# Memorandum of Understanding for the Internship Program BETWEEN

# Texas A & M International University AND

# **Webb County**

This Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU") is hereby entered into by and between Texas A & M International University, a member of the Texas A & M International University System, an agency of the State of Texas (Hereinafter called "University"), acting by and through its President, and Webb County, administrative agency of the State of Texas (hereinafter called "County").

#### **PREAMBLE**

WHEREAS, Webb County seeks the services of Master of Public Administration Student Interns: and

WHEREAS, Texas A & M International University wishes to work collaboratively in preparing and providing quality public administration education and training to Master of Public Administration students.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the premises, mutual covenants, and agreements contained herein, the parties hereto hereby agree as follows:

## STATEMENT OF GENERAL DUTIES AND OBLIGATION

### UNIVERSITY RESPONSIBILITIES

- A. University will provide qualified master of public administration student interns;
- B. University agrees to counsel student interns about professional responsibilities;
- C. University will be responsible for monitoring the conduct of student interns; and
- D. University agrees to offer an internship course as part of the program.

## WEBB COUNTY'S RESPONSIBILTIES

- A. Webb County will provide professional level internship positions;
- B. Webb County agrees to supervise the work assigned to student interns;
- C. Webb County will be responsible for evaluating and submitting a confidential performance report to the Master of Public Administration Director;

- D. Webb County will select the student intern based upon its own evaluation of the student from his/her resume, transcript and/or interview.
- E. Webb County will provide intern with at least 200 hours of supervised work during the internship period or other arranged time period.
- F. Webb County will not require the intern to work during intern's scheduled class and examination times:
- G. Webb County will notify the Master of Public Administration Director immediately if the intern's performance is not satisfactory or if the intern is not reporting for work as scheduled.

## **PAYMENT**

Student interns will provide their expertise at no cost to either Webb County or the University during period of the Internship:

#### INDEMNIFICATION

To the extent authorized by law, in consideration of the performance by all parties of this agreement, each party does hereby agree to indemnify and hold harmless all agents, servants, and employees of the other parties form and against any and all claims and liabilities from any acts or omissions of the other parties, their agents, servants, or employees in the performance of this agreement, except that no party shall indemnify the others for claims of liabilities arising solely from the negligence act, or omission of the other parties.

### **AMENDMENT**

The parties to this MOU understand that it may be necessary to amend and modify this MOU from time to time in order to address additional concerns or issues; however, no amendment, modification, or alteration of the terms of this MOU shall be binding by an authorized representative of the parties hereto.

# TERM, RENEWAL, AND TERMINATION OF AGREEMENT

This MOU will be effective March 1, 2016 through March 15, 2017. After this date, the MOU will be reviewed on an annual basis and the parties may mutually agree to renew the MOU for successive one (1) year term. The parties reserve and have the right to terminate this MOU upon 90 days written notice to the other party(ies).

If at any time during the term of this MOU, either party considers terminating the agreement, such party shall give the other party written notice that it is considering such action, which notice shall set forth with sufficient specificity such party's reasons for contemplating termination. During the following thirty (30) day discussion period, the party considering termination, if not

fully satisfied, may elect to terminate the MOU by giving the other party thirty (30) days written notice of its intentions to terminate.

### **SEVERABILITY**

If any clause or provision of this agreement is determined to be illegal, invalid or unenforceable under present of future laws effective during the term of this agreement, including any renewals, then in that event it is the intent of the parties hereto that the remainder of this agreement shall not be affected thereby, and it is also the intent of the parties to this agreement that in lieu there be added as part of the agreement a clause or provision as similar in terms to such illegal, invalid or unenforceable clause or provision as may be possible and be legal, valid and enforceable.

## NON-DISCRIMINATION

Any discrimination by any party or their agents or employees on account of race, color, sex, age, religion, disability, or national origin in relation to the performance of any obligations or duties under this Agreement is prohibited.

