

Memorandum of Understanding

on promoting cooperation in U-Multirank indicator development

between

FAPESP Project “Metrics for University Performance”

Number 2017/50046-8

Hosted at

FEA-USP

Faculdade de Economia, Administração e Contabilidade da Universidade de São Paulo

Avenida Professor Luciano Gualberto, 908 - Butantã - São Paulo/SP - 05508-010

Hereafter referred to as

“FAPESP Project”

and

The U-Multirank Consortium

Post Box 105,

33311 Guetersloh, Germany

Hereafter referred to as

“U-Multirank”

1. Preamble

FAPESP Metrics for University Performance Project is a public policy research initiative funded by FAPESP, an independent public foundation with the mission to foster research and the scientific and technological development of the state of São Paulo.

FAPESP Project is designed and implemented in partnership with the Council of Rectors of the Universities of the State of São Paulo (Conselho de Reitores das Universidades dos Estado de São Paulo -CRUESP). It is composed of associate senior researchers from the three São Paulo state universities, the Universidade de São Paulo (USP), the Universidade Estadual de Campinas (Unicamp) and the Universidade Estadual Paulista (UNESP).

FAPESP Project supports São Paulo's public universities in interpreting international rankings through research, publications and training and proposes policy guidelines related to university performance. Complementarily, FAPESP Project will propose means to integrate world class benchmarking in higher education in the State of São Paulo.

U-Multirank is a research project, done by a consortium, with four partners: CHE - Centre for Higher Education (leadpartner); CHEPS – Centre for Higher Education Studies, University of Twente; CWTS – The Centre for Science and Technology Studies, Leiden University; and Fundación CYD – Fundación Ciencia y Desarrollo (Knowledge and Development Foundation). The consortium offers research, training and consultancies on various aspects of higher education policy, particularly from an international comparative perspective. The consortium has developed and implemented the U-Multirank project.

This Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), is initiated for supporting FAPESP Project and U-Multirank in implementing their objectives and activities, collaborate in indicator development.

The MoU serves as a framework to initiate cooperation between FAPESP Project and U-Multirank.

2. Objectives of FAPESP Metrics for University Performance project

FAPESP Project is an initiative hosted at FEA-USP Faculdade de Economia, Administração e Contabilidade da Universidade de São Paulo. Avenida Professor Luciano Gualberto, 908 - Butantã - São Paulo/SP - 05508-010, Project number 2017/50046-8.

FAPESP Project aims to turn methodology and metrics related to international comparisons more accessible to both the academic community and the general public.

FAPESP Project seeks to expand the range of indicators available for international comparison to represent a broader vision of the impact of São Paulo State Universities

FAPESP Project monitors and internalises indicators which are adopted in international university comparisons.

FAPESP Project will identify the components of a public policy on performance indicators in public universities

FAPESP Project will outline the attributions of an "intelligence unit" responsible for the formulation and use of performance indicators for the purpose of international comparisons.

FAPESP Project aims to improve the governance of institutions to project Brazilian science on the national and international scene for the benefit of society as a whole

3. Parties

This MoU was reached upon by the following Parties:

(1) FAPESP Project

Represented by Prof. dr. Jacques Marcovitch;

(2) U-Multirank

Represented by Dr. Frans Kaiser.

4. Responsibilities of the Parties

The Parties agree to fulfil their responsibilities as follows:

4.1 FAPESP Project will:

- 4.1.1 Develop jointly with U Multirank an annual plan of activities, deliverables and expected outcomes
- 4.1.2 Act as the interface and articulating entity between U-Multirank and the São Paulo State Universities. In this way, it will ensure that workshops content, expected outcomes, schedules and calendars are properly organised and synchronised, that the executive team of each São Paulo state university is supported and engaged in a dialogue with the other universities, and with U-Multirank during the data collection process, and that they are able to contribute to the workshops to be led by U-Multirank. It will also avoid potential scheduling conflicts with other events that may be happening in Brazil on proposed dates
- 4.1.3 Convene the people responsible in each state university to create a shared task force for participating in U-Multirank, holding periodic meetings with them to share experiences regarding decision making tools based on metrics and international comparisons.
- 4.1.4 Collect progress reports from the nominated representatives for participation.
- 4.1.5 Collect experiences on the usefulness of indicators, assess their applicability for Latin American public universities, propose further indicators depending on deficits identified, for example in additional indicators of social and regional impact and diversity. This discussion will be opened during a meeting to be held when U-Multirank visit São Paulo in November/December 2018.
- 4.1.6 Engage in research to design and implement region-specific indicators, regarding social and regional impact, for local assessments as well as international comparisons, in areas such as public policy engagement and public healthcare planning and provision.
- 4.1.7 Facilitate research collaboration with other tertiary providers in Brazil, as well as stakeholders in Brazilian higher education and research;

4.2 U-Multirank – represented by researchers from the Center of Higher Education Policy studies – will:

- 4.2.1 Develop jointly with FAPESP Project an annual plan of activities, deliverables and expected outcomes
- 4.2.2 Pre-fill basic information for institutional mapping purposes about the universities, in order to reduce the number of indicators that require filling in by the university.
- 4.2.3 Provide a workshop to be held between 26 November and 3th December 2018. The workshop will address senior university managers on how to fill in data for U-Multirank, and decision makers, on how to use U-Multirank as a decision-making tool. The workshop will provide room for further discussion and evaluation on the premises and utility of U-Multirank. The results of the workshop will be used as an input for a meeting to be held during U-Multirank's visit to São Paulo in November 2018 between FAPESP Project and U-Multirank on further initiatives of collaboration.
- 4.2.4 Be available for email contact to answer doubts about the filling in process
- 4.2.5 Initiate and discuss options to develop indicators that are highly relevant within the Brazilian and wider Latin-American context
- 4.2.6 Explore options to include and develop region-specific indicators into the U-Multirank platform.
- 4.2.7 Facilitate discussions on the use of other databases as an input to the U-Multirank database. [CWTS data, local research repositories such as SciElo, state and federal databases]

5 Dispute Resolution Method, Amendment, and Termination

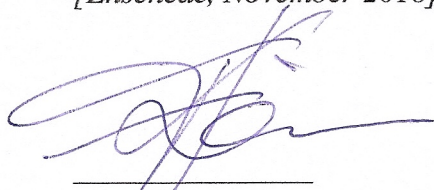
This MoU may be amended at any time by mutual consent in response to changing circumstances. Both parties shall do their level best to amicably discuss and resolve any dispute that might arise in the process of implementing this MoU. Any of the parties may terminate this MoU in the event of breach of any of the terms or conditions specified herein if the breaching party is unable to rectify the damage.

6 Effective Term


This MoU on promoting cooperation in indicator development between FAPESP Project and U-Multirank shall be effective for a period of one year, renewable for a further year from the date it is executed by the representatives of both Parties. Any changes herein shall be implemented in the form of an Amendment duly agreed to between the Parties.

[Enschede, November 2018]

[São Paulo, November 2018]



Representative UMR

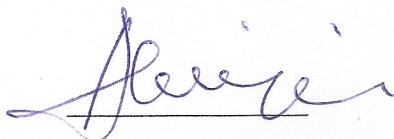


Representative FAPESP Project

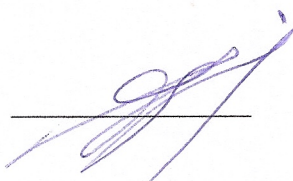
Witness:



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