

## MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

between

**THE UNIVERSITY OF THE SOUTH PACIFIC**

and

**THE COLLEGE OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS**

### 1.0 Preamble


**THE UNIVERSITY OF THE SOUTH PACIFIC**, herein referred as “USP”, founded in 1968, with its headquarters in Laucala Bay Road, Suva, Fiji, represented herein by its Vice-Chancellor and President, Professor Rajesh Chandra. The University of the South Pacific, a body incorporated by the Royal Charter of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, is a key contributor to the development of Pacific Island Countries and the region’s premier University providing high quality graduates. USP serves the regional needs of its 12 member Countries<sup>1</sup>. USP strives towards excellence in the provision of tertiary education and aims to build on and preserve the Pacific Heritage. It proactively engages with the region, its communities, and with international partners on major development issues relevant to the region. The University has positioned itself as a leader in research and education that is original, modern, and readily applicable in addressing the problems and challenges faced by its member countries. USP is one of two regional Universities in the world and is not only a higher education institute, but also an active regional integration organization. The steady supply of graduates has contributed to meeting the growing development needs of the region since its establishment. The University, through its Campus in the Marshall Islands will be responsible for implementing this Memorandum of Understanding.

The College of the Marshall Islands came into official existence when the Board of Regents of the Community College of Micronesia issued its charter on October 10, 1989, designating it as the College of Micronesia-Majuro. Less than two years later, in January 1991, it was given its present name and accredited by the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges. In April 1993, CMI became an independent entity with its own Board of Regents and was chartered to serve as the post-secondary agency for the RMI. The College serves students primarily from within the Micronesian

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<sup>1</sup> Cook Islands, Kiribati, Nauru, Samoa, Tokelau, Tuvalu, Fiji, Marshall Islands, Niue, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Vanuatu

Initialed by Prof. Rajesh Chandra for USP: 

Initialed by Dr. Theresa Koroivulaono for CMI: 

region and is designated as the national postsecondary institution for the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI), as enacted in RMI PL 1992-13, *The College of the Marshall Islands Act*.

The College of the Marshall Islands (CMI) is an autonomous community college offering high school equivalency, community extension, student development, certificate and associate degree programs in Liberal Arts, Elementary Education, and Nursing and a Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education.

## 2.0 Purpose

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is designed to foster a collaborative relationship through mutual cooperation in teaching and research between The College of the Marshall Islands and The University of the South Pacific.

The College of the Marshall Islands and The University of the South Pacific have reached agreement on the following areas of cooperation, subject to mutual consent and the availability of sufficient funding:

- Joint projects with NSF on STEM-based learning and teaching programs to support the RMI public school system and private schools;
- Sustainable transportation, particularly the identification of online opportunities for Maritime Education;
- The possible link of USPNET/AARNET in return for co-sharing of outer island learning labs and other resources;
- Develop learning and training pathways that avoid the duplication of courses and programs and maximizes higher education opportunities in the RMI.

The terms of such mutual assistance and funding for any specific program and activity shall be mutually discussed and agreed upon in writing by both parties prior to the initiation of a particular program.


Each institution will designate an individual to coordinate this program and all endeavors that may derive from it. For this purpose, The College of the Marshall Islands designates the President and The University of the South Pacific designates the Campus Director.

## 3.0 Responsibilities

USP and CMI shall be responsible for the following:

- Initiating collaborations which will be of mutual benefit to both institutions;**
- Assisting with development concepts and proposals for joint projects;**
- Consider requests for teaching assistance where feasible and appropriate; and**
- Participate in joint activities pertaining to the Marshallese culture and environment.**

Initialed by Prof. Rajesh Chandra for USP: 

Initialed by Dr. Theresa Koroivulaono for CMI: 

**4.0 Amendment**

No amendment, consent, or waiver of terms of this MOU shall bind either party unless in writing and signed by all parties. Any such amendment, consent, or waiver shall be effective only in the specific instance and for the specified purpose given. The parties to this MOU, by the signatures below of their authorized representatives, acknowledge having read and understood this MOU and agree to be bound by its terms and conditions.

**5.0 Term of MOU**

This MOU shall commence on the date of latest signature and be in effect until December 31, 2021 at which time it shall be reviewed for possible extension. Either party may terminate this MOU by written notification signed by the appropriate official of the institution initiating the notice. However, such notification must be received by the other party at least six months prior to the effective date of termination.

Signed in two original copies in the English Language.



**Professor Rajesh Chandra**  
**Vice-Chancellor & President**  
The University of the South Pacific,  
Laucala, Suva, Fiji



**Dr. Theresa Koroivulaono**  
**President**  
The College of the Marshall Islands  
P. O. Box 1258  
Majuro  
Marshall Islands

Date: 05/26/2017  
Place: MAJURO, RMI

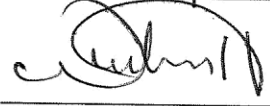
Date: 05.26.17  
Place: REPUBLIC OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS

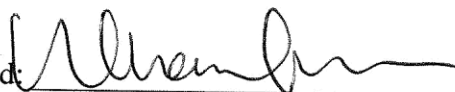
Witnessed by:

Name: William Heine  
Title: Minister of Education, RMI

Witnessed by:

Name: Winston Thompson  
Title: Vice-Chancellor, CSP

Signed: 

Signed: 

Date: May 26, 2017

Date: May 26, 2017