



UNIVERSITÀ DI PISA

ADDENDUM I
TO THE
MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT
BETWEEN
THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
AND
UNIVERSITÀ DI PISA
ITALY

Master of Science Program in Electrical and Computer Engineering

The Board of Trustees of the University of Illinois, a public body corporate and politic of the State of Illinois, United States of America, for and on behalf of the University of Illinois at Chicago (“UIC”), and the Università di Pisa, a public higher education institution of Italy (“UNUPI”), hereby incorporate this Addendum I (“Addendum”) to their Memorandum of Agreement (“Agreement”), both documents to be signed simultaneously.

PART 1. UIC-ECEMS

- 1.1. Program Description.** With assistance from UNUPI as enumerated in this Addendum, UIC will offer its Master of Science in Electrical and Computer Engineering (“UIC-ECEMS”) to applicants who are admitted to this program. The only internationally recognized academic credential to be granted based on the courses to be offered through this program is the UIC-ECEMS. This program will be delivered partly at UIC’s College of Engineering (“UIC-COE”) and partly at UNUPI, as described in Appendix A of this Addendum. The language of instruction will be English.
- 1.2. Program Quota.** The UIC-ECEMS program will be delivered to a degree-seeking cohort of a minimum of three (3) students. At its sole discretion, UIC-COE may suspend admissions to this program in any year when the number of newly admitted students falls below three. If this determination is made, UNUPI and the affected students will be notified by the appropriate deadline for international applications.
- 1.3. Program Curriculum.** UIC will provide the coursework required for completion of a UIC-ECEMS degree. The program curriculum is detailed in Appendix A to this Addendum. Program requirements

may change consistent with UIC provisions for graduate program changes. UIC will notify UNIPi promptly of any such changes, should they occur.

- 1.3.1. In cooperation with UNIPi, the UIC-COE will identify three courses that students admitted to this program will take during their first semester at UNIPi (in addition to MS thesis research). The total number of credits accrued in the first semester at UNIPi shall be less than half the credits needed for completion of the degree.
 - 1.3.2. The UIC degree offered under this program will have the same content and quality of the degree offered entirely at UIC. However, only the thesis option will be allowed; project or course-only options will not be available in the UIC-ECMS program.
 - 1.4. **Course Sequencing and Location.** The first semester for each cohort will be a Spring semester, to be delivered at UNIPi following the academic calendar of UNIPi. The second semester for each cohort will be the Fall semester following the Spring semester at UNIPi. It will be delivered at UIC following the academic calendar of UIC. Whenever needed, a third semester will be delivered at UIC following the academic calendar of UIC. The contract tuition covers only the first two semesters of study, but the other provisions of this Addendum remain valid for a third semester. If additional semesters beyond a third semester are needed for completion of a degree, they will be in residence at UIC, but will no longer be covered by this Addendum except by explicit consent of the Inter-Institutional Faculty Committee. Exceptions to this sequencing may occur for individual students, only with the approval of the Program Director. Students who defend their thesis by the end of the Spring semester (third semester in the program) will be allowed to participate in the Spring graduation ceremony.
 - 1.5. **Application, Admission, and Registration.** UNIPi will be responsible for the identification and preliminary screening of a pool of qualified candidates. UNIPi will interview prospective applicants whose first university degree is not from UNIPi in order to ascertain their suitability for the UIC-ECMS program. UNIPi will collect and submit to UIC all student transcripts by applicable UIC deadlines. UIC retains the right to refuse any applicant if the applicant does not fulfill the minimum requirements of UIC-COE and UIC or the specified qualifications as outlined in Appendix A. Accepted students will be registered at UIC as full-time, degree-seeking students.
 - 1.6. **Student Orientation, Services, Health Insurance, and Financial Aid.**
 - 1.6.1. **Orientation.** UIC and UNIPi will coordinate the delivery of a mandatory orientation session for all students admitted to this program. The orientation session will address key administrative, procedural, and practical aspects of program operation of direct concern to students. This will include information on students' rights and responsibilities as degree-seeking graduate students of UIC and all graduate policies pertaining to this program. The Graduate College catalog of UIC is available online at: <https://catalog.uic.edu/gcat/>
 - 1.6.2. **Student Services.** UNIPi will assume responsibility for providing student services to students in this program, during the period of study at UNIPi. Such services will be those provided to UNIPi full-time, degree-seeking students at the UNIPi campus. While at UNIPi in this program, students will not be eligible for services otherwise provided to students

at UIC. While at UIC, students in this program will not be eligible for services otherwise provided to students at UNIPi. While at UIC, students in this program will be eligible for services provided to degree-seeking, full-time students in residence at UIC.

