COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT
BETWEEN FORT HAYS STATE UNIVERSITY
AND SCHOOL OF BUSINESS OF METROPOLITAN STATE
COLLEGE OF DENVER
FOR THE PURPOSE OF ARTICULATING A BS TO MBA DEGREE
AND OTHER EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Now on this _____ day of ______________________, 2009 (effective date), Fort Hays State University, 600 Park Street, Hays, Kansas, 67601 (hereinafter referred to as FHSU) and Metropolitan State College of Denver (hereinafter referred to as Metro State) hereby enter into this Cooperative Agreement for the purpose of setting forth their mutual agreements regarding the articulation and continuation of students graduating from Metro State with a Bachelor of Science (BS) in majors including Accounting, Computer Information Systems, Finance, and Marketing and Management, and who desire to complete FHSU’s Master of Business Administration (MBA). The terms of this Agreement are set forth below.

I. RECITALS

WHEREAS, Metropolitan State College of Denver is a comprehensive public university with over 22,000 students and educates more in-state undergraduates in the state of Colorado than any other public university in Colorado. Located on the Auraria Campus, Metro State has a diverse student and faculty population in the heart of Downtown Denver. Such diversity contributes to a more enriching educational experience. In the hub of the Denver business community, Metro State is building partnerships to reflect its dedication to the Colorado business community. Such alliances will build bridges between the business community and students entering the workforce.

Metro State has three academic schools: The School of Business; the School of Letters Arts and Sciences; and the School of Professional Studies. The Bachelor of Science programs in the College of Business include: Accounting; Computer Information Systems; Finance; Management; and Marketing. The Bachelor of Arts program in the College of Business is in the area of Economics. Metro State’s School of Business desires to provide enhanced opportunities for its students to complete a postgraduate MBA through FHSU.

WHEREAS, Fort Hays State University (FHSU), a public, state-supported institution of higher learning under the control and authority of the Kansas Board of Regents and accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools (NCA/HLC), established its roots in 1902 as a normal university to train teachers. FHSU presently serves 10,100 total students, approximately 4,200 students on campus and 5,900 students off campus. FHSU has approximately 300 international student’s on-campus, with a large cross-border education program in mainland China. FHSU has four academic colleges: Arts and
Sciences; Business and Leadership; Education and Technology; and Health and Life Sciences. The College of Business and Leadership consists of the Departments of: Marketing and Management; Economics, Finance and Accounting; Informatics; and Hospitality Management and Tourism. FHSU also has two support units for its academic colleges, including the Virtual College for design and delivery of a very vibrant distance learning program, and the Graduate School for the admission and support of post-graduate degree programs. FHSU has an environment of high-tech, high-touch with all students on-campus being required to have laptop computers and all students receiving personalized academic advising.

THEREFORE, Fort Hays State University and the School of Business of Metropolitan State College of Denver both wish to cooperate with each other to offer mutually satisfactory educational opportunities for students of each institution. Both FHSU and Metro State are empowered to enter into this Agreement to achieve their goals and objectives.

II. Articulation for a Master of Business Administration (MBA)

School of Business of Metropolitan State University of Denver will:

- Communicate the opportunity for admission to FHSU’s MBA program to Metro State students and graduates through marketing materials in visible and accessible locations throughout the Metro State campus and through other means to reach its alumni;
- Assist FHSU in providing admission and other marketing materials to current Metro State students and alumni;
- Establish a joint link with Metro State’s College of Business web page to FHSU’s College of Business and Leadership’s MBA web page;
- Provide a one-time transcript fee waiver to Metro State’s students applying to the FHSU MBA program;
- Assist Metro State students with the process of applying to FHSU’s MBA program, including assistance with a one-time transcript fee waiver to Metro State students applying to the FHSU MBA program;
- Assign a liaison in Metro State’s College of Business to work closely with FHSU’s liaison(s) to fulfill the provisions of this Agreement;
- Inform FHSU of any changes to Metro State’s College of Business’s BS curriculum or other material changes regarding graduation requirements of Metro State students.

