GENERAL MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

On
EDUCATIONAL, RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGICAL COLLABORATION
between the
SHIRAZ UNIVERSITY
and the
INTERNATIONAL CENTER FOR RELATIVISTIC ASTROPHYSICS NETWORK

Recognizing the importance of academic, research and technological collaboration between universities and research centers and active engagement of academic members and researchers in the domain of science and technology, The ICRANet, represented by its Director, Prof. Dr. Remo Ruffini, and the Shiraz University, represented by its Chancellor, Prof. Dr. Majeed Ershad – Langroodi,

agree

to establish this MoU which is governed by the following clauses:

FIRST:
The main objectives of this MoU are to promote the development and dissemination of scientific and technological research in the fields of cosmology, gravitation and relativistic astrophysics between ICRANet and several institutions under the coordination of the Shiraz University.

Henceforth, we will refer in this document to ICRANet – Shiraz University to designate the institutions which participate in this present MoU.
SECOND:
The activities to be undertaken under this MoU will consist of joint actions involving one or more of the following items:

I. The institutional exchange of graduate or post-graduate students, researchers and faculty members of ICRANet and Shiraz University;

II. The development of teaching and/or research activities related to the areas of expertise and interest of ICRANet and Shiraz University;

III. The organization of symposia, seminars, conferences and short courses on topics and areas of expertise and interest of ICRANet and Shiraz University;

IV. The promotion and support of technical-scientific and cultural events and activities open to the public;

V. The development of opportunities to promote university teachers and researchers, by means of specialized advanced high-level courses in areas of interest and expertise of ICRANet and Shiraz University;

VI. The organization of training and recycling courses and activities as well as developing inter-institutional research areas associated to local graduate programs;

VII. The promotion of joint publications;

VIII. Implementation of socially oriented activities through the academic extension;

IX. Exchange of information concerning teaching and research activities in both institutions signatory of this MoU.

THIRD:
The implementation of the activities envisaged by the contracting parties will be specified by means of Work Plans relative to this MoU, to be signed by the contracting parties at the time of definition of common projects, areas of research and education, or any other activities of mutual interest.

FOURTH:
The institutions signatories of this MoU shall adopt, as a general principle, and to the extent of their budgetary possibilities, the financing of academic actions carried out by this instrument. In the specific case of exchange of professional between the signatory institutions, the visiting
institution shall endeavor efforts to cover transportation expenses of their students, professors and technicians while the hosting institution may cover their living expenses. To finance such expenses, participants must apply to granting agencies and other national or international institutions.

Students, professors, researchers and administrative staff taking part in exchange activities must have health insurance valid during those activities paid by the visiting part.

**FIFTH:**
When activities originating from this instrument of cooperation result in products, improvements or innovations, subject to rights, both parties will establish – according to the law and to proper regulatory legislation, by means of specific instruments and proportionally to the contribution of each institution – the conditions that will regulate property rights.

**SIXTH:**
The activities developed within the scope of this MoU will be carried by members of both parties, appointed by each institution, according to the nature of the activities in each project, the parties being allowed to rely upon the support of external organizations.

An overall coordinator will be appointed for each of the signing Institutions in order to monitor and supervise the implementation and progress of programs and projects related to the present MoU and to establish plans for the future of this collaboration.

The coordinators will meet at least once a year or by electronic means (such as e-conference), or through visits to partner institutions.

**SEVENTH:**
This present instrument will be valid for 5 (five) years, starting from the date of its signature. It will be extended automatically for another 5 (five) years through an exchange of letters between the signatories.

**EIGHTH:**
This present MoU may be canceled by either of the parties, by means of a notification at least 60 (sixty) days in advance which may be waived if both parties come to a consensual being advisable, however, to attempt to ensure that ongoing activities are maintained.
NINTH:
Any necessary modification to the present MoU must be stated in Additional Terms that will be negotiated between the parties, without prejudice to ongoing activities.

In particular this instrument of cooperation could be extended to other partnerships, through the express agreement of the parties through an Additional Term.

TENTH:
For purposes of this MoU the parties establish their addresses as:
ICRANet: ICRANet Coordinating Center: Piazza della Repubblica, 10, 65122 pescara, Italy;
Shiraz University: Central Administration Bldg., Jomhoori Eslami Blvd., Shiraz 71946-84471, Iran.
Through which the correspondence held between with respect to the interpretation and enforcement of this MoU should be formalized.

All terms having agreed upon, the representatives of the parties signed the present instrument, in 4 (four) copies of the same document, two in Iranian and two in English, with equal content to ensure the legal effect.

PROF. DR. MAJEED ERSHAD-LANGROODI
Chancellor of Shiraz University

PROF. DR. REMO RUFINI
Director of ICRANet

March 21, 2016