## **NOTICES**

Any notice required or permitted under this MOU must be in writing, and shall be deemed to be delivered (whether actually received or not) when deposited with the United States Postal Services, postage prepaid, certified mail, returned receipt requested, and addressed to the intended recipient at the address set out below. Notice may also be given by regular mail, personal delivery, courier delivery, facsimile transmission, email or other commercially reasonable means and will be effective when actually received. The University and Contractor can change their respective notice address by sending to the other parties a notice of the new address. Notices should be addressed as follows:

# **To Webb County**

Attn: Ms. Cynthia Mares Administrative Services Director 1110 Washington St., Suite 204 Laredo, Texas 78042

Phone: (956) 523-4143 Fax: (956) 523-5012

Email: cmares@webbcountytx.gov

# **To Texas A&M International University**

Texas A&M International University
Attn: Peter Fuseini Haruna
Master of Public Administration Director
5201 University Blvd.
Laredo, Texas 78041-1900

Phone: (956) 326-2613 Fax: (956) 326-2838

Email: pharuna@tamiu.edu

#### **GOVERNING LAW**

The validity of this Agreement and all matter pertaining to this Agreement, including but not limited to, matters of performance, non-performance, breach, remedied, procedures, rights, duties, and interpretation or construction, shall be governed and determined by the Constitution and the laws of the State of Texas.

## FORCE MAJEURE

No party to this agreement shall be required to perform any term, condition, or covenant in this agreement if performance is delayed or prevented by force majeure which shall mean natural occurrences, fires, acts of God, strikes, lockouts, materials or labor restrictions by a governmental authority, civil riots, floods, and any other cause not reasonably within the control of either party to this agreement and which by the exercise of due diligence such party is unable, wholly or in part, to prevent or overcome.

## **DISPUTE RESOLUTION**

Since no language has been made mandatory by the AG's office, the following language will generally be sufficient to satisfy the requirements of Chapter 2260:

The dispute resolution process provide in Chapter 2260, Texas Government Code, and the related rules adopted by the Texas Attorney General pursuant to Chapter breach of contract made by Webb County that cannot be resolved in the ordinary course of business. Webb County shall submit written notice of a claim of breach of contract under this chapter to Master of Public Administration Director of University, who shall examine Webb County's claim and any counterclaim and negotiate with Webb County in an effort to resolve the claim.

### **INSURANCE**

The liability of the Texas A&M University System for personal injury and property damage is controlled by the Texas Tort Claims Act, Texas Civil Practice and Remedies Code, Chapter 101, Section 101.021. The limits of liability are \$250,000 for each person, \$500,000 for each single occurrence for bodily injury or death and \$100,000 for each single occurrence for injury to or destruction of property. Following this limited exposure, the System as a state agency, is protected by the doctrine of sovereign immunity, and as such, is self-insured up to the aforementioned limits.

## **CAPTIONS**

The captions contained in this agreement are for convenience of reference only and in no way limit or enlarge the terms and conditions of this agreement.

# **AUTHORITY**

The signers of this agreement hereby represent and verthis agreement on behalf of each of their respective en	•	ecute
IN WITNESS THEREOF, the parties have duly apprexecuted in duplicate originals on this the		ding,
TEXAS A&M INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY		
By: Peter Fuseini Haruna	_	
Peter Fuseini Haruna  Master of Public Administration Director		
COUNTY OF WEBB		
Honorable Tano Tijerina Webb County Judge	_	
ATTESTED		
Margie Ramirez Ibarra Webb County Clerk	_	
APPROVED AS TO FORM:		
Marco A. Montemayor	_	

Marco A. Montemayor Webb County Attorney\*

<sup>\*</sup>By Law, the County Attorney's Office may only advise or approve contracts or legal documents on behalf of its clients. It may not advice or approve a contract or legal documentation on behalf of other parties. Our review of this document was conducted solely from the legal perspective of our client. Other parties should not rely on this approval, and should seek review and approval of their own respective attorneys.