MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

BETWEEN

Kohat University of Science & Technology, Kohat (hereinafter referred to as "KUST"

AND

The FATA University, FR Kohat, hereinafter referred to as "FU"

This Memorandum of Understanding (hereinafter referred to as the "MoU") is signed and entered into on this 21st day of October 2026, and sets forth the understanding between:

Kohat University of Science & Technology (KUST), a public sector university established under the KUST Ordinance 2001, located in Kohat, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan, represented by its Vice Chancellor, Prof. Dr. Syed Zafar Ilyas.

AND

The FATA University, FR Kohat is a public sector University situated in Akhorwal, Tribal Sub-Division Darra Adam Khel, Kohat, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan.
It is the first-ever university in the Federally Administered Tribal Area (FATA) and established in 2016 represented by its Vice-Chancellor Prof. Dr. Mohsan Nawaz.

Each of the above shall be referred to individually as a "Party" and collectively as the "Parties".

1. INTRODUCTION:

This MoU sets forth the terms and understanding between **FU** and **KUST** to establish a collaborative framework to support mutual academic and research objectives. The collaboration is based on mutual trust and the shared goal of promoting research excellence, sharing laboratory infrastructure, and enhancing opportunities for postgraduate students as well as faculty members from both institutions.

2. OBJECTIVE / PURPOSE:

The purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding is to create a broad framework for cooperation between the two universities. This partnership encompasses academic, research, and infrastructural collaboration, including joint research initiatives, capacity building, and the mutual exchange of students, faculty, and scholarly resources. It also provides for shared use of laboratories, libraries, and other facilities to support innovation and advance education across all areas of mutual interest.

3. SCOPE AND FORMS OF COOPERATION:

The Parties agree to engage in the following cooperative activities:

3.1. Access to laboratory facilities at **FU** for **KUST's** MPhil and PhD students as well as faculty in all disciplines for research, analysis, and experimentation.

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3.2. Joint research projects and publications by faculty and researchers from both institutions.

3.3. Exchange of faculty members, research scholars, and postgraduate students for collaborative research, short-term visits, and training programs.

3.4. Sharing of scientific equipment, technical expertise, and laboratory resources as mutually agreed.

3.5. Joint organization of seminars, workshops, and conferences on mutually relevant scientific themes.

3.6. Exchange of academic and research materials, including datasets, publications, and technical reports.

3.7 **FU** faculty members, researchers, and postgraduate students may also be facilitated to access the laboratory facilities of KUST for the purposes of research and scientific experimentation.

3.8. Any other collaborative activity mutually agreed upon in writing.

4. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS:

All intellectual property (IP) generated jointly under this MoU shall be subject to mutual agreement and ownership shall be determined based on respective contributions. The Parties may agree in writing on publication, patenting, and commercialization terms in accordance with applicable institutional policies and laws.

5. PERSONNEL EXCHANGE AND LAB ACCESS:

5.1. Access of KUST students and researchers to **FU's** laboratories shall be based on prior approval and availability, in accordance with **FU's** standard operating procedures.

5.2. **FU** shall facilitate reasonable access to equipment, facilities, and relevant technical staff for authorized KUST students and researchers.

5.3. Both Parties shall ensure proper conduct, safety compliance, and adherence to institutional regulations by visiting personnel.

5.4. Expenses related to travel, accommodation, consumables, or training will be mutually decided on a case to case basis.

6. FIELDS OF ACADEMIC AND RESEARCH PARTNERSHIP:

6.1. The collaboration will encompass a wide range of academic and research activities, including the reciprocal exchange of faculty and students, shared access to laboratories and other institutional resources, joint research and innovation projects, cooperative technological support, and collaborative scholarly and publication initiatives.

7. CONFIDENTIALITY AND NON-DISCLOSURE:

The Parties agree that any confidential information exchanged under this MoU shall remain confidential and shall not be disclosed to third parties without prior written consent, except where required by law.

8. LEGAL STATUS:

This MoU reflects the intention of the Parties to collaborate in good faith. It does not create any binding legal obligations, nor shall it be construed to create a partnership, joint venture, or employment relationship between the Parties.

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9. DISPUTE RESOLUTION:

Any dispute or difference arising from the interpretation or implementation of this MoU shall be resolved amicably through mutual consultation and negotiation between the Parties.

10. AMENDMENT:

This MoU may be amended or modified at any time by mutual written consent of the authorized representatives of both Parties.

11. DURATION AND TERMINATION:

This MoU shall remain in effect for a period of five (5) years from the date of the last signature and may be extended for further duration upon mutual agreement. Either Party may terminate this MoU by giving three (3) months' written notice to the other Party.

12. COST SHARING:

Unless otherwise agreed upon, each Party shall bear its own costs and expenses incurred in connection with activities under this MoU. Joint funding or cost-sharing arrangements, if any, will be documented in separate written agreements.

13. EFFECTIVE DATE:

This MoU shall become effective on the date of the last signature affixed below.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF

The authorized representatives of both Parties have executed this Memorandum of Understanding as of the dates set forth below:

Signature: _____

Prof. Dr. Syed Zafar Ilyas
Vice Chancellor, KUST
Website: https://www.kust.edu.pk/

Signature: _____

Prof. Dr. Mohsan Nawaz
Vice Chancellor, FATA University,
Website: https://www.fu.edu.pk/

Witness on behalf of KUST :

Signature: _____

Dr. Muhammad Zeeshan
Director ORIC, KUST
Date: 21-10-2026

Witness on behalf of FU

Signature: _____

Name: Mr. Muhammad Akbar Amin
Director ORIC, FATA University
Date: 21-10-2026

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