MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
on the Joint Development and Operation of
AAU GRAND CHALLENGE COURSES

Asia Alliance University (AAU)
November 9, 2026 | Busan, Republic of Korea

The undersigned Board of Directors (BOD) member universities of Asia Alliance University (AAU), sharing a common vision of advancing collaborative higher education across Asia, hereby agree to promote the joint development and operation of AAU Grand Challenge Courses through the AAU platform.

Article 1. Purpose

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) aims to establish a collaborative framework through which AAU BOD member universities jointly develop and operate innovative educational courses that bring together faculty and students from different countries to address real-world challenges facing Asia.

Article 2. Joint Development of AAU Grand Challenge Courses

The participating BOD member universities agree to jointly develop and operate AAU Grand Challenge Courses by bringing together their academic expertise, faculty, and educational resources.

Each university will actively contribute to course development and implementation, based on the principles of shared responsibility, mutual contribution, and collective ownership.

Article 3. Educational Framework and Course Structure

AAU Grand Challenge Courses may be initiated and led by any BOD member university, with other BOD member universities contributing through academic instruction, project mentoring, field-based learning, and other forms of collaboration.

Each course will adopt a flexible structure, generally ranging from eight weeks to one semester, combining online learning, collaborative projects, and experiential activities as appropriate.

Where feasible, courses will conclude with a joint capstone session hosted by the lead university, providing opportunities for students to present their outcomes, exchange perspectives, receive feedback and evaluations from faculty members and external experts, and celebrate their achievements.

Article 4. Areas of Cooperation

The participating universities will endeavor to:

1. Contribute academic expertise, faculty members, and educational content to jointly developed courses.
2. Encourage student participation in multinational and interdisciplinary collaborative learning.
3. Cooperate in course design, delivery, mentoring, and evaluation through the AAU platform.
4. Initiate and lead additional AAU Grand Challenge Courses in their respective areas of academic strength and interest.

Article 5. Future Development

The participating universities share a commitment to expanding AAU Grand Challenge Courses into a

sustainable model of collaborative education, encouraging BOD member universities to take active leadership in developing new courses addressing diverse challenges across Asia.

Specific operational arrangements, institutional responsibilities, and financial commitments shall be determined through mutual consultation among the universities participating in each course.

Article 6. General Provisions

This MOU expresses the mutual intentions of the participating universities to cooperate in good faith. It does not create legally binding financial or contractual obligations.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the duly authorized representatives of the participating AAU BOD member universities have signed this Memorandum of Understanding on November 9, 2026, in Busan, Republic of Korea.

SIGNATORIES

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Jekuk Chang
President, Asia Alliance University
President, Dongseo University

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Kengo Nagatsuma
President
Asia University

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Mohammad Falahat Nejadmahani
Director
Asia Pacific University of Technology and Innovation

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Somyot Wattanakamolchai
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