COLLABORATIVE AGREEMENT
BETWEEN
FUNDACIÓN PARA EL FUTURO DE COLOMBIA
AND
UNIVERSITÉ DU QUÉBEC
AND
THE INSTITUTIONS OF THE UNIVERSITÉ DU QUÉBEC

The Fundación para el Futuro de Colombia (COLFUTURO), the Université du Québec (UQ) and the ten (10) institutions of the Université du Québec (UQ's institutions) share an interest in strengthening bilateral cooperation in the field of education between Colombia and Canada and promoting stronger ties between the parties to increase the financial support available for doctoral studies of Colombian students.

The purpose of this agreement is to foster cooperation and enhance the links between the parties through the provision of shared financing for talented Colombian students admitted to doctoral degree programs of UQ's institutions, within the framework of a Joint Graduate Loan-Scholarship Program.

The Joint Graduate Loan-Scholarship Program will operate as follows:

1. Colombian students interested in this Joint Graduate Loan-Scholarship Program will seek admission to the doctoral degree programs offered by the ten (10) institutions of Université du Québec (Doctor of Philosophy Degrees), following the normal application procedures and meeting all the standard admission requirements (including official language tests) established by the institutions of Université du Québec.

2. Students admitted to doctoral degree programs offered by a UQ's Institutions will submit a Loan-Scholarship application to COLFUTURO, following the normal application procedures and meeting all the standard requirements established by COLFUTURO.

3. Students who are offered a place for full-time doctoral studies at one of UQ's institutions and who are selected as beneficiaries of the Loan-Scholarship Program of COLFUTURO will be eligible or considered for the shared financing under this agreement.

4. UQ's institutions will provide a scholarship that will cover the difference in cost for international students (namely, the difference between the international student tuition cost and the domestic tuition cost) to all eligible students at the doctoral level for a period of up to three (3) years. Students will have to comply with the rules of each UQ institution to obtain and maintain
this scholarship. If a student requires additional time to complete the program, they will not fall under the purview of this agreement.

5. COLFUTURO will provide the remainder of the tuition fees, living allowance and will cover other related costs, in accordance with its policies and procedures, i.e. up to USD25,000 annually for a maximum financing of two years, up to USD50,000.

6. The students are responsible for obtaining financial resources to cover other costs (that are not included in this Loan-Scholarship agreement) related to their program of study.

7. Each institution will designate a coordinator to implement and monitor this Joint Graduate Loan-Scholarship Program. In particular, the designated coordinators will be responsible for ensuring that:

   a. UQ, UQ’s institutions and COLFUTURO provide prospective Colombian scholars with information on their programs of interest and guidance on how to apply to the institutions of Université du Québec network.

   b. UQ and UQ’s institutions provide COLFUTURO with all the relevant promotional materials and brochures on the different doctoral degree programs offered by the institutions of Université du Québec to encourage interest among prospective Colombian students.

   c. UQ and UQ’s institutions provide all Colombian students admitted to their doctoral degree programs information on the Loan-Scholarship Program of COLFUTURO and encourages these students to contact and submit an application to COLFUTURO.

   d. COLFUTURO informs UQ’s institutions of successful candidates by sending to each correspondent institutions the list of Colombian students admitted to the institution and selected as beneficiaries of the Loan-Scholarship Program of COLFUTURO.

   e. UQ’s institutions will confirmed from the list mentioned in Numeral 8 item d, the students who will be granted the UQ’s institution scholarship mentioned in Numeral 4 and the final amount for the tuition fees. The involved UQ’s institution will then inform COLFUTURO of this decision.

   f. COLFUTURO provides UQ and UQ’s institutions with institutional information on COLFUTURO and pertinent details on its Loan-Scholarship Program and the payment scheme (see Annex I)

   g. Coordinators of UQ’s institutions ensure that relevant authorities of the institutions (i.e., bursars and student account offices) in charge of student accounts accept the terms of COLFUTURO’s Loan-Scholarship Program (Annex 1).

   h. Both COLFUTURO and UQ’s institutions make the necessary financial arrangements for confirmed scholars.

   i. COLFUTURO, UQ and UQ’s institutions have the obligation to inform the other party of any change in the designated coordinator or signatory in charge of this agreement.

