

## AGREEMENT TO ESTABLISH A DOUBLE DEGREE PROGRAMME

### Between

“Sapienza” Università di Roma – Faculty of Mathematics Physics and Natural Sciences

### And

Aix Marseille University –Faculty of Sciences

### Preamble

- Considering the efforts to harmonise higher education and to establish international curricula that foster an international labour market as well as improve student mobility,
- Considering the demonstrated interest by Aix-Marseille University, hereafter named (AMU), to promote and initiate an international curriculum with the Faculty of Mathematics Physics and Natural Sciences, of “Sapienza” University of Rome, hereafter named “Sapienza”,
- Considering the existence of a previous cooperation between Sapienza and Aix-Marseille University (inter-institutional bilateral agreement, Socrates programs for higher education, LLP Erasmus mobility program, cultural and scientific cooperation agreement),
- Considering the existence of the Erasmus plus program, Key action 1, inter-institutional agreement 2015-2021 that finances student mobility between AMU and Sapienza,
- Considering the approval to establish this double degree program by the board of AMU on 21st July 2015 and following the decision of the Academic Affairs committee (CFVU) on 2<sup>nd</sup> of July 2015,
- Taking into account the DM 270/2004 (revision of the act 509/1999) of the Minister for Education, University, and Research, that allows Italian universities to independently develop their own curricula (according to the law 341 of the 19-11-1990, art.11),
- Taking into account national or internal Italian and French regulation.

### Article 1

“Sapienza” represented by the Rector Eugenio GAUDIO, and AMU, Public Higher Education Institution of scientific, cultural and professional character, SIRET: 130 015 332 00013/Code APE: 8245Z Enseignement supérieur, Located 58 boulevard Charles Livon, Jardin du Pharo, 13284 Marseille Cedex 7 France represented by its President Prof. Yvon BERLAND, authorized to approve this agreement by the board of the University on April 23, 2013, both approve the text of this agreement aiming at the establishment of a Double Degree Program, between **Laurea Magistrale in Biologia e Tecnologia Cellulari, hereafter named BTC**, delivered by Sapienza, Faculty of Mathematics Physics and Natural Sciences and **Master in Microbiologie, Biologie Végétale et Biotechnologies hereafter named MBVB**, delivered by AMU - Faculty of Sciences

### Article 2 - Program management

2.1 Each of the two partner institutions will appoint a Program coordinator. This person will be in charge of the administrative execution of this agreement and will serve as the contact person for the Sapienza and AMU students who are selected in the Double Degree Program.

**Program coordinator and Responsible for teaching coordination for AMU is:**

Prof. Chantal Tardif, coordinator of Master MBVB  
Faculty of Sciences, Department of Biology  
Email [chantal.tardif@univ-amu.fr](mailto:chantal.tardif@univ-amu.fr)

**The teaching commission of the Double Degree from AMU includes:**

Prof. Chantal Tardif, coordinator of Master MBVB  
Prof. Frédéric Barras, coordinator of Microbiology and Biotechnology track  
Prof. Christophe Robaglia, coordinator of Plant Biology and Biotechnology track

**Program coordinator and Responsible for teaching coordination for Sapienza is:**

Prof. Daniela Bellincampi, coordinator of Laurea magistrale BTC  
Faculty of Mathematics Physics and Natural Sciences  
E mail: [daniela.bellincampi@uniroma1.it](mailto:daniela.bellincampi@uniroma1.it)

**The teaching commission of the Double Degree from Sapienza includes:**

Prof. Maria Lina Bernardini, Erasmus program manager  
Prof. Daniela Bellincampi, president of Laurea magistrale BTC  
Prof. Fiorentina Ascenzioni, vice-president of Laurea magistrale BTC  
Prof. Paola Del Porto, member of teaching commission Laurea magistrale BTC  
Prof. Bianca Colonna, president of Laurea triennale in Scienze Biologiche

**2.2 Each partner agrees:**

- to participate in a cooperative manner in the meetings of the different bodies under this Agreement,
- to promptly notify any delay in performance or any event that may impact the Program to the appropriate body,
- to inform the appropriate body of relevant communications it receives from third parties in relation to the Program,
- to ensure the accuracy of any information it provides to the other Partner and to promptly correct any error or missing information therein. After the notification, the recipient Partner shall be responsible for the use made of such information,
- to act at all times in good faith and in a manner that reflects the good name, goodwill and reputation of the other Partner and in accordance with good business ethics.

2.3 Each University will be responsible for its own costs associated with this Inter-Institutional Agreement. Neither University will have the authority to authorize or incur financial liability on behalf of the other.

2.4 Due consideration should be given to the opportunities offered by the Erasmus+ Program, or other international Programs in order to fund scholarships for student and staff mobility.

