MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
Between

Abertay University and NOVA Northern Virginia Community College

In consideration of common interests in education and in the spirit of goodwill and mutually beneficial cooperation which underpins the relationship between Abertay University and the Northern Virginia Community College (NOVA) agree to explore opportunities for academic collaboration in the areas outlined by this Memorandum of Understanding (MoU).

Objectives

The principal objectives of this MoU are to promote friendship through the development of academic cooperation and to enhance the opportunities for faculty members and students of both institutions to learn from each other in the fields of academic development, pedagogy, and the relationships between universities and their local and regional communities and relevant industries. This may entail one or more of the following:

- exploring and formulating opportunities for building academic partnerships between the institutions in subject areas of mutual benefit and within the partner's areas of expertise, such as the development of joint degree programmes by Abertay University and NOVA;
- collaborating towards internationalising one or more curricula of Abertay University and NOVA the said collaboration *inter alia* taking the form of exchanges of students between Abertay University and NOVA in the area of subject areas of computer arts, Business, Accounting, Cyber security and Computing at the undergraduate level; and associations with one or more industries;
- identifying and developing cultural exchange opportunities that would benefit students and staff of both institutions and their wider communities;
- identifying mechanisms to facilitate staff development opportunities to be provided through each institution so that faculty members have an opportunity to spend a period of time in the other institution with the aim of developing further ideas for developments in Teaching collaborating on research that is related to the aims and activities of Abertay University and NOVA; and
- exploring further opportunities for co-operation, as the relationship between Abertay University and NOVA evolves.

Admissions Practices

1. Abertay University accepts applications from students who wish to transfer from NOVA to pursue degree programs in the subject areas of Computer arts, Business, Accounting, Cyber security and Computing at. Abertay University. Transferring NOVA applicants must meet the same admissions criteria as other students applying for transfer to Abertay University. The admission fee will be waived.

2. Students transferring from NOVA to specific Abertay University programmes must meet the same prerequisites, grade point average (GPA) and other admission criteria, as other native or transfer students applying to Abertay University programmes.

3. NOVA students who graduate with an Associate of Arts (AA), Associate of Science (AS), or Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degree and have a NOVA curriculum GPA equivalent to at least _3.0 of Abertay's GPA are guaranteed admission to Abertay University.

4. For the purposes of admission and credit recognition the transfer GPA is determined by a calculation that includes all NOVA courses and all attempts.

Acceptance and Application of Credits

1. Courses/Credits in which grades of D (1.0) were earned usually will not be transferred.
2. Abertay University will evaluate Prior Learning Activity for Credit Evaluation and other life experiences for possible credit.

Implementation of this MoU

This MoU comes into force upon the signature of the authorised representative of the NOVA and the authorised representative of Abertay University.

The MoU is a general, facilitating MoU which provides a university-to- NOVA framework within which future collaborative developments can be undertaken.

However, prior to any of activities envisaged by this MoU being implemented, the Parties will agree to specific and detailed arrangements for such activities and to record such agreements within specific Memoranda of Agreement.

The present MoU will remain in force for a period of five [5] years unless it is terminated earlier on agreement by both Abertay University and NOVA.

Vice-Principal (Academic)	**Acting President**
Abertay University	**Northern Virginia Community College**
Professor Steve Olivier	**Dr. Mel Schiavelli**
Signature	Signature
Date	Date 2/19/15
Witnessed by.....	Witnessed by.....