ARTICULATION AGREEMENT
BETWEEN HONG KONG BAPTIST UNIVERSITY AND
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

ARTICLE I

STATEMENT OF PARTNERSHIP

Hong Kong Baptist University and Michigan State University will maintain the integrity of their separate programs and services, respectful of the role and mission of each, and enter into this agreement as cooperating educational institutions.

ARTICLE II

AGREEMENT ON PURPOSE

Hong Kong Baptist University and the Michigan State University are dedicated to the pursuit of a quality experience in education for the students whom they serve; their respective missions embrace the commitment to expand students’ horizons academically, intellectually, personally, professionally, and culturally.

Hong Kong Baptist University and the Michigan State University agree to enter into a partnership for the purpose of offering students with an Associate Degree from Hong Kong Baptist University an undergraduate degree completion program on the Michigan State University campus. The partnership provides not only an opportunity for academic growth and personal development through exposure to new learning experience, but also amplifies the acclaimed academic and historic reputations of both institutions. Each institution will remain faithful to its commitment to the highest standard of excellence in education.

ARTICLE III

AGREEMENT ON PRINCIPLE

Hong Kong Baptist University and the Michigan State University agree that any student who has earned an Associate Degree from Hong Kong Baptist University may transfer credits up to a maximum of sixty (each unit constitutes 14 contact hours of lecture) toward an undergraduate degree at the Michigan State University. The graduation requirements for students who follow the attached articulation agreement are expressed as follows:

1. The Michigan State University will issue a Letter of Acceptance to students who have satisfactorily completed three semesters of study in the Associate Degree Course at Hong Kong Baptist University and have met the requirements for admission to Michigan State University.

2. A maximum of 60 credit hours (approximately 2-year of full-time study) may be transferred. The number of transfer units may vary between academic programmes and concentrations. Students must meet the admissions requirements of the academic programmes and concentrations in which they will be enrolled, including prerequisite coursework where applicable.
3. Students from Hong Kong Baptist University will follow the same undergraduate catalog as native and regional transfer students of the Michigan State University and must complete all requirements stated therein.

ARTICLE IV

AGREEMENT OF PROGRAM ARTICULATION

Hong Kong Baptist University and the Michigan State University agree that a student who has successfully completed a minimum of 60 semester credits and fulfilled all other Associate Degree requirements set by the College of International Education at Hong Kong Baptist University may transfer to an undergraduate program at the Michigan State University. Admissions criteria for acceptance into a specific program at Michigan State University will be determined by the academic unit and be the same for Hong Kong Baptist University students as for other international transfer students.

It is further agreed that a student who has earned such an Associate Degree may graduate from the Michigan State University with a baccalaureate degree without duplicative study by following the transfer equivalencies outlined in the MSU website transfer.msu.edu and working with their assigned academic advisor after arrival at MSU.

It is further agreed that the two institutions may continue to cooperate in the development of additional program agreements. Such future developments will come under this agreement and will be added to the appendix attached to this Agreement.

Associate Degree graduates of Hong Kong Baptist University under this agreement will receive equal consideration with other students seeking admission to the agreed upon programs. To receive maximum consideration, HKBU students should apply near the end of their third semester of study at HKBU.

ARTICLE V

AGREEMENT ON COMMUNICATION

Hong Kong Baptist University and the Michigan State University agree to cooperate by communicating with each other and with common and respective publics concerning the established relationships at Hong Kong Baptist University and the Michigan State University. Communication may include the development of various kinds of publications to inform students who might benefit from the opportunities provided by a Bachelor Degree program at the Michigan State University, based on the Associate Degree study at Hong Kong Baptist University. At all times, however, the MSU website transfer.msu.edu will be the official source of information on course articulation. As well, the transfer requirements of the Office of Admissions will guide the requirements for admission to the University as well as any majors designated as “limited enrollment.”

Hong Kong Baptist University and the Michigan State University further agree to communicate concerning curriculum changes which affect the agreed upon relationships between articulated programs, and to communicate concerning the development of plans which might lead to future opportunities for program articulation between the two institutions. Responsibility for communication related to this agreement will be given to College of International Education, Hong Kong Baptist University, and the Office of the Registrar Michigan State University, or their designees.
ARTICLE VI

ESTABLISHMENT OF DEVELOPMENT AND REVIEW PROCESS

Hong Kong Baptist University and the Michigan State University agree to establish and maintain a joint development and review process with the purpose to

1. evaluate the continuing effectiveness of established program agreements,
2. facilitate modifications to those program agreements,
3. initiate the development of new articulation agreements in additional program areas,
4. serve as the vehicle for communication concerning changes in programs involved in existing agreements and changes or plans which might lead to future agreements,
5. advise students with regard to exceptional situations.

Meetings for development and review shall be held regularly between representatives from the two institutions.

This Agreement is subject to review at the end of the first year and shall be effective for five years (i.e., from the 2011-12 academic year through the 2016-17). It shall be subject to revision, modification or renewal by mutual written agreement. Either party may terminate the agreement by written notice submitted at least 6 months in advance of the next academic semester. Termination would not affect students already engaged in the exchange. If the Agreement is not renewed by mutual consent, the Agreement will conclude at the end of the specified time period, or after activities in progress have concluded.

ARTICLE VII

LEGAL INDEMNITIES AND POLICIES

No monetary consideration will be exchanged between the two institutions, nor will there be any indemnities, reimbursements for expenses, or sharing of fees or profits arising from the Agreement.

The parties agree to indemnify and hold one another harmless from any and all claims initiated by participants, their parents, survivors, or agents, arising from any negligent acts or omission on the part of either university or any of their employees. The relationship of MSU and Hong Kong Baptist University under this agreement shall be that of independent contractors, and a party shall not be deemed, nor hold itself out as being, a partner or agent of
the other party. Neither MSU nor Hong Kong Baptist University shall be liable for acts of the other, nor shall they be liable for the acts of students participating in the Agreement. Both institutions subscribe to a policy of equal opportunity and will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, gender, age, height, weight, marital or familial status, ethnicity, religion, national origin or disability.

Contacts, Signatories

Primary contacts for this agreement are:
For Michigan State University:
Name: Patricia Croom, Ph.D.
Title: Associate Director for International Admissions
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For Hong Kong Baptist University (name of partner institution):
Name: Alex Ng, Ph.D.
Title: Associate Head (Degree Programme)
Department: College of International Education
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Agreed to this March 12, 2012

For Hong Kong Baptist University:

Dr. Simon C. H. Wong
Dean, School of Continuing Education
16 May 2012

Witness:

Dr. Ella P. O. Chan
Director, College of International Education
16 May 2012

For Michigan State University:

Dr. Kim Wilcox
Provost

5/13/12

Witness:

Dr. Jeffrey Riedinger
Dean, International Studies and Programs
8 May 2012