,  
EXECUTING DEPARTMENT:  
CHAIR FOR SCHOOL EDUCATION, SCHOOL RESEARCH, AND SCHOOL EVALUATION,  
PROF. DR. HEIDRUN STOEGER,  
—HEREINAFTER "UREG"—

AND

FÉDÉRATION EUROPÉENNE D'ASSOCIATIONS NATIONALES D'INGÉNIEURS / EUROPEAN  
FEDERATION OF NATIONAL ENGINEERING ASSOCIATIONS,  
FEANI CENTRAL SECRETARIAT AISBL,  
C/O REGUS EU COMMISSION,  
SCHUMAN SQUARE 6, 6TH FLOOR, BE-1040 BRUSSELS, BELGIUM  
LEGALLY REPRESENTED BY PROF. DR. JOSE VIEIRA, PRESIDENT  
—HEREINAFTER "FEANI"—

—HEREINAFTER "THE PARTY" FOR ONE PARTY OR "THE PARTIES" FOR BOTH PARTIES JOINTLY—

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## PREAMBLE

The Global Talent Mentoring Hub (GTMH) is an excellence-focused online mentoring platform in science, technology, engineering, mathematics, and medicine (STEMM) that is currently being developed by a team of researchers at the University of Regensburg (Germany) led by Prof. Dr. Heidrun Stoeger. The GTMH is fully funded by the UNESCO-recognized Hamdan Bin Rashid Al-Maktoum Foundation for Distinguished Academic Performance (Hamdan Foundation) in Dubai (UAE) and is part of a larger undertaking of the Hamdan Foundation, the research-based preparation of the World Giftedness Center.

The GTMH will provide research-based online mentoring for a highly selective group of outstanding, exceptionally motivated youths in STEMM from around the world free of charge. The GTMH will focus on mentoring young STEMM talents for the long term. Mentoring will start in upper-secondary education and continue through the completion of advanced university studies (e.g., a PhD) or other expert achievements in STEMM (e.g., a patent filing, a successful product or method).

Mentoring is scheduled to start in late 2020.

The GTMH offers its mentees and their nominating institutions various benefits:

- Mentees develop their advanced STEMM talents over an extended period of time. The GTMH provides one-on-one mentoring by the world's leading STEMM experts and a suitable talent-development infrastructure with individualized learning pathways, created and supervised by mentors and coaches. Additionally, mentees will build a network within a global community of STEMM talents and scientists through working on individual and interdisciplinary STEMM projects.
- Mentee-nominating partner institutions become part of an international network of long-term excellence cultivation in STEMM, showcase their country's most promising STEMM students and institutions to the world, gain access to a new talent-development resource for the most successful, passionate STEMM talents, and can participate in scientific research studies before and during the mentoring.

The GTMH offers its mentors and their host institutions various benefits:

- membership in an international network of long-term excellence cultivation in STEMM;
- an avenue for making a broader impact on society by sharing advanced research via the best young talents;
- a means of making a prolonged, one-on-one impact on a young individual whose outstanding STEMM talent might otherwise not have the chance to be nurtured in this way;
- training in effective mentoring and certification of volunteer work as a mentor;
- an international networking opportunity for top STEMM experts all over the world to engage with each other;

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- the possibility to collaborate on scientific research studies on mentoring effectiveness; and
- ongoing provision of information about recent advances in STEMM talent development (e.g., via the GTMH newsletter).

FEANI is an international non-profit organization under Belgian law based in Brussels. As a European federation of professional engineers that unites national engineering associations from 33 European Higher Education Area (EHEA) countries, it strives for a single voice for the engineering profession in Europe and wants to affirm and develop the professional identity of engineers. To this end, FEANI aims to facilitate the mutual recognition of engineering qualifications in Europe and to strengthen the position, role, and responsibility of engineers in society.

