Responses to Dr. Blaine Lilly’ email dated on February 25, 2015

Dear Dr. Lilly and the Council of Academic Affairs,

We sincerely appreciate your efforts to review and support this proposal. As requested, please find our responses under each of the questions/comments (in bold).

1). It’s not clear if these students are considered to be graduate or undergraduate students during their first year here. The reason this is an issue: the Graduate School essentially forbids undergrads to take courses at the 6000 level or higher, but the majority of courses these students will take in their fifth year are at that level. It would be helpful if that were spelled out more clearly in the first paragraph.

Answer: Those students will meet the entire enrollment criteria when students apply and will be considered to be graduate students during their entire time at OSU. A sentence “The DMU students will meet all the admission criteria in order to be enrolled as graduate students at OSU” has been added in the first paragraph. We are using the same model as our approved 3+2 Bachelor Degree-MPH Degree Program.

Several other minor changes:

2) Page 5 of 11: in paragraph 3), the sentence beginning “The reviewing party’s comments…” is repeated.

Answer: We apologize for that and have deleted it.

3) Page 6 of 11: #7 says nothing about sexual or gender orientation

Answer: We have added it into the sentence as “The parties agree that no person is excluded from participation under the terms of this Agreement on the basis of gender or sexual orientation, grounds of race, color, national origin, sex or creed”.

4) Page 3 of 11: paragraph #1, “a risen” should be “arisen”

Answer: We have changed it to “arisen”.

5) Page 4 of 11, b4): we believe this should say ‘6th academic year’, not ‘5th academic year’.

Answer: We apologize for that and have corrected it.

6) Page 6 of 11, it is customary for the non-discrimination clause to also forbid discrimination on the basis of gender or sexual orientation. The language in item 7 should be changed to reflect that.
Answer: We have added it and have modified the sentence as “The parties agree that no person is excluded from participation under the terms of this Agreement on the basis of gender or sexual orientation, grounds of race, color, national origin, sex or creed”. 
4+1+1 Degree Program Agreement
between
Dalian Medical University, Dalian, People’s Republic of China
and
The Ohio State University College of Public Health,
Columbus, Ohio, USA

Cooperative Degree Agreement

This document describes a new cooperative 4+1+1 Degree Program designed to deepen the academic and research relationship as part of the growing partnership between the College of Public Health at The Ohio State University (hereinafter, OSU) and Dalian Medical University (hereinafter, DMU). The goal is to create a formalized transition from the Bachelor Degree programs at DMU into the Master of Public Health (MPH) degree at OSU. The DMU students will meet all the admission criteria in order to be enrolled as graduate students at OSU. The program will result in students obtaining a MPH degree from OSU after spending four-plus years at Dalian Medical University and about two academic years at OSU College of Public Health. This agreement represents an institutional collaboration envisaged by the general Memorandum of Agreement signed between Dalian Medical University and The Ohio State University College of Public Health in 2011.

The Agreement

1. **Period of Agreement**
   This agreement becomes effective for **five (5) years** on the date of the last signature. Upon written consent by both parties, the agreement may be extended for another period of five years. A midterm review of the program, conducted by both parties in collaboration, will take place at the latest three (3) years after the start date for the purpose of adjusting any issues that may have arisen in the course of implementing the Program.

2. **Implementation of Students into the 4+1+1 Program**
   a. Each year, Dalian Medical University will send a number of undergraduate students to OSU College of Public Health for graduate study. Dalian Medical University students will arrive at the beginning of their fifth (5) year of studies at Dalian Medical University.
   b. At the end of the two semesters at OSU College of Public Health and after completing their BS degree at Dalian Medical University, students have an option to continue studies as a MPH student at OSU College of Public Health and complete a Master of Public Health at OSU.

1. **Enrollment condition**: Dalian Medical University students need to meet admission criteria that are required for enrollment as specified in OSU’s Graduate School Handbook. While the admission criteria vary from year to year, GPA and GRE typically exceed 3.5/4.0 and the 50th percentile, respectively. Students will also need to meet the TOEFL requirements set by OSU and College of Public Health (currently at IBT 79).

2. Dalian Medical University students will study at OSU during their senior year (5th academic year) to complete the course work with credit hours equivalent to the requirement of the same period at Dalian Medical University. Enrolled courses must be available for graduate credit in order for the hours to count towards a graduate degree.
3. The student will receive a Bachelor’s degree from Dalian Medical University upon completing all requirements of Dalian Medical University BS program before the completion of their master degree program of study.

