

Memorandum of Understanding

Between
Pepperdine University School of Law
And
Heidelberg University

On behalf of its Institute for Comparative Law, Conflict of Laws and International Business Law
And on behalf of its Center para América Latina
July 31, 2014

This document describes a collaborative relationship between Heidelberg University and Pepperdine University that facilitates students from Europe earning an LLM in International Dispute Resolution at Pepperdine University. The collaborative relationship has been approved by the appropriate faculties and administrators at both universities to be effective one year. This proposal was advanced by Dr. Thomas Pfeiffer, Director of the Institute for Comparative Law, Conflict of Laws, and International Business Law at Heidelberg University School of Law (Heidelberg) and Professors Thomas Stipanowich and Peter Robinson, Co-Directors of the Straus Institute for Dispute Resolution at Pepperdine University School of Law (Pepperdine.)

Executive Summary

Pepperdine agrees to recognize up to eight (8) units/credits of pre-approved course work at Heidelberg towards Pepperdine's LLM degree. Students participating in this program will complete an additional 20 units of LLM course work at Pepperdine. This program enables students to earn their LLM at Pepperdine while only residing in the United States for one semester. The program is advantageous to both universities because Heidelberg's students will have greater access to Pepperdine's LLM and Pepperdine will enjoy greater access to graduate students at Heidelberg.

Background

The reasons for the proposed collaborative relationship include:

1. Heidelberg has some faculty members who have expertise in the field of International Commercial Arbitration (ICA), but their school does not offer an LLM with this specialty.
2. Pepperdine has been ranked by US News as the best dispute resolution program in the United States for each of the last nine years and recently created a LLM with a concentration in ICA (ICA-LLM).
3. The following courses that could contribute to Pepperdine's LLM are regularly taught at the Heidelberg German Campus:

- Transnational Commercial Law (taught in English, all others taught in German)
 - Public International Law (I and II)
 - International Choice of Laws
 - International Law and Procedure (Colloquium)
 - International Dispute Resolution
 - European Commercial Law¹
 - Comparative Law (General course)
 - Comparative Law (workshop)
 - Cross Border Mergers, Acquisitions and Mobility of Companies
 - Negotiation workshop
 - Seminars on different subjects in the area of international dispute resolution²
4. Heidelberg also offers an International Law course that could contribute to Pepperdine's LLM, taught in English on its campus in Santiago, Chile.
 5. Heidelberg awards one "credit point" for every hour a course meets each week for fifteen weeks. Pepperdine awards one "unit of credit" for every hour a course meets each week for fifteen weeks. Thus the systems and standards for awarding academic credit are similar.
 6. Heidelberg has advised that many German students interested in ICA desire to pursue at least part of their LLM in the US or England to perfect their English, since English is the usual language for ICA proceedings.
 7. As a publicly funded university, Heidelberg's tuition is significantly less than Pepperdine's tuition.
 8. Heidelberg believes that many European students would be interested in completing some of their LLM courses at Heidelberg to reduce tuition with assurances that they have already been accepted into Pepperdine's LLM and that Pepperdine will allow them to transfer in up to eight (8) units of credit for specifically pre-approved courses at Heidelberg towards Pepperdine's LLM.
 9. Some faculty at Heidelberg believe that creating a cooperative agreement between the two above schools would be a service to European students and bring renown to their university and involved faculty members.
 10. Some faculty at Pepperdine believe that welcoming students who complete part of the LLM units at Heidelberg will enhance the stature and reputation of its program and involved faculty members.

Defining Terms of the Collaborative Relationship

1. Heidelberg and Pepperdine agree that students participating in our cooperative program would:
 - a. need to have completed their first degree in law before applying to the Heidelberg-Pepperdine Cooperative Relationship LLM Program;

¹ In this area, Heidelberg offers a variety of courses, which include European Law II, Principles of German, European and International Business Law, European Single Market Law, European Company and Business Law.

² The subject of these seminars vary from semester to semester.

