

**AGREEMENT OF COOPERATION BETWEEN THE FACULTY OF ENGINEERING OF
ARISTOTLE UNIVERSITY THESSALONIKI (GREECE) AND THE ÉCOLES «CENTRALE»
DE LILLE, LYON, MARSEILLE, NANTES AND PARIS (FRANCE)
IN THE FRAME OF THE TIME NETWORK**

Introduction

In accordance with the general agreement between the Faculty of Engineering of Aristotle University and the Ecoles "Centrale" de Lille, Lyon, Marseille, Nantes and Paris, and in the spirit of the principles set out by the statutes of the TIME (Top Industrial Manager for Europe) network, the institutions signing the present agreement express their common desire to put in place and develop exchanges conforming to the spirit of cooperation which drives the member states of the European Union.

This European vocation of the six institutions, in their joint mission of teaching and research, allows this cooperation to come within the scope of the programmes implemented by the Commission of the European communities, equally for programmes existing currently (ERASMUS, LEONARDO, LLP, etc.) as for future ones.

As a consequence,

- Aristotle University, with its principal place of business at University Campus, 54124 Thessaloniki, Greece, represented by its Rector, Prof. Anastassios Manthos and by the Dean of the Faculty of Engineering, Prof. Nikolaos Moussiopoulos
- The Ecole Centrale de Lille (EC Lille), with its principal place of business at BP 48, Villeneuve d'Ascq, 59651 cedex (France) represented by its Director Prof. Etienne Craye
- The Ecole Centrale de Lyon (ECL), with its principal place of business at 36 avenue Guy de Collongue, BP 163, 69134 Ecully cedex (France) represented by its Director Prof. Patrick Bourgin
- The Ecole Centrale de Marseille (ECM) with its principal place of business at Technopôle de Château-Gombert, 38 rue Joliot Curie, 13451 Marseille, Cedex 20 (France) represented by its Director Prof. Didier Marquis
- The Ecole Centrale de Nantes (ECN), with its principal place of business at 1, rue de la Noe, BP 92101, 44321 Nantes cedex 3 (France) represented by its Director Prof. Patrick Chedmail
- The Ecole Centrale Paris (ECP), with its principal place of business at Grande voie des Vignes, 92295 Chatenay-Malabry cedex (France) represented by its Director Prof. Hervé Biaisser

have decided to implement international student exchanges leading to the attainment of the TIME engineering Double Degree of one of the Ecoles "Centrale" and of the Faculty of Engineering Aristotle University Thessaloniki (AUTH), according to the following conditions.

Article 1 - Objectives

The present agreement describes the general organisation and the conditions to obtain the TIME Double-Degree: "Ingénieur de l'Ecole Centrale" and "Diploma Engineer" of AUTH.

A specific Appendix to the present agreement can describe the special clauses that would concern a specific Department of Faculty of Engineering of AUTH and precise the specific diploma that could be substituted to the Diploma of Engineer of AUTH in case of adaptation of Faculties or Departments to the new European organisation of Higher Education.

Article 2 - For students of AUTH

Faculty of Engineering, Aristotle University students who have taken and passed every examination during their first two years of study at their home university may be given the opportunity to continue their study program in the 1st and 2nd years of Centrale's multidisciplinary core curriculum. These 2 years are a common core curriculum to be done entirely. On condition that all the examinations taken during the two years of study in France have been passed, the students will complete on their return to Greece their curricula by enrolling normally in the 4th and 5th year of the Engineering program of AUTH

On a case by case basis, courses of the 3rd, 4th and 5th year Curriculum at AUTH can be validated by courses of the Common Core Curriculum at one of the Ecole Centrale and possibly by some courses of the 3rd year at one of the Ecole Centrale.

In this way, Faculty of Engineering, Aristotle University students will have completed the 5 years of study requested according to the Greek law for engineering students, whilst the sixth year will be equivalent to a second cycle year.

The end of study project, which is indispensable to obtain the title of «Ingénieur diplômé» of the Ecole Centrale after successful completion of their curricula in the Ecole Centrale, and the "diploma thesis" in order to obtain the diploma of Engineer of the AUTH will constitute one unique project which will be performed under the responsibility of either partner supervisor. Only after the presentation of this project, will the students obtain simultaneously the two diplomas. The end of study project/diploma thesis, may be undertaken in a research laboratory or in a company. It will be written and presented in French, Greek or English. In all cases, a written summary will be presented in the other two languages.

Students of Faculty of Engineering, Aristotle University have the opportunity of taking a one to two month intensive summer course in French as a foreign language in France, before the beginning of the first academic year at one of the Ecoles Centrale (fees for this intensive summer program will be covered by the exchange students themselves or by other sources). Furthermore, they will take weekly lessons of French as a foreign language during year one and year two of the common core curriculum in France.