8. This agreement will have a duration of three (3) years and will be effective as of the signature of both parties, or from the date on which the latter party has signed this one. At the expiration of the same, it can be renewed once by the previous agreement between all parties.

9. Even though this agreement refers to doctoral programs, each university may provide financial support for master students based on the financial availability of each of UQ’s institutions.

10. Nothing in this Agreement shall constitute a party to the other party or create any agency or partnership between the parties, under any applicable law now or in the future, in force in Canada or in Colombia.

11. Each party will promote the agreement to prospective Colombian graduate students.
12. Neither party to this agreement is entitled to incur obligations in the name of the other without the written consent of the other.

12. Finalization
12.1 The parties may terminate this agreement unilaterally and without cause by written notice of their intention to terminate the agreement with the other party six (6) months in advance provided that they will continue to comply with their obligations under this agreement with respect to any student who has begun its studies, as long as the student complies with the terms and conditions established by the parties to receive the financing.

12.2 Each party may terminate this Agreement if any of the others fail to comply with any of its clause, provided it has notified the other parties of this breach and that the breach is not remedied within one month after receipt of the notification.

12.3 One of the Parties fails if:

a. It does not carry out any of the terms and conditions of this agreement.
b. Enter into liquidation (except for restructuring or merger purposes) or if a receiver, official administrator or provisional liquidator is appointed.

12.4 The termination shall be made without prejudice to any claim that either party may have against the other and that occurred before the date of termination of this agreement.

12.5 In the occurrence of withdrawal of one of the UQ's institutions from this agreement, this agreement will remain in force providing all remaining parties written consent.

13. Settlement of disputes
13.1 Any dispute that may arise between the parties relating to the interpretation or implementation of this Agreement shall be settled by direct negotiation. In the event that a satisfactory agreement is not reached for all parties, the problems will be solved by a committee composed of 2 friendly conciliators appointed by each party, one for COLFUTURO, another from UQ or UQ's institutions.

13.2 The anticipated term of this agreement will not affect the scholarships that have been granted and are in force, which will be maintained until the conclusion of the studies of the respective scholarship holder.

The designated coordinators are:

For Université du Québec:
Céline Poncelin de Raucourt
Director of Studies and Research
e-mail: celine.poncelin.de.raucourt@uquebec.ca
Phone number: (00x) 1-148-657-4118

For COLFUTURO:
Johanna Torres
Academic Advising Director
e-mail: johanna.torres@colfuturo.org
Phone number: (57) 1 3405394 Ext. 124

For UQ's institutions, a list of designated coordinators will be provided by the Université du Québec and updated when necessary.
For COLFUTURO

JERÓNIMO CASTRO JARAMILLO
Executive Director

Date and location: Montréal, le 11 octobre 2017

For UNIVERSITÉ DU QUÉBEC

JOHANNE JEAN
Présidente

Date and location: Montréal, le 11 octobre 2017

For UNIVERSITÉ DU QUÉBEC À MONTRÉAL

ROBERT PROULX
Recteur

Date and location: Montréal, le 11 octobre 2017

For UNIVERSITÉ DU QUÉBEC À TROIS-RIVIÈRES

DANIEL McMAHON
Recteur

Date and location: Montréal, le 11 octobre 2017

For UNIVERSITÉ DU QUÉBEC À CHICOUTIMI

NICOLE BOUCHARD
Rectrice

Date and location: Montréal, le 11 octobre 2017
For UNIVERSITÉ DU QUÉBEC À RIMOUSKI

Date and location: Montréal, le 11 octobre 2017

JEAN-PIERRE OUELLET
Recteur

For UNIVERSITÉ DU QUÉBEC EN OUTAOUAIS

Date and location: Montréal, le 11 octobre 2017

DENIS HARRISON
Recteur

For UNIVERSITÉ DU QUÉBEC EN ABITIBI-TÉMISCAMINGUE

Date and location: Montréal, le 11 octobre 2017

DENIS MARTEL
Recteur par intérim

For INSTITUT NATIONAL DE LA RECHERCHE SCIENTIFIQUE

Date and location: Montréal, le 11 octobre 2017

LUC-ALAIN GIRALDEAU
Directeur général

For ÉCOLE NATIONALE D’ADMINISTRATION PUBLIQUE

Date and location: Montréal, le 11 octobre 2017

GUY LAFOREST
Directeur général

For ÉCOLE DE TECHNOLOGIE SUPÉRIEURE

Date and location: Montréal, le 11 octobre 2017

PIERRE DUMOUCHEL
Directeur général
For TÉLÉ-UNIVERSITÉ

Date and location: Montréal, le 11 octobre 2017

MARTIN NOËL
Directeur général
Annex 1
General Terms and Payment Scheme of COLFUTURO
Loan-Scholarship Program