With this Memorandum of Understanding, the Parties express their interest in collaborating on activities in relation to seeking and nominating mentors for the GTMH. Therefore, the Parties have agreed on the following:

## 1 THE MENTEES AND THE MENTORS

The GTMH is a highly selective talent-support program. Mentee participation is restricted to an extremely selective group of the world's most promising youths. Worldwide mentee participation will eventually reach a mentee-to-population ratio of about 1:5,000,000 (i.e., one GTMH mentee per 5,000,000 inhabitants). However, mentee-nominating institutions have the possibility to increase the number of their mentee-participation spots (see section 2).

Participating youths (mentees) will possess and unequivocally have shown truly outstanding, highly exceptional talent in a STEMM domain and be equally driven to develop that talent to excellence. Mentees will, therefore, be restricted to the very strongest applicants who (a) are in upper-secondary education at the start of mentoring, (b) show evidence of profound STEMM knowledge and/or one or more outstanding extracurricular accomplishments in a STEMM domain (e.g., outstanding, verifiably individual achievement in a prestigious STEMM competition), (c) demonstrate exceptional motivation and intrinsic interest in developing their skills in a STEMM domain towards highest levels of achievement, and (d) possess a good command of English (for students whose native language is not English). The GTMH may adjust and expand these criteria as the program evolves.

The mentors will be world-class scientists, technologists, engineers, mathematicians, medical researchers, and others who are doing outstanding advanced STEMM work in the public or private sector. Suitable mentors will show evidence of professional expert achievement and recognition at an international level in a STEMM domain and commit to volunteering as mentors for the GTMH by investing time on a weekly basis (about 30 minutes) for an extended period.

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## 2 PRINCIPLES OF RECRUITING AND NOMINATION

The GTMH requires a roster of STEMM experts willing to volunteer as mentors that is roughly three to five times as large as the number of mentee spots to ensure excellent mentee–mentor matches. This mentor pool is derived from two sources: (a) mentors recruited directly by the GTMH via mentor-granting partners not involved in nominating mentees and (b) mentors recruited by mentee-nominating institutions.

Mentee-nominating institutions are expected to assist the GTMH in building its network of suitable mentors. For every five suitable mentors that a mentee-nominating institution successfully recruits for the GTMH (e.g., from its alumni networks or from institutions it cooperates with), that mentee-nominating institution will be entitled to one mentee-participation spot in the GTMH (should its mentee applicant fulfill the participation criteria). If the mentee-nominating institution is unable to fill its mentee-participation spot with a suitable mentee, that institution’s spot will be reserved until the institution nominates a qualifying mentee.

Should an institution interested in nominating mentees have no resources or network through which to recruit mentor volunteers, the GTMH may decide at its own discretion to make an exception to this requirement. The GTMH will make such exceptions on a case-by-case basis to ensure the global participatory equity of the program. The GTMH will adjudicate any such exceptions with the assistance of local GTMH advisors at its own discretion.

For every five suitable mentors successfully recruited by a partner institution providing only mentors, that institution’s country will be guaranteed at least one additional participation spot for mentees (should the mentee applicant fulfill the criteria). The remaining mentors will be used to supplement the mentor pool of the GTMH. The GTMH may use these mentors to allow participation for mentees nominated by an organization without resources to recruit mentors in order to ensure global participatory equity by facilitating mentee participation from countries and/or regions with fewer STEMM experts and fewer talent-support resources.

Successfully recruited mentors are those mentors who (a) agree to volunteer with the GTMH as mentors and (b) reaffirm their willingness to do so prior to the commencement of mentoring activities.

## 3 END OF COLLABORATION

FEANI will assist the University of Regensburg (UREG) with network-building and recruiting activities within its Coordination Area (i.e., national engineering associations in the EHEA that are members of FEANI).



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UREG will publicize (via the GTMH) FEANI's efforts in supporting the GTMH, draw attention to the work of FEANI, and collaborate with FEANI or its partners on mutually beneficial research (if desired).

