

PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF TAMPERE AND THE TAMPERE UNIVERSITIES COMMUNITY

1 Parties to the Agreement

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Tampere University and Tampere University of Applied Sciences later also jointly referred to as the Universities Community.

With this partnership agreement, the parties agree to strengthen their collaboration and the key strategic research and operational priorities for collaboration.

2 Background and objectives

The collaboration between the City and the Universities Community has been based on extensive professional cooperation, which has in many ways laid a foundation for innovation, regeneration of services, and securing know-how in the region, as well as helping to build an evolving city. The parties to this agreement wish to continue and build their collaboration further in a more systematic, coordinated manner. In this way, the competence potential and activities related to the collaboration and its goals will be put to the best possible use and the work made visible. The goals of this Strategic Partnership Agreement are:

- to deepen, develop and direct the already-existing collaboration as a strategic whole
- to increase the impact of research collaboration in the development of the city and its services
- to meet shared challenges presented by the operating environment
- to promote the region's competitiveness, attractiveness, and visibility

- to promote the region's attractiveness to students
- to improve the well-being of students and young people, in particular, as well as to further their employment opportunities
- to coordinate the education system and other employment-promoting services more effectively with the needs of the region's skilled workforce
- to enhance the impact of international cooperation and the ability to attract skilled experts
- to enhance the implementation of commonly identified lobbying objectives both nationally and internationally, and
- to strengthen sharing of data and the prerequisites for knowledge-based decision-making.

3 Operational priorities for the partnership

3.1 Number one for student-friendliness

The City and the Universities Community work together to promote services directed at students and to help students set roots in the Tampere region. Public urban spaces and related events and services are easily accessible to students.

3.2 Traction and holding power of know-how as a guarantor of competitiveness

Along with their partners, the City and the Universities Community facilitate innovation and harness the know-how. Anticipation of knowledge needs is done to enable the creation of new and renewal of existing businesses. This collaboration is based on business, innovation, and start-up ecosystems, the promotion of entrepreneurship and student employment, and the support of lifelong learning.

3.3 International Tampere

The City and the Universities Community promote an international and welcoming Tampere in all their activities. Services for international experts work smoothly and the collaboration between international networks is effective. The City and the Universities Community provide support for obtaining international RDI funding and attracting events.

3.4 An evolving partnership

The City and the Universities Community collaborate to create an open-minded partnership. As a result, the cooperation will evolve into a collaborative ecosystem of teaching, research, and the utilization of knowledge and information. Collaboration with Pirkanmaan's well-being service county will stabilize and it will be developed with intent.

The partnership's steering committee will annually choose one operational priority as the main theme for the year and special attention will be paid to its fulfillment.

4 Priorities for collaboration in research and education

4.1 A changing society and its implications

Understanding and responding to future trends is a critical success factor for societies. Multidisciplinary research deepens the understanding of various phenomena and forces of change in society and their impacts on local communities, individuals, and service systems.

4.2 A sustainable city as a trailblazer

The ecological, social, cultural, and economic sustainability of cities is the foundation for the development of the city. The city serves as a platform for collaboration to help broaden the understanding of the different phenomena and development trends related to sustainable cities and creating concrete actions for building a sustainable city and enabling sustainable businesses.

4.3 A thriving inhabitant as the starting point

At the heart of a prosperous society are thriving individuals functioning as members of their communities at different stages of their lives. Collaboration in research and education generates information about individuals, lifestyle changes, forms of interaction, and ways to promote well-being and good health.

The partnership's monitoring group will name a contact from each organization to map out research and educational needs and opportunities.

5 Collaboration structures

A Steering group will be formed in order to strengthen collaboration and monitor the implementation of this Partnership Agreement. The steering group consists of the leadership of the City and the Universities Community, a representative from the leadership of Tampere Chamber of Commerce, a representative from Pirkanmaan Yrittäjät, and the chairs of student associations TREY and Tamko.

The Steering Group will convene two times a year. At these meetings, the Steering Group will review the practical steps taken to implement the priorities, adopt an action plan created in support of this partnership agreement, and review the collaborative developmental needs, as well as the state of play of the operating environment.

The Partnership Agreement will be further prepared by the Partnership Agreement Monitoring Group, which will be responsible for producing the Partnership Agreement Action Plan, liaising with partners and stakeholders, and coordinating potential collaboration teams to promote specific operational priorities.

The parties of the agreement will jointly enable collaborative forums needed for supporting the partnership's actions.

6 Division of expenses and resourcing collaboration

The partnership's goals are advanced by a coordinator shared by the partnership organizations who is administratively located in the City of Tampere. The resource's job is to widely coordinate, prepare and execute the practical collaboration of the partnership, advance the entities required for the implementation of the partnership, and transmit information between the organizations and stakeholders.

The partners of the agreement together fund the resources for the collaboration. For the years 2023, 2024, and 2025, 75,000 euros from the City of Tampere, 45,000 euros from Tampere University, and 30,000 euros

from Tampere University of applied sciences will be annually reserved for covering the expenses from the personnel resources of the partnership. In addition to covering the wage expenses, the appointed resources can cover other running expenses concerning coordinating and improving the partnership, such as new openings or hiring interns.

The City charges Tampere University's and Tampere University of Applied Science's portions of the wage expenses by the end of each year. Otherwise, each participant of the partnership oversees their own resourcing and expenses. Possible shared economical inputs are agreed upon on occasion. Possible project expenses and funding will be agreed upon on separate project contracts.

7 Principles guiding the partnership

The partnership work supports initiative-taking, innovation, courage, and an open mindset. The goal is to provide a strategic framework for existing and future collaboration centering around the expertise and cooperation of the organizations' staff.

8 Confidentiality

The parties take responsibility for not disclosing any confidential information or business and professional secrets received from the other party in connection with the partnership for five (5) years from the termination of the agreement unless otherwise agreed with respect to a particular piece of confidential information. The confidentiality obligations related to projects are agreed upon in separate project agreements. The City of Tampere is subject to the Act on the Openness of Government Activities and, consequently, the publicity of information and documents received by the City of Tampere is determined in accordance with said act.

9 Responsibilities

A contracting party is liable for any direct damage caused to the other party. However, the liability is limited to EUR 50,000. The limitation of liability does not apply if damage has been caused intentionally or through gross negligence. The parties are independently liable for any damage caused to third parties.

10 Validity of the Agreement

This Agreement shall remain in force until the end of the year 2025, after which the objectives and content of the Agreement shall be updated, or the Agreement may be terminated immediately without notice if one of the contracting partners so wishes. . With the mutual agreement of the partners, the Agreement may be updated, supplemented, or amended even earlier, if necessary. This Agreement shall come into force once the contracting parties have signed it. However, the City will not be bound by the agreement until the City's official decision concerning the agreement has gained legal force.

11 Disputes arising from the agreement

Disputes concerning this Agreement shall be resolved primarily by mutual negotiations between the contracting parties, and if the negotiations do not lead to an agreement, disputes shall be resolved in the Pirkanmaa District Court

12 Copies of the Agreement

Three original and equal copies of this Agreement have been made, one for each agreeing party.

At Tampere

City of Tampere _____ Anna-Kaisa Ikonen, Mayor

Tampere University Foundation sr _____ Mari Walls, Principal

Tampere University of Applied Sciences Ltd _____ Tapio Kujala,
Principal