4. The same students from Dalian Medical University will have the option to study at OSU during the 56th academic year and receive a Masters of Public Health degree from OSU College of Public Health upon completing all degree requirements outlined in the Graduate School Handbook and the guidelines specific to the graduate program. A course plan for each student must be approved based on the curriculum at OSU. Students must submit a Dalian Medical University transcript that shows the completion of the undergraduate courses to the OSU Graduate and Professional Admissions Office before being allowed to enroll in the OSU MPH program.

c. Responsibilities of The Ohio State University are as follows:
1. To evaluate interested students pre-selected by Dalian Medical University for admission into the Masters of Public Health graduate program (normally this work occurs by March of the student’s 3rd year;
2. To inform Dalian Medical University of admission results of pre-selected students;
3. To advise admitted Dalian Medical University students about OSU rules and regulations as well as academic and cultural expectations at Ohio State;
4. To inform Dalian Medical University students admission decision to OSU in the spring of their 4th academic year about being MPH students at OSU in their 5th academic year that is counted in Dalian Medical University;
5. To advise Dalian Medical University students on the courses they need to take at OSU for their degrees. Each Dalian Medical University student will be assigned an advisor to facilitate this process;
6. To inform the incoming students of all student benefits, including health insurance requirements and availability; and
7. To provide Dalian Medical University one official transcript describing the student’s academic performance for their undergraduate studies.

d. Responsibilities of Dalian Medical University are as follows:
1. To recruit and nominate Dalian Medical University students at the beginning of their fourth academic year at Dalian Medical University for enrolling at OSU College of Public Health during the following academic year;
2. To forward the applications of pre-selected students who are interested in OSU for approval and admittance before the deadline every year (usually November);
3. To administer pre-program orientation of students participants;
4. To ensure that students admitted to the program take courses regarded as essential;
5. To advise OSU College of Public Health of any circumstances that may affect the students’ year abroad (e.g. known public health issues); and
6. To advise its students about academic and cultural expectations at OSU College of Public Health; and
7. To provide OSU College of Public Health documentation after the second semester at OSU that the students have fulfilled the requirements for a BS degree and have graduated. It is expected that this verification will be done during the summer and after the second semester at OSU.

e. Responsibilities of the students are as follows:
1. To pay all tuition and fees during their 2-year graduate study at Ohio State. The only exception is if Dalian Medical University students receive a graduate appointment covering tuition and fees during the fifth academic year of study spent at OSU College of Public Health;
2. Dalian Medical University students will obtain an appropriate students visa for degree status at OSU (F-1). The students will be admitted conditionally into the MPH program. Assuming the students complete the BS requirements at Dalian Medical University, they will then be eligible to graduate in the OSU MPH program;

3. To submit all applicable academic test scores;

4. To pay room and board costs

5. To secure necessary health insurance and to pay medical costs;

6. To pay for books, living expenses and any other costs;

7. To pay the cost of transportation to and from OSU and Dalian Medical University; and

8. To follow the academic rules and guidelines of OSU College of Public Health and Dalian Medical University as outlined in Section g.

f. All students are subject to the rules of the institution they are attending. While attending OSU, Dalian Medical University students are subject to the academic rules and discipline of OSU.

g. Students must satisfy all appropriate requirements to receive a degree from their institution (Dalian Medical University requirements for the BS degree and OSU requirements for the MPH degree).

3. **Intellectual Property and Publication Rights**

   Each party reserves the right to publish the results of the collaborative research deriving from this program. Before submission for publication, however, each party shall notify the other of its intention to publish, and shall submit the manuscript to the other party for review and comment. The reviewing party shall have thirty (30) days from receipt of the manuscript to present any written comments to the other party. The reviewing party’s comments shall be given due consideration by the other party. The publication of the results may be delayed at the reviewing party’s written request for a period not to exceed ninety (90) days if it contains disclosure of an invention(s) on which either party desires to file a United States or foreign patent. It is understood that in no case can this provision for delay of publication cause a delay in the normal academic progress of a graduate student of either party with respect to preparation and submission of a graduate thesis or dissertation. Any ownership of inventions will be determined pursuant to applicable patent laws.

4. **Export Controls**

   The parties understand that activities conducted pursuant to this agreement may be subject to export control laws and regulations controlling the transfer of technical information or items out the People’s Republic of China or the United States of America. The transfer of certain technical information or items may require a license from the Chinese or United States Government. All activities must comply with all applicable export control and regulations. The parties understand that the activities conducted pursuant to this agreement may not permit the export or re-export of any information or item to do so would constitute a violation of those laws or regulations.

5. **Financial Support**

   Both universities agree to seek financial support from national and international organizations for the following cooperative activities to be undertaken:

   a. Exchange of academic staff, including financial support for joint research projects;

   b. Cooperation in research and presentation of its results; and

   c. Exchange of academic materials, publications and other scientific information.

6. **Termination**

   Either party may terminate this Agreement providing the partner institution with written notice of this intent to terminate. The terminating party will give notice at least one year prior to the effective date of
the termination. Termination will not affect exchanges in effect prior to the effective date of the termination.

7. **Nondiscrimination**
The parties agree that no person is excluded from participation under the terms of this Agreement on the basis of gender or sexual orientation, grounds of race, color, national origin, sex or creed.

8. **Modification**
The parties may change or modify the terms of this agreement only by written amendment signed by both parties.

**Signatures**

**For Dalian Medical University of China**

____________________________________
Jia Liu, PhD                           Date
Dean, College of Education
Dalian Medical University

____________________________________
Huihua Li, PhD                        Date
Dean, College of Public Health        
Dalian Medical University

**For The Ohio State University**

____________________________________
Patrick S. Osmer                      Date
Vice Provost of Graduate Studies
Dean, Graduate School
The Ohio State University

____________________________________
William Martin II, MD                 Date
Dean, College of Public Health        
The Ohio State University

____________________________________
Geoffrey S. Chatas                    Date
Senior Vice President for Business and Finance and CFO
The Ohio State University