#### 4 RESPONSIBILITIES OF FEANI AS GTMH COORDINATOR

The FEANI Central Secretariat (CS) will

- coordinate the network-building activities (i.e., all activities related to the engagement of mentor-nominating institutions and mentors) of the GTMH within its Coordination Area;
- assist the GTMH with the nomination of mentors within its Coordination Area; and
- undertake the following steps to assist the GTMH in identifying and proposing suitable mentors for the GTMH within its Coordination Area: address the FEANI National Members (NMs) with the GTMH intentions, clarify the content of the cooperation between UREG and FEANI at the FEANI National Members' Forum, invite the FEANI NMs to identify potential mentors, provide assistance in establishing a decentralized formal cooperation between UREG and the respective FEANI NMs and their identified mentors, provide follow-up of the work achieved at national level within the FEANI WG STEM, invite UREG representatives to provide feedback at regular intervals, brandish the on-going project on the FEANI website, and disseminate this cooperation at other meetings or conferences in the line of this project (EEAG, EU STEM Coalition, EU Project Application under ERASMUS Knowledge Alliances, etc.).

#### 5 RESPONSIBILITIES OF UREG

UREG will (via the GTMH)

- provide the FEANI CS with recruiting-relevant public-relations documents starting after the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding on an ongoing basis,
- acknowledge FEANI's efforts on behalf of the GTMH in its public-relations activities,
- elicit FEANI's needs and ideas for mutually beneficial research activities and strive to collaborate with FEANI on such research activities, and
- review its support of FEANI in a dialogue with the FEANI CS by 30 September 2020 and each year thereafter.

#### 6 METHODS OF COLLABORATION

- The Parties will collaborate on the basis of mutual consent in writing. Verbal consultations (e.g., via telephone or video conference) will be used where appropriate. All mutually agreed upon steps will be communicated in writing (e.g., as a follow-up email after verbal consultations).



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- Each Party will name its standing contact representatives.
- UREG authorizes the FEANI CS to speak on behalf of Prof. Dr. Heidrun Stoeger on matters pertaining to building the future GTMH network of mentors and mentees and to use GTMH-approved promotional materials when doing so. In implementing such work, the FEANI CS will make clear to its partners that it is authorized to achieve preliminary agreements with network partners that, however, must always be finalized by Prof. Dr. Stoeger. The FEANI CS will—in relation to its activities on behalf of UREG—be the GTMH Coordinator for European Engineering Associations.
- Representatives of UREG and FEANI NMs will strive to meet in person (when achievable without incurring extra costs for either Party) or via teleconference (e.g., Skype) at least twice yearly (calculated from the first of the month after MoU signing) to discuss the collaboration. The consultations will be open-ended to encourage productive brainstorming and creative, highly effective collaboration results.
- Each Party is fully responsible for funding all of its own activities related to this collaboration, including all expenses related to visiting the other partner, should the need arise. However, there is no requirement for visiting the other partner.

## 7 NO SHARING OF CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

UREG will share no confidential information pertaining to the GTMH, the Hamdan Foundation, or the World Giftedness Center project with the FEANI CS or with the respective FEANI NMs.

## 8 REFERENCES TO THE COLLABORATION

Both Parties can describe the collaboration as described in this Memorandum of Understanding in publicly available documents. Both Parties will, however, first agree in writing (e.g., via email or facsimile transmission) on the date as of which an initial announcement of the collaboration is to be made by either Party. On an ongoing basis thereafter, each Party will provide the other Party with copies of or links to any of its own public-relations materials that mention the other Party and/or the collaboration.

## 9 TERM

This Memorandum of Understanding remains in effect until 31 October 2021. Either Party can unilaterally annul the Memorandum of Understanding at any time. Both Parties must agree to extend or alter this Memorandum of Understanding. Communications in relation to the Memorandum of Understanding must be in writing (e.g., via email or facsimile transmission). When the Memorandum of Understanding is no longer in effect (either because the Memorandum of Understanding has been annulled or because the Term has elapsed), both Parties will stop making references to the collaboration, and remove any other existing references to the collaboration.

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Regensburg, DD/MM/2019

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Brussels, 8 October 2019

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PLEASE SIGN HERE

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Dr. Christian BLOMEYER,  
Head of Administration,  
University of Regensburg  
Regensburg, Germany

Mr. Dirk BOCHAR  
Secretary General  
FEANI Fédération Européenne d'Associations  
Nationales d'Ingénieurs Brussels, Belgium

Read and Acknowledged:

PLEASE SIGN HERE

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