



MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Korea National Open University (hereinafter referred to as 'KNOU') and **Uttarakhand Open University** (hereinafter referred to as 'UOU') sign an agreement (hereinafter referred to as "this agreement") and agree to establish a cooperative relationship through mutual assistance in the areas of education and research.

Background

KNOU:

Established in 1972, KNOU stands as a distinguished lifelong educational institution both domestically and internationally, renowned as one of the foremost examples of successful cases of distance education at a global level. Throughout its history, KNOU has consistently delivered outstanding outcomes in distance higher education, contributing to the significant growth of Korea's unique higher education model, which has garnered attention on the global stage. Committed to expanding educational opportunities, KNOU remains devoted to nurturing students into proficient and talented individuals. Notably, KNOU has received accreditation under The Enforcement of The Higher Education Act.

UOU:

Established in 2005 by an Act of the Uttarakhand Legislative Assembly, Uttarakhand Open University (UOU) plays a unique role in democratizing education through the Open and Distance Learning (ODL) system. The University is committed to empowering marginalized sections and residents of difficult terrains by providing flexible vocational and technical programmes. Operating through 08 Regional Centres and over 142 Learner Support Centres (LSCs), UOU utilizes innovative communication technologies to deliver quality higher education, contributing significantly to the skilled human resource development of the state.

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Article 1 (Purpose) This agreement aims to facilitate and promote cooperation between KNOU and UOU by investigating opportunities to:

- a. Foster cooperation to promote academic, personnel, and material exchanges in the field of distance education.
- b. Support cooperation to develop and utilize virtual learning content for educational purposes and to promote virtual learning.

Article 2 (Fields of Cooperation) KNOU and UOU shall collaborate in the implementation of the following matters.

- a. Encourage joint research projects, workshops, conferences, seminars, and faculty development programmes;
- b. Exchange faculty members, researchers, and staff for short-term academic visits;
- c. Exchange best practices in open and distance learning, learner support systems, and quality assurance.
- d. Collaborate on mutual development and joint use of virtual learning content;
- e. Share expertise and experience in learning data analysis to enhance learners' academic competencies in the field of virtual learning;
- f. Exchange information, academic resources, and publications to support education and research in the field of virtual learning.

Article 3 (Period of Cooperation) This agreement shall take effect from the date of signing by both parties, remaining valid for five (5) years. Revisions or modifications may be made by mutual agreement. Thereafter, it will be automatically renewed annually unless either party provides at least six (6) months' prior notice of termination.

May 6, 2026

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