- b. be admitted to both schools before matriculating in the Cooperative Relationship LLM Program at either school; and
 - c. have the freedom to complete the credit points/units in the most convenient sequence for that student.
2. Pepperdine agrees
- a. to recognize up to eight (8) Heidelberg "credit points" as the same number of Pepperdine "unit credits" for the completion of the following courses offered
 - i. in Heidelberg, Germany:
 - Transnational Commercial Law (taught in English, all others taught in German)
 - Public International Law (I and II)
 - International Choice of Laws
 - International Law and Procedure (Colloquium)
 - International Dispute Resolution
 - European Commercial Law
 - Comparative Law (General course)
 - Comparative Law (workshop)
 - Cross Border Mergers, Acquisitions and Mobility of Companies
 - Negotiation workshop
 - Seminars on different subjects in the area of international dispute resolution
 - ii. at Heidelberg's campus in Santiago, Chile:
 - to be determined by mutual agreement.
 - iii. (While Pepperdine will only recognize units earned after a student has completed his/her first degree in law, the students completing Heidelberg courses towards the Cooperative Relationship LLM Program may take the above courses concurrent with students earning their first degree in law.)
 - iv. to award the Pepperdine LLM degree to students participating in this collaborative relationship when they have completed the remaining requirements for graduation, including the courses required for a particular LLM program and twenty (20) additional Pepperdine LLM credit units.
 - b. to use its best efforts to publicize and promote the collaborative relationship with Heidelberg.
 - c. to encourage all Pepperdine LLM students to enroll in Heidelberg courses offered in Germany or Chile in a familiar language. (Pepperdine believes that logistical challenges will result in very few Pepperdine LLM students enrolling in these courses.)
3. Heidelberg agrees to use its best efforts to publicize and promote the collaborative relationship with Pepperdine.

4. Students will pay each university's usual tuition for courses completed at that university.
5. Heidelberg and Pepperdine would agree to support short term faculty exchanges, especially in the LLM-ICA arena. Heidelberg professors are especially likely to teach an intensive course for Pepperdine in September and March because the timing of both school's semesters. If Heidelberg approves intensive courses, Pepperdine professors could teach such a course in June and July.
 - a. US semesters are from Mid-August to Mid- December and January to May.
 - b. The Heidelberg semesters are from Mid-October to Mid-February and Mid-April to July.
6. The collaborative relationship should be branded in such a way that both universities can publicize the agreement and promote it to potential students.

Most Likely Student Experience

While the collaborative relationship is structured to accommodate a variety of student schedules, the program would be promoted with the following schedule as the typical pattern.

February: Apply to both Heidelberg and Pepperdine to participate in the Collaborative Relationship LLM Program.

April: Students accepted by both Heidelberg and Pepperdine will be jointly notified.

July: Students complete the first degree in law at Heidelberg or another European University.

August: Students arrive in Los Angeles by August 15 for orientation.

Late August through Mid-December: students enroll in sixteen (16) units of course work at Pepperdine.

Students would enroll in the following required courses (total of ten units):

Negotiation Theory and Doctrine

Mediation Theory and Doctrine

Psychology of Conflict

Mediation Clinic

Independent Study Project

Students would enroll in at least one arbitration class and four units of electives.

Students interested in ICA would enroll in the following courses scheduled in the fall semester:

ICA Theory and Doctrine

ICA Procedure and Practice

International Investment Disputes

First week of January: students enroll in the required Communication and Conflict course during the Winter Intensive.

Second week of January until the Spring semester begins at Heidelberg in Mid-February: students complete the required 105 hours of externship experience in the US or Europe.

Mid February to July: students complete at least eight units of approved courses at Heidelberg. August: Heidelberg certifies to Pepperdine the students who successfully completed at least eight units of pre-approved course work and Pepperdine mails the LLM degree to those students.

Limitations of the One US Semester Format

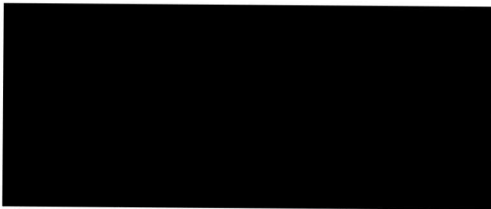
Both universities must be clear that students electing to use the Collaborative Relationship LLM Program to limit their US residency to one semester will not qualify to sit for a US bar exam and will also not be able to complete all the requirements for the ICA-LLM. They will complete the highest ranked dispute resolution LLM program in the US and can focus their electives to take advantage of the extensive ICA curriculum at Pepperdine. Students who study at Pepperdine starting in the Fall and finishing in the Spring semesters can complete all the requirements for the ICA-LLM and use their electives to qualify to sit for a US bar exam.

The parties signing below affirm agreement on the above terms on behalf of their universities.



Heidelberg University

31 July 2014
Date



Pepperdine University School of Law

7-31-14
Date