1.6.3. Health Insurance. UNIPi will provide access to health insurance coverage and/or relevant information, to each student, to facilitate students' purchasing of health insurance. The cost of such insurance will be borne by each student. All students in this program must, at all times, maintain in full force and effect a policy of health insurance and international insurance coverage for emergency evacuation, repatriation of mortal remains, accidental death and dismemberment, and all costs associated therewith. Limits shall be as required by UIC. Proof of said coverage must be provided to UIC. The cost of such insurance will be borne by the student. When students are at UNIPi, they will provide proof of health insurance coverage to the Program Director, who will assure that a written copy of said health insurance coverage remains in the student's file at all times.

1.6.4. Financial Aid. Students in this program will not be eligible for UIC scholarships or federal, state, or UIC institutional financial aid during their first semester in residence at UIC, with the exception of one tuition and fee waiver to be awarded each year (if the cohort consists of at least seven students) for the second (Fall) semester to a UIC-ECEMS student selected by the Committee upon recommendation by UNIPi. UNIPi will inform students of this clause.

1.7. Program Oversight and Management.

1.7.1. Program Director and Institutional Liaisons. UIC will designate a Program Director. The Program Director will report to the Dean of UIC-COE, chair the Inter-Institutional Faculty Committee, and serve as the institutional liaison of UIC for the UIC-ECEMS program. UNIPi will designate its institutional liaison to the UIC-ECEMS program. Both liaisons will be members of the Inter-Institutional Faculty Committee to be established as described below. The Dean of UIC-COE and his counterpart at UNIPi will appoint, respectively, alternative liaisons if the need arises. Parties will notify each other in writing of any such change.

1.7.2. Inter-Institutional Faculty Committee. The parties will establish an Inter-Institutional Faculty committee (the "Committee"). The Committee will be responsible for providing general academic oversight of this program.

A. Committee Membership. The Committee's membership will consist of the two institutional liaisons, and one additional faculty member from UIC-COE, and one additional faculty member from UNIPi. The UNIPi members of the Committee will hold a zero-percent faculty appointment at UIC for the purpose of serving on the Committee or otherwise participating in the UIC-ECEMS program. Both UIC and UNIPi may appoint staff members to the Committee, as ex-officio members without vote. The Program Director will chair the Committee.

B. Committee Duties. The Committee's duties include proposing UNIPi faculty to UIC for consideration for zero-percent appointment as faculty affiliated to the UIC-ECEMS program; advising students in this program on academic and career matters; acting

on students' petitions; and conducting an annual review of this program that will be submitted to the Dean of Engineering and the Dean of the Graduate College at UIC and to their counterparts at UNIPI, at the end of each calendar year.

1.7.3. Program Site Coordinator. UNIFI will appoint an on-site representative (the “Program Site Coordinator”) who will serve as local program administrative liaison to UIC for the duration of the program, and who will maintain regular communication with the Program Director. The Program Site Coordinator will facilitate operations and logistics at UNIFI relevant to the administration of this program. This is inclusive of, but not limited to, assuring adequacy of the site of instruction, availability of classroom space, library, audiovisual and laboratory equipment, other equipment, security, and housekeeping. The cost of this position will be borne by UNIFI.

1.8. Program Faculty. For the portion of this program taught at UNIPI, the faculty will be faculty from either UIC or UNIPI who are approved by UIC-COE for this purpose. The UNIPI faculty teaching in this program at UNIPI will be granted affiliated faculty status at UIC-COE for the duration of this agreement, following a review process at UIC-COE for granting such status. UNIPI faculty will be considered for affiliated status at UIC-COE upon proposal by the Committee. Any UIC faculty traveling to UNIPI to participate in this program will be responsible for their travel and living expenses. For the portion of this program taught at UIC, the faculty will be UIC-COE faculty offering courses appropriate to the MS degree in Electrical and Computer Engineering.

1.8.1. Appointment of Program Faculty. UIC will have final authority over the appointment of all faculty in this program.

1.8.2. Status of UIC-COE Faculty and Staff. Under no circumstances shall UIC-COE faculty or staff (other than those UNIPI faculty who are granted affiliated faculty status at UIC-COE as part of this program) be construed to be employees or representatives of UNIPI for any purpose. UIC shall remain responsible for all UIC faculty employment considerations applicable to its faculty, including health insurance, pension, or other employee benefit plans, without interruption, during activities at UNIPI authorized by UIC-COE under this program. The UIC faculty involved while at UNIPI for such activities will maintain in full force and effect a policy of health insurance and international insurance coverage for emergency evacuation, repatriation of mortal remains, accidental death and dismemberment, and all costs associated therewith, costs to be borne by UIC-COE or the faculty member.

1.8.3. Faculty Services. UNUPI will provide UIC faculty offering courses in this program: office space, computer and internet access, support services, and access to university facilities such as libraries and laboratories, similar to the privileges provided to UNUPI faculty of similar rank.

1.9. Program-related Material. All marketing materials, announcements, or other written public material describing this program must be approved by authorized UIC officials before dissemination. UIC reserves the right to review, edit, or cancel communications related to the UIC-ECEMS program.

PART 2. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Lectures, printed material, as well as other material provided by UIC during this program will remain the intellectual property of UIC. Courses may not be recorded or videotaped without the prior written consent of UIC. Any materials, slides, diagrams, and examinations provided by UIC faculty in the delivery of instruction related to the UIC-ECEMS program shall remain the copyrighted property of UIC and its faculty, shall be kept confidential, and shall be delivered to UIC upon request. Such information may not be used by UNIPi for any other purpose unless authorized by UIC and its faculty in writing.

PART 3. PROGRAM COST AND PAYMENT

- 3.1. Student Cost and Payment.** Each student admitted into this program shall be individually responsible for the timely payment of tuition and fees, and shall acknowledge his/her obligation to UIC in a written document to be submitted as part of the student's application. Students will be informed that non-payment of tuition and fees shall be grounds to terminate the student's participation in the program. Tuition and fees are subject to change without notice any time prior to the first day of instruction. The parties agree that the cost of this program may be adjusted to reflect future increases in UIC tuition and related categories of financial costs. UIC-COE will inform UNIPi and the students in the program immediately, whenever changes in tuition and fees are approved by the Board of Trustees of the University of Illinois. Additional details are found in Appendix B.
- 3.2. Compensation for Teaching Activities.** As a contribution to teaching activities in the program during the first semester of studies at UNIPi, UNIPi will receive a compensation from UIC-COE, net of all applicable taxes to be withheld under U.S. or Italian law, at the end of the semester in the following amount: US\$10,000 for three-to-four (3-4) students, US\$20,000 for five-to-six (5-6) students, US\$30,000 for seven-to-twelve (7-12) students, US\$34,500 for thirteen-to-fifteen (13-15) students, US\$37,500 for sixteen (16) or more students. There will be no compensation for thesis supervision.
- 3.3. Compensation for Travel Expenses.** As a contribution to the travel expenses incurred by advisors from UNIPi who travel to UIC for thesis defenses, UNIPi will receive US\$1,500 from UIC for each advisor trip. Reimbursement will be limited to a maximum of five trips per academic year, for a maximum total of US\$7,500.

PART 4. INFORMATION PROTECTION

- 4.1. FERPA.** UIC declares to be subject to the Family and Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) of 1974 (20 U.S.C. § 1232g). To the extent UNIPi generates, maintains, or receives UIC education records related to its students participating under this Addendum, UNIPi will limit access only to those employees or agents with a need to know.
- 4.2. GDPR.** Each party seeks to comply with the EU General Data Protection Regulation (Regulation (EU) 2016/679) ("GDPR") to the extent applicable to them regarding the transfer of personal

information. With respect to GDPR-protected personal information transferred between the parties pursuant to this Addendum, each party is an autonomous data controller. Prior to transferring any GDPR-protected personal information to UIC, UNIPI shall obtain the data subject's explicit consent to the proposed transfer after informing the data subject of the possible risks of such transfer due to the absence of an adequacy decision and appropriate safeguards.

PART 5. TERM AND TERMINATION

This Addendum shall become effective as of the date of the last signature appearing below and continue for five (5) years. Either party may terminate this Addendum for convenience with at least ninety (90) days' prior written notice to the other. If either party terminates this Addendum for convenience, any student participating in the program at the time that notice of termination is received shall be allowed to complete the program under the terms of the Addendum, including its financial terms, in effect at the time the student was accepted into the program.

PART 6. GENERAL PROVISIONS

- 6.1.** The parties agree to comply with all applicable laws in their own countries regarding non discrimination and equal opportunity.
- 6.2.** The parties agree to follow the terms of this memorandum of agreement. The parties also agree to follow their own applicable laws, for UIC the State of Illinois and U.S. Federal laws, for UNIPI Italian law. If circumstances arise where the terms of this agreement are in conflict with either party's applicable laws, then that party will notify the other party within 30 days. If a revised memorandum of agreement cannot be reached then either party can terminate the memorandum of agreement as specified in part 5.
- 6.3.** The failure of either party to enforce any provision of this Addendum shall not waive the party's right to later enforce the provision or the Addendum. If any provision of this Addendum not essential to accomplishing its purpose is held by a court of competent jurisdiction to be unenforceable, the provision shall be severed from this Addendum.
- 6.4.** Nothing in this Addendum is intended to or shall create any rights or remedies in any third party.
- 6.5.** To be enforceable, all notices required under this Addendum must be in writing and delivered to the party's address, identified below. All communications can be sent according one or more of the following procedures: paper document by international registered mail, with return receipt or by a courier or internationally recognized express postal service with delivery receipt. Notice is effective upon receipt by the intended recipient.

