

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
THE CHINA SCHOLARSHIP COUNCIL
AND
THE UNIVERSITY OF HELSINKI**

The China Scholarship Council, Level 13, Building A3, No.9 Chegongzhuang Avenue, Beijing, P.R.China (hereafter CSC) and the University of Helsinki, P.O.Box 33 (Yliopistonkatu 4), FI-00014 University of Helsinki, Finland (hereafter UH), in accordance with the principles of equality and mutual benefit and through friendly negotiation, hereby agree to establish a collaborative arrangement for the purposes of providing high quality research training to qualified students from Chinese universities/research institutions with the aim of developing research collaborations between Finnish and Chinese universities/research institutions.

1. Program overview

The primary focus of this programme is for selected PhD students from Chinese institutions to take full PHD study at UH.

2. Fields of Cooperation

CSC and UH will support the following areas of study with priority: Energy, Resources, Environment, Agriculture, Manufacture, Information Technology, Life Science, Food and Health, Space Study, Maritime Study, Nanotechnology, New Materials, Humanities and Applied Social Sciences, and Law. Students will be eligible to study disciplines in any of the above fields at UH.

3. Entry Criteria

- (1) Candidates will be citizens and permanent residents of the People's Republic of China at the time of application;
- (2) Candidates must not be currently working or studying abroad;
- (3) Successful candidates must return to China upon completion of their studies and/or research;
- (4) Candidates must hold an unconditional offer letter from UH. They must therefore fulfill the relevant academic entry requirements and procedures (http://www.helsinki.fi/admissions/postgraduate_applicants.htm) set by UH including a high level of English language proficiency;
- (5) Candidates should be intending to pursue study/research in one of the priority academic areas identified by UH and CSC. However, applicants to other study/research areas will also be considered. The support academic areas are also subject to the availability of relevant programmes of study at UH;
- (6) Candidate should satisfy the selection criteria set out by CSC by completing the CSC Application Form and the CSC Employer Reference Form at <http://apply.csc.edu.cn/>.

4. Application and selection process

(1) Candidates should directly apply for admission to UH before the application deadline set by UH. Candidates should specify in their application that they apply for the UH/CSC joint scholarship scheme.

(2) UH will evaluate the candidates. By March 20th each year, UH will provide CSC and each qualified candidate with a copy of the offer letter. This offer letter should be unconditional in terms of academic performance and English language capability. The offer should also clarify that UH will cover their full tuition fees and research fees, subject to their obtaining CSC's support.

(3) After receiving the offer letter from UH, candidates must also apply to CSC for funding by completing an application for funding and employer reference (forms are available online at <http://apply.csc.edu.cn>). A hard copy of the signed CSC Application Form along the completed CSC Employer Reference Form, a copy of the full application to UH (including other supporting documents such as communications with the supervisor), and a copy of an unconditional offer letter from UH must be submitted to CSC through CSC's application agencies by March 20th each year.

(4) CSC will evaluate the candidates according to CSC requirements and priorities, and provide UH with a final list scholarship recipients and inform the successful candidates.

5. Funding model

For successful applicants, UH will cover their full tuition fees and research fees. CSC will consider their application for a living allowance as prescribed from time to time by the Chinese Government (which include health insurance), a return international airfare to Finland by the most economical route, and visa application fees.

The funding for each awardee will be up to 48 months.

6. Supervision of candidates

UH will provide the chief academic advisors for candidates. Wherever possible, co-supervision between UH and the Chinese universities/research institutions from which the candidates come will be encouraged. This is seen as a channel for the development of long-term research collaboration between UH and Chinese universities/research institutions, which both CSC and UH embrace as a long-term goal.

7. Best endeavours

Both CSC and UH commit to making every administrative and faculty effort to ensure the success of this collaboration. Based on the successful running of the initial program both parties will actively pursue the possibility of strengthening collaborative ties more broadly across disciplinary fields and institutional partnerships and developing additional programs in the future.

8. Agreement duration and review

The Memorandum of Understanding shall become effective for 4 years in the first instance, commencing from the date of the signatures. It may be terminated by either party giving six months notice of its intention to do so. The Memorandum of Understanding will be reviewed during its third year of operation. If both sides have no objection to the Memorandum of Understanding, it will be automatically prolonged for a further 4 years. In the event the program is discontinued, students admitted under the program will continue to receive support at the levels and for the time periods stipulated above.

9. Additional Activity and Dispute Resolution

This Memorandum of Understanding can be modified and added to by the mutual consent of the both parties. Matters not included in the Memorandum of Understanding, but directly related to it, may be addressed by the mutual agreement of the parties. Any such agreement must be appended to this Memorandum of Understanding and become valid upon the date of signing.

Both parties commit to resolving any disputes on the terms of this Memorandum of Understanding by seeking friendly, mutually acceptable resolutions.

This Memorandum of Understanding shall be written in English and in Chinese. Each version has two officially duplicated copies. Both English version and Chinese version are equally binding.

Signed for:

The China Scholarship Council

The University of Helsinki

Name: Dr. Liu Jinghui
Title: Secretary General
Date:

Name: Thomas Wilhelmsson
Title: Rector
Date: