

**Memorandum of Understanding  
between  
Alcorn State University  
and  
The University of Tennessee through its College of Pharmacy**

This Memorandum of Understanding establishes a basis for mutual understanding between Alcorn State University (hereafter, "ASU"), a minority-serving land-grant institution of the State of Mississippi, located in Alcorn State, Mississippi, and The University of Tennessee through its College of Pharmacy (hereafter, "University of Tennessee College of Pharmacy"), a research intensive university of the State of Tennessee, located in Memphis, Tennessee, in the implementation of a "Partnership in Education" agreement (hereafter, "Agreement").

WHEREAS, it is the intent of both universities to foster and expand educational opportunities, and cooperation between the two institutions; and

WHEREAS, this partnership between ASU and the University of Tennessee College of Pharmacy will greatly enhance the ability to increase the numbers of Alcorn students in post-baccalaureate doctoral degree programs;

WHEREAS, the partnership agreement objectives are to:

1. enhance the diversity of qualified students in The University of Tennessee College of Pharmacy;
2. develop sustainable processes and initiatives to identify, attract, and recruit ASU graduates to The University of Tennessee College of Pharmacy;
3. establish a seamless pathway from Alcorn State University to The University of Tennessee, primarily focusing on increased access to The University of Tennessee College of Pharmacy; and
4. develop strategies that will help ensure the retention and successful matriculation of ASU graduates.

THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants and in the spirit of good faith, mutual cooperation and the determination to use best efforts, as well as in consideration of the mutual covenants set forth herein and in the Partnership in Education Agreement, ASU and UT agree to enter into this Memorandum of Understanding.

## Terms of Memorandum of Understanding

1. The definitive terms of cooperation for each of the objectives initiated under this memorandum of understanding shall be mutually discussed and agreed upon in writing by both universities prior to implementation.
2. Each university shall designate a Point of Contact who will develop and coordinate the various activities agreed upon. Through these individuals, either university may initiate proposals for additional cooperative activities.
3. The universities will work to identify the resources needed to carry out the activities described in this Memorandum of Understanding.

## Evaluation

Each university will provide designated representatives who will meet annually to review the progress of cooperative activities between the universities and to assess the overall impact of the partnership agreement.

## Effective Date and Termination

This Memorandum of Understanding is non-binding and only serves to clarify the intent of the parties. Either party may at any time indicate such party's desire to discontinue discussions with regard to the above.

Alcorn State University

Signed

Josephine Pacey  
Vice President  
Academic Affairs

Signed

Henry E. Cook  
President  
Alcorn State University

The University of Tennessee

Signed

Rich B. Smith  
Dean  
College of Pharmacy

Signed

Genevieve Bunn  
Executive Vice Chancellor  
The University of Tennessee

Signed

Thomas H. Hargrett  
Chancellor  
The University of Tennessee

Date

11/26/08

Date

November 5, 2008

**Partnership In Education Agreement  
between  
Alcorn State University  
and  
The University of Tennessee through its College of Pharmacy**

**ARTICLE 1. PURPOSE OF AGREEMENT**

This Partnership in Education Agreement (PEA) between Alcorn State University and The University of Tennessee through its College of Pharmacy (hereafter called University of Tennessee College of Pharmacy) involves a comprehensive approach that will establish a framework that will cooperatively promote successful admission of academically competitive ASU students to the University of Tennessee College of Pharmacy.

Specific objectives of the agreement are to:

1. increase diverse enrollment by providing a seamless path to University of Tennessee College of Pharmacy;
2. develop and initiate strategies for admission and ensuring successful matriculation of ASU's students;
3. enhance students' appreciation of diverse values, ideas, and life experiences in cultures other than their own; and
4. seek ways to provide/enhance financial assistance to entering University of Tennessee College of Pharmacy students through mechanisms such as scholarships and other gift aid.

**ARTICLE 2. GENERAL SCOPE OF THE PARTNERSHIP IN EDUCATION AGREEMENT**

It is proposed that ASU and UT develop a mutually agreeable and seamless path that will provide ASU students direct access to University of Tennessee College of Pharmacy and foster an academic and supportive environment by:

1. developing a collaborative model that will facilitate a direct path for ASU students to be admitted to University of Tennessee College of Pharmacy;
2. continuing initiatives to meet the challenges of retention by promoting activities to enhance communication between faculty and students; and
3. establishing a financial aid package for deserving ASU students who are admitted to study pharmacy at University of Tennessee College of Pharmacy.