Article 3 - For students of the Ecoles «Centrale»

The engineering students of the Ecoles «Centrale» who have obtained the right to enroll in the 3rd year of the Ecoles «Centrale» will be able to continue their studies in the 4th and 5th year program of AUTH.

On a case by case basis, some courses of the last 2 years of AUTH can be validated by courses of the Common Core Curriculum at ECP, and replaced by some courses of the 3rd year of AUTH Curriculum.

The end of study project, which is indispensable to obtain the title of «Ingénieur diplômé» of the Ecole Centrale after successful completion of their curricula in the Ecole Centrale, and the "diploma thesis" in order to obtain the diploma of Engineer of the AUTH will constitute one unique project which will be performed under the responsibility of either partner supervisor. Only after the presentation of this project, will the students obtain simultaneously the two diplomas. The end of study project/diploma thesis, may be undertaken in a research laboratory or in a company. It will be written and presented in French, Greek or English. In all cases, a written summary will be presented in the other two languages.

Unless otherwise specified, students of Faculty of the Ecoles «Centrale» will have the opportunity of taking a one to two month intensive summer course in Greek as a foreign language in Greece before the beginning of the first academic year at the Faculty of Engineering, Aristotle University (fees for this intensive summer program will be covered by the exchange students themselves or by other sources). Furthermore, they will take weekly lessons of Greek as a foreign language during year four and year five of the curriculum in Greece.

The application of the present article for French students is postponed up to the modification of Greek legislation

Article 4

The host institution will designate, for each student, a tutor responsible for them who will be their personal interlocutor throughout their stay.

Article 5

Before 15th May of each year, the persons responsible in each institution must indicate the number of students proposed for the exchange programme.

The selection of candidates will be made, on the one hand through a written application and, on the other, after an interview, by a jury which may be composed of representatives from each institution and presided over by a representative of the host institution.

In all cases the final decision will be taken by the jury of the host institution.

Care will be taken by the commissions and juries to select only those students who are apt to follow successfully the teaching administered by the other institution.

Article 6

The host institution undertakes to facilitate the arrival of the students and to put at their disposal all services and study grants that may exist.

All costs of travel and accommodation will be met by the students.

Before the students depart, their institution of origin must guarantee that all insurances required have been taken out.

No tuition fees will be paid to the host institution up until the end of the pre-defined exchange period.

Article 7

AUTH and the Ecoles «Centrale» de Lille, Lyon, Marseille, Nantes and Paris will undertake all necessary actions to national and European institutions and companies in order to obtain all possible financial support for the programme.

Article 8

The persons responsible in each institution involved in the programme will meet on a regular basis in order to

- Assess the efficiency of the teaching programmes in both institutions.
- Report on the cooperation and the academic results of the students.
- Propose new initiatives.

Article 9

The operating procedures for the exchange of students between AUTH and each Ecole «Centrale» will be detailed for each particular case. These details will concern as much the administrative organization, as the course work followed by each student and the exams they take.

Article 10

The present agreement will become binding at the date of its signing by the two parties.

The agreement is signed for a duration of five years and will be renewable after verification of the activities actually carried out and following agreement between the two institutions.

Either party may terminate this agreement at any moment, which will then become totally ineffective one hundred and eighty days after the date its termination has been communicated. Any termination of the agreement will in no way interrupt the activities undertaken and still in process.

Article 11

The two parties agree to find an amicable solution to any disagreement which may arise from interpreting the present agreement.

In the case where no agreement can be found, an arbitral commission, composed of one member chosen by each of the parties and of one member chosen by mutual agreement, will be set up.

Article 12

In their desire to develop more common actions undertaken in the framework of education and research, AUTH and the Ecoles «Centrale» de Lille, Lyon, Marseille, Nantes and Paris will favor:

- The exchange of students, professors and researchers.
- Study groups and seminars on themes previously agreed on.
- The exchange of information, documentation and scientific publications.
- The exchange of students for visits to and work placements in companies.

Article 13

The signing of this agreement does not imply any financial commitment for the institutions.

Article 14

The present agreement shall be prepared in 12 copies, corresponding to the number of institutions and the number of languages concerned by the present agreement. All of them shall have equal validity.

For the Ecole Centrale de Lille
The Director,

Prof Etienne Craye
Lille,.....

For the Ecole Centrale de Lyon
The Director,

Prof. Patrick Bourgin
Lyon,.....

For the Ecole Centrale de Nantes
The Director,

Prof. Patrick Chedmail
Nantes,.....

For the Ecole Centrale Paris
The Director,

Prof. Hervé Biauxser
Paris,.....

For The Ecole Centrale de Marseille
The Director,

Prof. Didier Marquis
Marseille,.....

For the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki
The Rector,

Prof. Anastassios Manthos
Thessaloniki,.....

The Dean of the Faculty of
Engineering,

Prof. Nicolaos Moussiopoulos
Thessaloniki, 18.1.2000