MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Between
Texas Electronic Coalition for Physics
and
Department of Physical and Life Sciences at Texas A&M University–Corpus Christi

WHEREAS:
The Department of Physical and Life Sciences of Texas A&M University–Corpus Christi (TAMU–CC) has agreed to participate in the Texas Electronic Coalition for Physics (TECP) in order to strengthen the undergraduate program in Physics at TAMU–CC, and to enhance the cooperation of both faculty and students from TAMU–CC in education and research.

THEREFORE:
Texas A&M University–Corpus Christi, represented by Dr. Robert Fargason, President, and the Texas Electronic Coalition for Physics, represented by Dr. Daniel Suson, Chair of the TECP,

AGREE:

- TAMU–CC Physical and Life Sciences agrees to provide a minimum of one Physics faculty member to participate in the TECP, and to encourage all of the Physics faculty to participate in the TECP. If more than one TAMU–CC Physics faculty member participates in the TECP, TAMU–CC’s Department of Physical and Life Sciences will appoint one of these faculty members as the local coordinator.
- The TECP agrees to provide relevant material it has collected to aid faculty evaluation by the Department of Physical and Life Sciences.
- The Department of Physical and Life Sciences (TAMU–CC) agrees that, in the case of student complaints pertaining to TECP courses, the following "chain of command" shall apply: 1) Course instructor, with TAMU–CC Physical and Life Sciences facilitating contact with a TECP instructor located outside of TAMU–CC; 2) Local coordinator; 3) Chair of the TECP; 4) TAMU–CC Physical and Life Sciences Department Chair; 5) TAMU–CC Science & Technology Dean; and 6) TAMU–CC Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs.
- TAMU–CC Physical and Life Sciences agrees to include TECP faculty in an advisory capacity during the interview process for any new Physics faculty, provided that the position announcement includes teaching and/or research responsibilities that interact with the TECP, and providing that such a TTVN based meeting can be arranged. The TECP chair agrees to provide the TECP local coordinator at TAMU–CC with the views and opinions gathered from TECP faculty of the prospective candidate.
- Faculty members in the TECP and TAMU–CC Physical and Life Sciences program will vigorously pursue opportunities for collaborative research activities in areas of mutual interest to the two programs. Grant proposals submitted for external funding that include student positions for physics research will state that any qualified student in a TECP institution is eligible for such positions whenever such a statement is necessary.
- TECP and TAMU–CC faculty and students will disseminate results of their collaboration through co-authored papers for publication and presentation to various audiences.
- The TECP and the Department of Physical and Life Sciences (TAMU–CC) will cooperate in placing TAMU–CC Physics students into summer internship positions, including opportunities known to other programs participating in the TBCP.
- Academic advising will remain the responsibility of the Department of Physical and Life Sciences (TAMU–CC). Whenever possible, faculty members participating in the TECP will be assigned as advisors to students pursuing a curriculum that includes more than two TECP courses.
- Scholarships and other student support shall remain vested within the Department of Physical and Life Sciences (TAMU–CC). The Department of Physical and Life Sciences (TAMU–CC) agrees to cooperate with the TECP to pursue establishment of TECP oriented scholarships at TAMU–CC.
- The TAMU–CC courses listed on Attachment A will be considered equivalent to the corresponding TECP courses listed on Attachment A.
- The TECP will provide the courses specified in Attachment A as TTVN/Internet courses to TAMU–CC Physics students. Teaching contact credit, as well as receipt of tuition and fees generated by these
courses will be governed by the ancillary agreement provided in Attachment B.

- The Department of Physical and Life Sciences (TAMU-CC) agrees to list all TECP courses being offered in a particular semester as part of their departmental course offerings during that semester.

- The Department of Physical and Life Sciences (TAMU-CC) also agrees to list as many of the TECP courses as possible, within the constraints of Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board rules, as part of their departmental course catalog.

- The TECP agrees that the material developed by participating TAMU-CC faculty for use in TECP courses is the intellectual property of the TAMU-CC faculty and Texas A&M University–Corpus Christi, subject to TAMU-CC faculty intellectual property policy.

- The Department of Physical and Life Sciences (TAMU-CC) agrees to use TECP student evaluation of instruction forms for TECP courses. The TECP agrees to share the results of these evaluations with the TAMU-CC faculty member under evaluation as well as the Head of the Department of Physical and Life Sciences (TAMU-CC).

- TAMU-CC faculty participating in the TECP will attend monthly TECP meetings via TTYN, as well as one live meeting per semester. Expenditures for travel to the live meeting will be provided by the Department of Physical and Life Sciences (TAMU-CC).

- To facilitate course planning by the TECP, the Department of Physical and Life Sciences (TAMU-CC) will inform the TECP Chair of TAMU-CC's academic calendar and Physics course schedule for the following semester within a week of their finalization every semester. The TECP Chair shall make available to the Department of Physical and Life Sciences (TAMU-CC) the comprehensive set of academic calendars and course schedules at other TECP member institutions within a week of their availability.

- The Department of Physical and Life Sciences (TAMU-CC) agrees to provide the TECP with tracking information on Physics majors who participate in at least one TECP course, where such information is available. This information will include student status (active, withdrawn, graduated, etc.); date graduated, if applicable; current and permanent address, phone number, and email address, provided that sharing such information does not violate any privacy restrictions incumbent on TAMU-CC. TECP agrees to share student information with the Department of Physical and Life Sciences (TAMU-CC) for all students who participate in the TECP program.

- The Department of Physical and Life Sciences (TAMU-CC) agrees to provide resources for student contact with TECP instructors and administrators. Such resources include, but are not limited to, long distance telephone, fax, email and TTYN connections.

- The Department of Physical and Life Sciences (TAMU-CC) understands that student information, including private information such as social security numbers and grade histories, of those students that participate in TECP courses will be maintained by the TECP program and can be shared amongst TECP faculty and staff members of the TECP at all participating institutions, provided that such sharing does not violate any privacy restrictions incumbent on TAMU-CC.

- TAMU-CC Physical and Life Sciences understands that participation in the TECP is governed by the Bylaws of the Texas Electronic Coalition for Physics (see Attachment C) and agrees to abide by these Bylaws in its interactions with the TECP.

- This MOU is considered a living and dynamic agreement, subject to continuous modification and improvement for the mutual benefit of the two entities.

This agreement shall become effective upon the approval and execution by the President of Texas A&M University–Corpus Christi, and by the Chair of the TECP, and will be renewed every five years upon mutual consent of both entities. This agreement may be amended by means of common written consent on the part of the signatories or their designated representatives.
IN AFFIRMATION:

Dr. Daniel L. J. Salas
Chair
Texas Electronic Coalition for Physics

Dr. M.K. Balasubramanya
Local Coordinator
Texas A&M University–Corpus Christi

Dr. Robert Purgeson
President
Texas A&M University–Corpus Christi

Dr. Sandra Harper
Provost
Texas A&M University–Corpus Christi

Dr. Diana Marinez
Dean, College of Science & Technology
Texas A&M University–Corpus Christi

Dr. Grady Price Blount
Head, Department of Physical and Life Sciences
Texas A&M University–Corpus Christi