Notices to UNIPI shall be sent to:

Dipartimento di Ingegneria dell'Informazione

Notices to UIC shall be sent to:

Office of the Dean

Università di Pisa
Via Caruso 16, 56122 Pisa
ITALY
Att.ne: Direttore

College of Engineering
Room 838 SEO (MC 159)
851 South Morgan Street
Chicago Illinois 60607-7053, USA
Attn: Director of Intl. Programs

With a copy to:

Ufficio Relazioni Internazionali
Università di Pisa
Piazza Torricelli, 4, 56126 Pisa
ITALY

With a copy to:

Office of University Counsel
1737 West Polk Street, Suite 405
Administrative Office Building, MC 225
Chicago, Illinois 60612 USA

- 6.6.** This Addendum is written in English, two (2) originals, all texts being equally valid.
- 6.7.** The individuals signing this Addendum on a party's behalf represent that they are authorized and intend to bind their respective parties in contract.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this Addendum as of the last signature date below.

**THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS**

UNIVERSITÀ DI PISA, ITALY

By: *Paul N. Ellinger*
Paul N. Ellinger, Comptroller Date

By: _____
Riccardo Zucchi, Rettore Date

Signature of Comptroller Delegate Date

Printed Name and Title of Comptroller Delegate

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APPENDIX A Curriculum and Records

Program Requirements

Students must abide by all requirements contained in the UIC Graduate Catalog at the time of their admission to the program. Some of the requirements in vigor for the Academic Year 2023-2024 are listed below.

In addition to the Graduate College minimum requirements, <http://grad.uic.edu/international-admission>, students must meet the following program requirements. Please note that all students covered by this Addendum must complete a thesis (project and course-only options are not available). All theses should be defended in residence at UIC on dates mutually agreed upon by UNIPI and UIC-COE. In exceptional cases and with the permission of the Program Director, a thesis may be defended at UNIPI. Each MS thesis committee shall consist of a minimum of three members, of which two (including the committee Chair) shall be from UIC.

Master of Science in Electrical and Computer Engineering

Minimum semester hours required:	36
Course work:	28 credit hours, of which at least 24 must be in the ECE rubric (at least 12 hours of ECE courses must be at the 500-level, excluding ECE 595-599); up to 4 hours of non-ECE courses may be used with prior departmental approval; computer engineering students may use up to 4 hours of CS courses to satisfy the 500-level requirement, excluding CS 595-599.
Research credit:	8 hours of ECE 598.
Comprehensive examination:	None.
Thesis:	Required.

Grade Submission

Grades are submitted online through the UIC system.

Records and Transcripts

Students will be able to access their respective academic records through:

https://registrar.uic.edu/student_records/

Transcripts are available as indicated at:

https://registrar.uic.edu/student_records/transcripts.html

Plan of Study by Location

First semester (Spring) – University of Pisa.

Three regular graduate courses plus MS thesis research, not to exceed a total of 17 credit hours.

Second (Fall) and third (Spring) semesters – in residence at UIC.

Completion of all requirements for the MS degree.



Appendix B Finances

Each student admitted to the program in Spring semester 2025 will pay a tuition of US\$9,200 per semester plus the general fee and the international student fee, said tuition having been established to account for UIC's instructional and administrative costs and in consideration of the value of UNIPi instructional and administrative costs associated with this program. These financial provisions are valid for the first two semesters in the program. In addition, each student will pay applicable fees during any semester in residence at UIC. These fees, charged each semester, include the academic facilities maintenance assessment, the library and information technology assessment, the service fee, the student to student fee, the sustainability fee, the health service fee, and any other fees that UIC may impose from time to time. Each student is also charged a one-time orientation/arrival fee by the Office of International Services. These financial provisions are valid for the first two semesters in the program.

It is noted that the tuition and fees amount is subject to annual change based on the yearly percentage increases that the Board of Trustees of the University of Illinois may impose from time to time. The UIC-COE will notify UNIPi and the students in the program immediately, whenever changes in tuition and fees are announced.

The UIC Dean of Engineering has the authority to suspend admissions to this program in any year when the number of newly admitted students would fall below three. This determination will be made by UIC-COE by the appropriate deadline for international applications (currently 1 November). In such a case, this Addendum remains valid for students admitted in prior years, and it may be resumed for new students at any time when their number is at least three.