1. COLFUTURO’s financing system consists of a Loan-Scholarship of up to USD25.000 annually for a maximum financing of two years up to USD50.000.

2. The applicants for the Loan-Scholarship determine the amount to be requested from COLFUTURO in accordance with COLFUTURO’s policies and procedures.

3. Successful applicants or beneficiaries of this program can use the Loan-Scholarship to cover the full or partial costs of their graduate studies abroad.

4. COLFUTURO’s Loan-Scholarship is granted in US Dollars. All payments to beneficiaries (i.e., settling allowance and living allowance) are done in US Dollars but COLFUTURO can pay tuition to universities in other currencies. However, COLFUTURO beneficiaries have the obligation to assume any discrepancy arising from foreign exchange fluctuations, between the US Dollar amount requested to COLFUTURO and the other currencies.

5. COLFUTURO’s selection process for the Loan-Scholarship Program is done yearly. Applicants can comply with documentary requirements when the on-line application becomes available by January 10th and up to February 28th. Results are published by the mid of May. These dates may change each call.

6. COLFUTURO notifies partner universities immediately regarding the results of the selection process by sending them the list of COLFUTURO beneficiaries admitted to their graduate degree programs.

7. Once students are selected and notified as beneficiaries of COLFUTURO, the latter arranges a meeting with the student to explain in detail, the terms and conditions of the Loan-Scholarship. The student who accepts these terms and conditions, decides the allocation of this Loan-Scholarship taking into account the maximum amounts mentioned in item 1. The beneficiary can allocate approved financial support on the following cost items:

- Airfare
- Settling Allowance (one-time payment of up to USD2.000)
- Tuition
- Health insurance
- Living allowance (Up to USD2.000 per month)
- Text books and computer allowance (maximum USD2.000 per year)
- Debtor's insurance

COLFUTURO provides each beneficiary with a sponsorship letter indicating the total amount of the loan-scholarship.

8. COLFUTURO clearly informs the beneficiaries, which of the above items are payable directly to them and to the universities or service providers.
9. COLFUTURO pays annual tuition and fees (and health insurance, when this is included as part of the University's fees) directly to the universities in two installments:

For those beneficiaries who begin their programs during the second semester of the year:

- First payment: November 15th, Student must submit the corresponding invoice to COLFUTURO not later than October 31st
- Second payment: March 15th, Student must submit the corresponding invoice to COLFUTURO not later than February 28th

For those beneficiaries entering during the first semester of the year, the payment scheme is vice-versa, first payment in March and second payment in November.

10. The students are responsible for obtaining financial resources to cover other costs (that are not included in this Loan-Scholarship agreement) related to their program of study.

11. The students have financial responsibility towards the University; COLFUTURO will pay on their behalf. After the final payment is made by COLFUTURO, any outstanding balance, including those resulting from exchange rate fluctuations, must be covered by the student.

12. This loan turns into a partial scholarship when the student returns to Colombia and resides in the country for a pre-established period. In order to qualify for the scholarship, the student must comply with all the requirements previously agreed with COLFUTURO. The scholarship is granted as follows: 20% for MBA programs and masters in the fields of administration and law, and 40% for masters in all other areas and all doctoral programs. Two additional 20% bonuses can be given as follows:

a. Beneficiaries who work full time in the public sector or as academic or researcher will receive 10% during the first year, 5% for the second year and 5% for the third year, to get up to 20%.

b. Beneficiaries who work in a city different from Bogotá or its metropolitan area will receive 10% during the first year, 5% for the second year and 5% for the third year, to get up to 20%.

The loan component must be paid by the beneficiary on a monthly basis, upon his or her return to Colombia, according to the established amortization period, which cannot exceed a 5-year term.