



**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU)**

**BETWEEN**

**THE UNIVERSITY OF CRAIOVA – FACULTY OF SCIENCES**

**REPRESENTED BY THE DEAN OF THE FACULTY OF SCIENCES**

**AND**

**GLOBAL HEALTH CATALYST**

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## MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

### BACKGROUND

#### Global Health Catalyst

The Global Health Catalyst (GHC)'s mission is to catalyze high-impact international collaborations to advance healthcare and address health disparities within the USA and globally.

The GHC was seed-funded by the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Studies at Harvard University, Brigham and Women's Hospital, and Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and has now grown to receive major support from other institutions, world-leading universities, foundations, and funding agencies like the United States National Institutes of Health.

Over the past years, the GHC has catalyzed collaborations to establish or support many cancer centres and healthcare institutions in different low- and middle-income countries (LMIC), trained thousands of oncology health professionals, and partnered with many institutions, industry, policymakers, diaspora, and other stakeholders to advance global health and development.

The 4 main areas for catalyzing win-win collaborations are in advancing **high-impact Care, Outreach, Research and Education (CORE) customized to the needs of each collaborator.**

#### The University of Craiova

The University of Craiova (UCV) is a public university located in Craiova, Romania, that was founded in 1947. UCV represents an instrumentality of Romania, a unit of the Ministry of National Education governed by the Government of Romania and accredited by the Romanian Agency for Higher Education, a full member of the European Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education

Following discussions with the stakeholders represented in this document, this MOU has been initiated by Harvard catalysts Saiful HUQ, Stephen AVERY and Wil NGUA and the UCV Catalysts Iulian PETRISOR and Mihaela Tinca UDRISTIOIU aiming for high-impact collaborations between The UCV and the GHC-affiliated partner institutions,

**This MOU provides a framework for collaboration with measurable goals.**



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## ARTICLE I: SCOPE OF THE COLLABORATION

This collaboration aims to provide the needed support for capacity building and training of researchers (in medical physics) in Craiova over the next 5 years in addressing the growing burden of cancer, covering both adults and pediatrics.

This collaboration consists of three main pillars (a detailed action plan can be found in the MOU addendum and to be considered part of the MOU):

- a) **Research:** promote collaborative research in Medical Physics and training on research methodology through Certified virtual or in-person courses and workshops and hosting and sponsoring UCV faculty members, trainees, and students (elective rotations) at Global Health-affiliated hospitals for the duration of 1-3 months on cancer.

(The GHC will support the expenses of training, travel, and accommodation through its funds), through continuous virtual lectures/seminar series and workshops/ conferences.

- b) **Training and Education:** provide virtual and in-person learning opportunities for UCV, Medical Physics students, trainees, and faculty at GHC-affiliated hospitals.

Help develop and improve training programs according to validated high standards.

- c) **Establishment of Centers of Excellence and Quality Improvement:** Help UCV develop centres of excellence in cancer care (focused on medical physics) and support quality improvement projects within UCV and other Romanian universities.

## ARTICLE II: STRATEGIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The following strategies and responsibilities will be followed to fulfill the overall goal and project objectives, and these are agreed upon by both parties:

### i. Responsibilities of the University of Craiova

1. **Project Steering Committee:** The administration shall facilitate the implementation of collaboration objectives by creating a steering committee for the project to include Prof Dr. Cezar Ionut SPINU (Rector), Assoc. Prof. Dr. Cristian TIGAE (Dean of the Faculty of Sciences), Assoc. Prof. Dr. Iulian PETRISOR (Head of the Department of Physics) University of Craiova, Lect. Dr. Mihaela Tinca UDRISTIOIU and the Global Health Catalysts Dr. Saiful HUQ and Dr. Stephen Avery and Dr. Wilfred Ngwa (Director of the Global Health Catalyst Program).

The steering committee shall define the objectives, roadmap, and timelines of the technical implementation of this project.

2. **Education and Research:** The administration shall facilitate the identification of appropriate collaborators who can be supported in co-mentored education and



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research involving faculty from GHC partner institutions (Harvard/Johns Hopkins/University of Pennsylvania and others)

3. **Outreach:** Collaborate in 1) the dissemination of information regarding the collaboration; 2) participation of collaborators and faculty from Romania at the annual GHC summits; 3) organizing satellite summits sponsored by the GHC in Romania involving USA institution faculty and industry leaders, and other stakeholders to mobilize additional support for the collaboration
4. **Assoc. Prof. Dr. Iulian PETRISOR and Lect. Dr. Mihaela Tinca UDRISTIOIU from the University of Craiova, Faculty of Sciences, Department of Physics,** to provide the necessary administrative support related to the program/project or activities.
5. **Progress Reporting:** Work with GHC to develop/provide semi-annual reports on progress made, challenges and future projections.

## ii. Responsibilities of GHC

1. **Education:** Facilitate and support the training/capacity building of identified healthcare trainees or professionals as part of the human resource development of the University of Craiova.
2. **Care:** Provide needed infrastructure and support planning, set-up, and implementation to enhance access to healthcare services for the University of Craiova.
3. **Research:** Facilitate and provide support for collaborative research, including up to 5 research fellowships a year for fellows from the UCV to travel to leading institutions like Harvard, Johns Hopkins, UPenn, and other partner institutions with faculty at these institutions as co-mentors/collaborators
4. **Outreach and Collaborative Activities:** Support/sponsor collaborative outreach activities
5. **Progress Reporting:** Work with the UCV, Faculty of Sciences to develop/provide semiannual reports on progress made, challenges and future projections.

## ARTICLE III: GENERAL TERMS

- 3.1 This MOU is not intended to and does not create any right, benefit, or trust responsibility, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or equity, by either party, its officers, employees, or agents against the other party, its officers, employees, or agents.
- 3.2 Nothing in this MOU obligates parties to commit or transfer any funds, assets, or other resources in support of projects or activities between the parties unless expressly stated in this agreement.
- 3.3. **USE OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY:** The parties agree that any intellectual property, which is jointly developed through activities covered under this MOU,



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can be used by parties for non-profit, non-commercial purposes without obtaining consent from the other and without any need to account to the other. All other intellectual property used in the implementation of the MOU will remain the property of the party that provided it. This property can be used by parties for purposes covered by the MOU, but consent will be obtained from the owner of the property before using it for purposes not covered by the MOU.

3.4. Selection committee for candidates to include representatives from the UCV, GHC and the catalysts, Dr. Iulian PETRISOR and Dr. Mihaela Tinca UDRISTIOIU.

3.5. The parties shall set a timeline for each activity, especially those that need to nominate a candidate to come to the States (like visa and reservations) so both sides could arrange and accommodate accordingly.

3.5. This MOU is at-will and may be modified by mutual consent of representatives from the parties involved.

Any Party may terminate this MOU and any related agreement at any time and for any reason by giving thirty (30) days prior written notice to the other Party.

The MOU is initially valid for a period of Five years beginning from the date when it is signed by both parties, after which it may be extended by a written and signed addendum to this MOU.

**ARTICLE IV: Signatures**

Parties indicate agreement with this MOU by their signatures below.

Party 1:  
Global Health Catalyst

Party 2:  
The University of Craiova

Signed By *party 1*:  
*Director*

Signed By *party 2*: |  
*Rector*

*Dr. Cezar Ionut SPINU*

*Md. Saiful*  
Signature:

Signature:



Date: June 8, 2024

Date: May 27, 2024