**A. COMMITMENTS BY ALCORN STATE UNIVERSITY**

1. ASU agrees to explore and develop mechanisms that will encourage and enhance cooperative work between institutions in areas of enrollment, retention, scholarship, and financial aid;
2. continue to provide value-added activities through the pre-professional programs to increase and maintain a competitive pool of ASU applicants;
3. provide quality undergraduate curricula that will result in unparalleled academic preparation;
4. promote the University of Tennessee College of Pharmacy and inform all academically competitive students of the many opportunities that are offered at University of Tennessee College of Pharmacy;
5. provide a pool of ASU students who are academically qualified and mentally prepared for demanding health professional curricula;
6. provide letter of endorsement for all academically competitive ASU students who successfully matriculate through the pre-professional and pre-graduate College programs; and
7. provide a Partnership Agreement Manager (PAM) to work with the University of Tennessee College of Pharmacy PAM and faculty to identify and select ASU students who are academically competitive.

**B. COMMITMENTS BY THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE COLLEGE OF PHARMACY**

1. The University of Tennessee College of Pharmacy agrees to explore and develop mechanisms that will encourage and enhance cooperative work between institutions in areas of recruitment, admission/enrollment, retention, scholarship, and financial aid;
2. provide a Partnership Agreement Manager (PAM) to work with the ASU PAM and faculty to identify and select ASU students who are academically competitive;
3. provide counseling, mentoring and/or other services designed to assist students to successfully complete their pharmacy education at University of Tennessee College of Pharmacy;

4. reserve the right of making the final judgment on the admissibility of each student endorsed by the ASU Office of Pre-Professional and Pre-Graduate College programs while nevertheless, making best efforts to place competitive Alcorn State University students in the spirit of this agreement;
5. offer ASU students who successfully complete the Office of Pre-Professional and Pre-Graduate College programs priority or some weighted value in the University of Tennessee College of Pharmacy admission/selection process;
6. provide students that are not immediately competitive, entry into a supportive academic environment, i.e., Tennessee Institutes for Pre-Professionals, so that students can demonstrate intestinal fortitude/academic aptitude, desire and ability to succeed in pharmacy school; and
7. work toward a goal in which every entering first-year pharmacy class at the University of Tennessee College of Pharmacy has one or more ASU students.

### **ARTICLE 3. IMPLEMENTATION**

A Partnership team will monitor implementation of the Partnership in Education Agreement. This team will be comprised of UT's Executive Associate Dean, Partnership Agreement Manager, and Admissions Coordinator; ASU's Vice President for Academic Affairs and the Director of the Office of Pre-Professional and Pre-Graduate College Programs. The Partnership Team will meet annually to review progress and address challenges and assure continuous improvement.

### **ARTICLE 4. EVALUATION**

The evaluation will be outcomes-driven. ASU and University of Tennessee College of Pharmacy will provide designated representatives who will meet periodically to review the progress of the collaborative activities between ASU and University of Tennessee College of Pharmacy as well as to assess the overall impact of the Partnership in Education Agreement.

### **ARTICLE 5. EFFECTIVE DATE**

The Partnership in Education Agreement will be effective on the time and date when the last signatory has signed it. This Partnership in Education Agreement will continue with no fixed termination date. However, either university may terminate the agreement with 90 days notice.

**ARTICLE 6. UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE COLLEGE OF PHARMACY LIABILITY**

The University of Tennessee College of Pharmacy is self-insured under the provisions of the Tennessee Claims Commission Act, T.C.A. § 9-8-301, et seq., which provides for a limited waiver of the State's sovereign immunity in specified cases, up to \$300,000 per claimant and \$1,000,000 per occurrence. Any liability of The University of Tennessee College of Pharmacy for damages, losses, or costs, arising out of or related to acts performed by the University of Tennessee College of Pharmacy under this contract is governed by the provisions of said Act.

**ARTICLE 7. ILLEGAL IMMIGRANT**

In compliance with the requirements of Chapter 878, Public Acts of 2006 of the State of Tennessee, for any contract for goods or services purchased by The University of Tennessee College of Pharmacy, ASU hereby attests that the ASU shall not knowingly utilize the services of an illegal immigrant in the United States in the performance of this Contract and shall not knowingly utilize the services of any subcontractor who will utilize the services of an illegal immigrant in the United States in the performance of the Contract.

**ARTICLE 8. PERFORMANCE AND DELIVERY**

No person on the grounds of disability, age, race, color, religion, sex, national origin, veteran status or any other classification protected by Federal and/or Tennessee State constitutional and/or statutory laws shall be excluded from participation in, or be denied benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination in the performance of this Contract. ASU shall, upon request, show proof of such non-discrimination, and shall post in conspicuous places, available to all employees and applicants, notice of non-discrimination.

IN WITNESS, the Parties have caused this Agreement to be executed by their duly authorized representatives as follows:

Alcorn State University  
Signed Josephine Osney  
Vice President  
Academic Affairs  
Signed Ray E. Blair  
President  
Alcorn State University

The University of Tennessee  
Signed John F. Howley  
Dean  
College of Pharmacy  
Signed Kevin D. Brown  
Executive Vice Chancellor  
The University of Tennessee  
Signed Williamson  
Chancellor  
The University of Tennessee

11/26/08  
Date

November 5, 2008  
Date