

**Agreement
on a Double Master's Degree programme in Earth sciences**

between:

Lille1 University Science and Technologies, hereinafter referred to as Lille 1,
represented by President Prof. Philippe ROLLET,

Lille1 University Science and Technologies, 59655 Villeneuve d'Ascq Cedex, France

and

Federal State Educational Institution of Higher Professional Education "National Research
Tomsk State University", hereinafter referred to as TSU,

represented by Rector Prof. Eduard V. GALAZHINSKIY,

Tomsk State University, Lenin Avenue 36, 634050 Tomsk, Russia

regarding the following Diplomas:

the Master's Diploma of Lille 1 "Master de Sciences de la Terre, de l'Univers et de
l'Environnement" ("Earth, Universe and Environmental Sciences") hereinafter referred to as
STUE, with the specialization in "Past and Current Geoenvironments" hereinafter referred to as
GAP with a supplement, being a state diploma issued by the Ministry of Higher Education of the
French Republic (the license is effective for the period of 2010-2014), and

the Master's Diploma of TSU (specialization "Geology") with a supplement, being a state
diploma of the Russian Federation.

Preamble

Within the framework of the cooperation agreement signed between TSU and Lille 1 on
July 03, 2013, and taking into consideration the contacts between these two institutions in the
fields of education and science, TSU and Lille 1, have agreed to specify the procedure of issuing
double-degree diplomas and define conditions, means and rules for their awarding, have signed
this Agreement.

The two institutions agree that the academic organization of the Double Degree programme
will be in accordance with their national regulations.

Both Parties of this Agreement do not make any profit and benefit from the educational
process. The income of TSU and Lille 1 obtained from applicants and students will be used to
compensate the fees students paid under this Agreement and to contribute to the development of
education as well.

Article 1. The Purpose of the Agreement

The present Agreement concerns the graduate students of TSU majoring in "Geology"
(Master's programme in Stratigraphy) who will be taught at the University of Lille 1 following
STUE Master's programme, specialization GAP, and STUE Master students, majoring in GAP
from Lille 1, who will be taught following TSU programme "Geology" (Master's programme
020700.68.28 Stratigraphy), respectively. Under the terms of this Agreement these students will
be awarded with the STUE Master's Diploma (specialization GAP) of Lille 1 and the Master's
Diploma of TSU in Geology (Master's programme in Stratigraphy).

Article 2. – Course of Study

During the first year of MSc course students will study at the home institution (STUE programme at Lille 1 and “Geology” programme at TSU).

Both universities agree that the joint educational Master’s programme is held in accordance with the national laws and regulations of both countries and mutually recognized academic practices.

Upon the successful fulfillment of requirements of the first year of MSc course and after the selection of candidates for the Double Degree programme, students continue their studies according to the schedule given in Appendix, namely: the third semester at Lille 1 and the fourth one at TSU.

During the third semester of the second year of MSc course, the students of the University Lille 1 and the students of TSU will study at Lille 1 according to the syllabus specified in Appendix. The language of instruction is English.

During the fourth semester of the Master’s programme students of University Lille 1 are taught at TSU, the language of instruction is English, whereas TSU students are trained either at Lille 1 (the language of instruction is English) or at TSU (the language of instruction is Russian). If needed, along with the organization and supervision of the research work additional courses related to the topic of scientific research may be developed.

In order to get a Russian diploma (State document), students must defend the Master’s Thesis at TSU (TSU students in Russian, Lille 1 students in English), the manuscript must be written in accordance with the rules of TSU.

In order to get a Master’s Diploma at Lille 1, students send their final project (Master’s thesis), which is written in English in accordance with the rules of Lille 1, to the examination board. In case they are in Russia, the thesis is presented via a videoconference. In case they are in France, students present the thesis in person. In both cases the thesis is defended in English.

Art. 3. – Selection of Candidates

Selection of candidates will be held jointly by TSU and Lille 1 in accordance with the rules of the relevant institution. Selection of students at each university must be carried out dutifully so that the candidates will be able to successfully study at a foreign university.

Candidates who apply for the Double Master’s Degree programme in Earth sciences are required to have a Bachelor or Specialist Diploma in Natural sciences.

Candidates who apply for the Double Master’s Degree programme must be proficient in English (at a level B₂-C₁) and have a decent knowledge in the fields of geology, paleontology and stratigraphy.

Prior to the commencement of the Double Master’s Degree programme in Earth sciences TSU will test the English language proficiency of candidates as a precondition for the participation in the competition.

To select the candidates for participation in the Programme, a Joint Selection Committee will be appointed on a parity basis, and this Committee will consist of at least four members. Students will be selected based on the following criteria: academic results, language proficiency and the grades awarded for their final Bachelor or Specialist qualification work. The number of students admitted to the Programme is established by mutual consent of the Parties and is confirmed in written form in the relevant agreement.