### **Article 3 - Teaching Programme**

3.1 The curriculum of this Double Degree Program is presented in Annex 1, which is an integral part of this agreement.

3.2 Any modification of this agreement is subject to the prior written consent of both Parties by way of an additional agreement.

### **Article 4 - Admission requirements and procedures**

4.1 The signing institutions will ensure provision of the required number of places. The number of students that will participate in the Double Degree Program will be jointly determined by both institutions on a yearly basis. The parties agree to set the maximum number of students to 3 for each of the participating institutions.



4.2 Student admission is separately conducted by each institution. The Program coordinator of each Institution is responsible for student advising and student selection based on the following minimum requirements:

- The students must have successfully completed a Bachelor's Degree (180 ECTS credits), they must be admitted to the Master's Degree and be selected by their home institution for this Program.
- The students have to demonstrate their language proficiency in English (level B2 or equivalent).

4.3 The Program coordinator of each University will inform the partner institution about the selected students immediately after the selection process has been completed.

4.4 In order to be enrolled in the Double Degree Program, students have to submit the following documents: a detailed CV in English, a copy of their passport, a copy of their transcript.

### **Article 5 - Student mobility**

5.1 All the students enrolled in this Double Degree from both institutions will attend the 2<sup>nd</sup> year of the Master's in BTC/MBVB at the partner institution according to the description given in Annex 1 (Tables 1, 2 and 3). Courses at the partner University will be taught in English.

5.2 The students from Sapienza will take 48 ECTS credits at AMU. The students from AMU will take 48 ECTS credits at Sapienza.

5.3 The assessment of student learning will be evaluated according to the rules of the host university.

5.4 Any AMU student enrolled in the Double Degree having failed a second-year examination will be allowed to repeat it once. The same conditions apply to students of Sapienza.

### **Article 6 - Tuition fees**

6.1 Registration and tuition fees will be paid to the home institution and be exempted by the host institution, which will guarantee a fee waiver upon condition of reciprocity.

### **Article 7 – Degree**

7.1 Upon successful completion of the Double Degree requirements (at least 48 ECTS credits in the partner university), two separate degrees are conferred to the student according to the local regulations:

- The degree from Aix-Marseille University: **Master in Microbiologie, Biologie végétale et Biotechnologies**
- The degree from the Sapienza - University of Rome: **Laurea Magistrale in Biologia e Tecnologia Cellulari.**

7.2 These degrees are recognized in Europe as research master degrees allowing the student to start a Ph. D. Program.

### **Article 8 - Student enrolment, credit recognition and transfer**

8.1 Each partner will keep appropriate records of the students registered on the Program and provide all students and partners with the official transcript.

8.2 Transferring credits between the partner institutions will be made by using the system as described in Annex 1 (Tables 1, 2 and 3)

8.3 The courses taken in the partner university must have a minimum grade “*Pass*” or equivalent (Annex 1 Table 3) to be transferred. The European credit transfer system (ECTS) will be used for grading the results of any exam.

8.4 Completed course credits will be transferred to the partner institution as soon as the assessment period is finished.

#### **Article 9 - Thesis, evaluation, composition of jury and transfer of documents**

9.1 The final thesis at the end of the second year can be presented at the home and host University on individual bases according to the calendar of the Partner University.

At Sapienza, the jury is appointed according to current regulations. AMU shall annually appoint a member of its teaching commission to participate to this jury.

At AMU, the jury of Microbiology and Biotechnology track is chaired by Professor Frédéric Barras and composed of Frédéric Barras, Chantal Tardif and Christophe Robaglia. The jury of Plant Biology and Biotechnology track is chaired by Professor Christophe Robaglia and composed of Christophe Robaglia, Chantal Tardif and Frédéric Barras. Sapienza shall annually appoint a member of its teaching commission to participate to these two juries.

9.2. Students have to write the final thesis in English. A substantial abstract will be written by the student in the official language of his/her home university. A copy of the final thesis will be submitted to both institutions.

9.3 Both Partners recognize the validity of the international jointly developed curriculum. They accept to deliver a double diploma issued by the institutions offering the study programme after a successful completion of the double degree.

#### **Article 10 – Grade conversion of exams and final dissertation**

10.1 The European Credit Transfer System (ECTS) will be used for grading the results of any exam. Evaluation of the final thesis grade will be transferred according to Annex 2 Table 4.

#### **Article 11 - Students’ right and duties**

11.1 Each student will be continuously enrolled at their home institution while they will be registered at the host institution for the mobility period.

11.2 Services and facilities provided for students in the joint programme, such as library, intranet access, laboratories, etc... are integrated in the general services provided to all students of the two partner institutions during their studies. Health insurance is regulated by the rules of each University.