The selected students are enrolled in the MSc course.

At the end of the first year of the course, not later than July, 1, the Selection Committee compiles the final list of students who will continue their studies of the Double Master’s programme in Earth sciences.

Coordinators of this Double Master’s programme undertake to inform the first-year Master students, bachelors and specialists about this Double Degree Agreement using all available means (brochures, publication of information on websites, etc.), and also to render assistance in carrying out the procedures required for application for the double MSc course.

Taking into account that students of TSU choose the research topic at the end of the bachelor course or at the beginning of the first year of MSc course, the topic of the course "The advanced bibliographical study", taught at Lille 1, must be approved by a student's scientific supervisor at TSU.

Students of Lille 1 choose the topic at the beginning of the second year of MSc course together with a supervisor of TSU. The Master's thesis is defended at TSU.

During the MSc courses students are entitled to work on a research topic with a scientific collection material, to have access to natural objects for the research purpose and to carry out analytical studies of samples (rocks and fossil remains) at universities Lille 1 and TSU.

Article 4. – Exams and Assessment

Students comply with the training and exam procedures existing at the host institution. Both universities undertake to accept the assessment results obtained by students at home and host institutions. The evaluation scale of ECTS will be used for the unification of obtained grades.

If necessary, the reports on practical training may be presented in front of the Committee consisting of representatives of both partner institutions.

Article 5. –Diploma Issuance Committee

The decision to grant a diploma is made by a relevant committee at each of the partner universities. Representatives of the teaching staff of the partner university may be included into this committee for the unification of assessment, with regard to the evaluation criteria specified by each institution.

Each institution undertakes to issue a relevant Diploma with a supplement within a reasonable time, and, if asked by a student, with a European diploma supplement.

Article 6. – Number of Students

For the 2014/2015 academic year, the maximum number of students enrolled in this Programme from each Party is 5. This number may be reviewed each year upon the request of either party and confirmed in written form.

Article 7. – Funding of Double Degree Programme

The funding of the Programme, including the terms of payment of students' tuition fees, transportation and accommodation expenses, medical insurance, is provided in accordance with the regulations specified in the additional agreement to this Agreement.

Article 8. – Social Adaptation

Each institution will render assistance in social adaptation of partner university students, namely provide orientation and advise regarding accommodation and infrastructure, and assist in linguistic adaptation as well.

Article 9. - Research and Teaching Staff Mobility

Partner universities undertake to encourage mutual visits for teaching and research staff undertaken for participation in academic process in the relevant subject areas and in the academic research.

Article 10. – General Assessment

Business trips for research and teaching staff aiming at on-going evaluation of the exchange programme are encouraged. The annual report on the progress of the double educational programme, the placement and future career of graduates is compiled.

Art. 11. - Coordinators for the Double Degree Programme

The following persons will be responsible for this Double Degree programme:

- at TSU: Associate Professor Yana Bazhenova;
- at Lille 1: Professor Taniel Danelian.

Each institution undertakes to inform the partner university upon the changing of the responsible person.

Art. 12. - Duration of Agreement

This Agreement is concluded for a period of 3 years and shall enter into force on September 1, 2014 academic year according to the attached Appendix. The Appendix will be updated for the next years (2015-2017) according to the Master's programme revised at the Department of Earth Sciences of Lille 1.

Partner universities reserve the right to terminate this Agreement by mutual consent on condition that the students enrolled in the Double Degree programme completed their studies.

For the failure or improper performance of duties under this Agreement, the Parties will be liable in accordance with the current laws of the Russian Federation and France.

All disputes and disagreements that may arise out of this Agreement or in connection therewith will be solved by negotiation between the Parties. If the Parties do not reach an agreement in accordance with this article, all disputes shall be referred to the court of appropriate jurisdiction.

The present Agreement has been drawn up in six hard copies: two in French, two in English and two in Russian, all copies in each language share the equal legal force.

Lille, «__» _____ 20__г.

President of Lille 1 University
Science and Technology
Professor Philippe Rollet

Tomsk, «__» _____ 20__г.

Rector of Tomsk State University,
Professor Eduard Galazhinskiy

Appendix for 2014-2015 academic year
List of courses for the second year of the Double Degree programme

Third semester

- Field methods of research practice (10 credits ECTS),
- Advanced Bibliographic Review (5 credits ECTS),
- Large-scale perturbations of the biosphere (Paleobiology, quantitative and biostratigraphic methods in palaeontology) (10 credits ECTS),
- Micropaleontology and geobiology (5 credits ECTS),
- Sedimentology and sequence stratigraphy (5 credits ECTS).

Fourth semester

Research work, writing and defense of Master's Thesis (30 credits ECTS)

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