#### **Article 12 – The double diploma supplement**

According to the French ministerial decree signed on 8 April 2002 for awarding Bachelor and Master degrees, and to the Italian ministerial decree n. 201 of 5/2/2013 the European Diploma supplement has to be attached to a higher education diploma. The aim of this document is to improve transparency and facilitate recognition. It describes the nature, level, context and status of the studies that were successfully completed by the individual named on the original diploma to which this supplement is appended.



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### **Article 13 – Management of the agreement**

Each party shall appoint a contact person or office who will be responsible for the administrative monitoring of this agreement.

At Sapienza, this agreement will be managed by the International Office of the Faculty of Mathematics Physics and Natural Sciences and by the Central International Office.

At AMU, this agreement and its future developments will be managed by the International Relations Office of the University.

### **Article 14 - Intellectual Property**

The results obtained by the parties prior to any applicable programme established under this Agreement or independently, remain their respective properties. The other Party will not receive any relevant rights on patent and know-how resulting from this contract.

The representative brands, trade marks and names of each Party remain their personal property and cannot be used by the Party for any purpose outside the scope of this Agreement and without the holder's consent.

Results from direct collaboration between the Parties are jointly owned by the Parties in proportion to their respective intellectual and financial contributions and supply of material/equipment.

The sharing and conditions of use of the rights will be determined by mutual agreement between the parties, through a separate legal act, in proportion to their respective contributions.

### **Article 15 - Duration and renewal**

The agreement will be effective after the official signature by both institutions and will be valid until the end of the academic year 2017-2018. This agreement will be limited by the accreditation required for high education institutions by the French Ministry of Higher Education & Research and by the Italian Ministry of Education. Every year, a financial report is required at Aix-Marseille University before starting a new selection of student admission for the double degree. This financial report will be exclusively for Aix-Marseille University. It will mention the contribution to the participation costs (i.e. the travel and stay costs of the members of the jury, the organisational costs for the final thesis presentation...) and the number of ERASMUS+ allowances given to the students involved from Aix-Marseille University. The agreement may be terminated at any time by one of the partner provided that the other partner is informed in writing at least 6 months before the end date. If such termination is made, the Program will be active until all students already enrolled in this Double Degree Program have completed their studies. The parties may also extend this agreement for any mutually agreed period of time.

### **Article 16 - Final regulations**

In the event of a dispute, the parties shall endeavour to reach an amicable settlement.

In case of non-conciliation, the competent jurisdiction will be that of the defendant.

Prepared in eight original copies, each party receiving four original copies.



SAPIENZA  
UNIVERSITÀ DI ROMA

ISTITUTO  
DI FISIOMOLOGIA E BIOTECNOLOGIA  
CHARLES DARWIN

For the Department of Biology and  
Biotechnology "Charles Darwin"  
The Director

Rome, 19 GEN 2016

IL DIRETTORE  
Prof. STEFANO BIAGIONI

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Prof. Stefano Biagioni

For the Department of Biology,  
The Director

Marseille, 24 nov 2015

Le Directeur du département  
De Biologie  
Aix-Marseille Université

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Prof. Chantal Tardif

Sapienza University of Rome  
For the Faculty of Mathematics Physics  
and Natural Sciences –  
The Dean


Rome, 21 GEN. 2016

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Prof. Vincenzo Nesi

University of Aix-Marseille  
For the Faculty of Sciences  
The Dean

Marseille,





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Prof. Jean-Marc Pons AMU

For Sapienza University of Rome  
The Rector

Rome, 03 FEB. 2016





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Prof. Eugenio Gaudio

For the University of Aix Marseille  
The President

Marseille, December 3rd 2015




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Prof. Yvon BERLAND



Annex 1

Table 1: mobility path for Italian student at AMU, this includes 48 ECTS in mobility

Italian student			
Home University-Sapienza			
semester*	insegnamento	ECTS	SSD
S1	Plasticita cellulare e differenziamento nelle piante applicazioni industriali	6	BIO01
S1	Basi molecolari cellulari biotecnologie vegetali	6	BIO04
S1	Genetica molecolare dei Microrganismi	6	BIO/19
S2	Biogenesi dei compartimenti cellulari e segnalazioni tra cellule	6	BIO/06
S2	Sistemi modello ed applicazioni industriali	6	CHIM/11
S2	Microbiologia cellulare e vaccinologia	6	BIO/19
two at choice among 4	S2	12	BIO/11
	S1		MAT/07
	S2		MED/04
	S2		BIO/04
S2	Biotecnologie metaboliche e miglioramento vegetale	6	BIO/04
S2	Genomica funzionale	6	BIO/11
S3	Vettori Microbici ed applicazioni in terapia genica e cellulare	6	BIO/19
S3	free choice	6	

**Total 72**

**mobility path for Italian student at AMU**

S3	Atelier (free choice among nine)	6
S3	Atelier (free choice among nine)	6
S3	Analyse bibliographique et prospectivee du projet de stage	6
S4	Stage en laboratoire	30

**Total 48**

**ECTS at home University: 72; ECTS in mobility at AMU: 48 ECTS**

**Total Home + Partner: 120 ECTS**



**Table 2: mobility path for French student at Sapienza, this includes 48 ECTS in mobility**

French student		
Home University-AMU		
Course	ECTS	semester*
Biologie Cellulaire et developpement vegetal	3	S1
Adaptation des plantes a l'environnement	3	S2
Biotechnologie microbienne et végétale ou Métabolismes bactériens et grands cycles de la matière	3	S1
Des cyanobactéries aux plantes	3	S1
Stress cellulaire et adaptation	3	S1
Mecanismes moléculaires de régulation	3	S1
Anatomie fonctionnelle des bactéries	3	S1
Transport et adressage des macromolecules	3	S1
Initiation a la recherche 1 (travaux pratiques)	6	S1
Pathogénie bactérienne	3	S2
Interaction plantes pathogenes et symbiontes	3	S2
Initiation à la recherche 2 (stage)	12	S2
Communiquer en sciences	6	S2
Génomique 1	3	S1
Génomique 2 or Virologie or Anglais	3	S1
Atelier (free choice among nine)	6	S3
Atelier (free choice among nine)	6	S3
<b>Total</b>	<b>72</b>	
<b>mobility path for French student at Sapienza</b>		
free choice (among 6 biomelecular)	6	S4
tirocinio	3	S4
tesi sperimentale (including bibliographic researche and research planning)	39	
<b>Total</b>	<b>48</b>	

ECTS at Home University AMU: 72 ECTS; ECTS in mobility at Sapienza: 48



**Table 3: Recognition Table**

recognition table				
Sapienza	ECTS	SSD	AMU	ECTS
Plasticita cellulare e dinamiche del differenziamento nelle piante applicazioni industriali	6	BIO01	Biologie Cellulaire et developpement vegetal	3
			Adaptation des plantes a l'environnement	3
Basi molecolari cellulari biotecnologie vegetali	6	BIO04	Biotechnologie microbienne et végétale ou Métabolismes bactériens et grands cycles de la matière	3
			Des cyanobactéries aux plantes	3
Genetica molecolare dei Microrganismi	6	BIO/19	Stress cellulaire et adaptation	3
			Mecanismes moléculaires de régulation	3
Biogenesi dei compartimenti cellulari e segnalazioni tra cellule	6	BIO/06	Anatomie fonctionelle des bactéries	3
			Transport et adressage des macromolecules	3
Sistemi modello ed applicazioni industriali	6	CHIM/11	Initiation a la recherche 1 (travaux pratiques)	6
Microbiologia cellulare e vaccinologia	6	BIO/19	Pathogénie bactérienne	3
			Interaction plantes pathogenes et symbiontes	3

two at choice	Controllo epigenetico nel differenziamento cellulare	12	BIO/11	Initiation à la recherche 2 (stage)	12
	Modelli matematici per l'evoluzione		MAT/07		
	Immunologia molecolare applicata		MED/04		
	Dinamiche molecolari nelle interazioni pianta microrganismo		BIO/04		
Biotecnologie metaboliche e miglioramento vegetale	6	BIO/04	Communiquer en sciences	6	
Genomica funzionale	6	BIO/11	Génomique 1	3	
			Génomique 2 or Virologie or Anglais	3	
Vettori Microbici ed applicazioni in terapia genica e cellulare	6	BIO/19	Atelier (free choice among nine)	6	
free choice	6		Atelier (free choice among nine)	6	

tirocinio	3	Atelier (free choice among nine)	6
tesi sperimentale (including bibliographic research and research planning)	39	Analyse bibliographique et prospective du projet de stage	6
		Stage en laboratoire	30

The teaching commission and competent organs of the double degree will evaluate the exams taken by students both incoming and out coming whose correspondence is not in the table.

## Annex 2

**Table 4 – Equivalence between Sapienza and AMU grading systems for final dissertation**

<i>Sapienza, Italy</i>	<i>AMU, French</i>
<i>Fail: less than 90</i>	<i>Fail: less than 10</i>
between 91 and 100: 91	Pass "Mention passable": between 10 and 11,99
92-94	Pass "Mention Assez bien": between 12 and 13,99
95-96	Pass "Mention Bien": between 14 and 15,99
97-98	
99-100	Pass "Mention Très Bien": between 16 and 20
between 101 and 109: 101-102	
103-104	
105-106	
107-109	
110 and 110 cum laude.	