Fort Hays State University will:

- Provide the opportunity for admission of Metro State’s College of Business students and graduates into FHSU College of Business and Leadership’s Master of Business Administration program;
• Provide an opportunity for Metro State’s College of Business students to be admitted under a special “automatic fast track admission” program, designed specifically for Metro State’s students, if they meet the requirements;
• Be responsible for the cost of advertising and marketing for the MBA program. Any marketing materials that use the logo of Metro State shall be submitted to Metro State College of Business for approval, which shall not be unduly withheld.
• With the assistance of Metro State, maintain and support a database of Metro State’s students participating in the Program.
• With the assistance of Metro State, provide advising services to current Metro State students that express an intention to participate in the Program.
• Establish “automatic fast track admission” standards under which Metro State’s College of Business students will be guaranteed admission into the FHSU MBA program and communicate such standards to Metro State College of Business. See Appendix A. It is understood that any Metro State student who fails to satisfy these “automatic admission standards” is not precluded from applying to and may be accepted by the FHSU MBA program on a case-by-case basis. It is understood that the “automatic fast track admission” standards, as identified in Appendix A, specific for Metro State’s College of Business students, may be modified on renewal of this Agreement. Any modification of these standards will not affect students already accepted into the Program.
• Be responsible for academic advising of students associated with this Agreement;
• Establish a joint link with Metro State’s College of Business’s web page in order to facilitate the admission into the MBA program, pre-enrollment and enrollment into FHSU’s Virtual College classes and information about enrolling in on-campus courses;
• Be responsible for decisions regarding the admission of students and make every attempt to accommodate Metro State’s students meeting admission requirements.

III. TERM AND TERMINATION

• This Agreement shall be valid for one year from the date noted above. This Agreement may be terminated by either party upon providing sixty (60) days written notice to the other party. In the absence of any such notice, this Agreement will automatically renew upon the expiration of each previous term. Notwithstanding termination, students already in the Program at the time of termination will be allowed to continue in the Program under the same terms and conditions that existed prior to termination.

IV. FINANCIAL PROVISIONS
• FHSU's tuition and fees can be found on its web site at www.fhsu.edu/sfs. All students in the Program will be required to pay applicable tuition and fees.
• Tuition and fees are established by the Kansas Board of Regents and are subject to change. FHSU will notify Metro State in writing of these changes and they will appear on the FHSU web site.
• All applicants will be required to pay applicable application fees. The Graduate School application fee amount for the MBA can be found on the FHSU web site at http://www.fhsu.edu/gradschl/financial.shtml.

V. GENERAL PROVISIONS

• This Cooperative Agreement constitutes the entire agreement between the parties and no prior oral or written agreement shall be effective to modify or contradict any terms of this Agreement.
• This Agreement may only be amended or modified by mutual written agreement of the parties.
• Any provision of this Agreement that is contrary to law or is otherwise invalidated by any court shall not operate or invalidate any other provision of this Agreement.
• The laws of the State of Kansas, and rules and regulations issued pursuant thereto shall be applied in the interpretation, execution, and enforcement of this Agreement, and any legal action brought by either party arising out of or relating to this Agreement shall be filed in the District Court of Ellis County Kansas, which shall be the exclusive venue for actions arising out of this Agreement.
• Contractual Provisions Attachment. The Provisions found in Contractual Provisions Attachment (Form DA-146a, Rev. 1-01), which is attached hereto, are hereby incorporated in this contract and made a part thereof.

VI. CONTACT INFORMATION

Each university will designate contact or liaison individuals. All notices hereunder by either party to the other shall be in writing, delivered personally, by certified or registered mail, return receipt requested, or by overnight courier, and shall be deemed to have been duly given when deposited in the mail, postage prepaid, addressed as follows:

Fort Hays State University:

Colorado Higher Education Opportunity Center:
Thomas Gaschler
Director
E-mail: tggaschler@fhsu.edu
College of Business:
Lisa Treece
MBA Coordinator
E-mail: lltreese@fhsu.edu

School of Business of Metropolitan State College of Denver

Contract Liaison and Point of Contact:
Dr. John Cochran
Dean, College of Business
E-mail: cochranj@mscd.edu

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have caused this Agreement to be executed by their duly authorized representatives.

FORT HAYS STATE UNIVERSITY

Dr. Edward H. Hammond
President

Date 8/14/07

METROPOLITAN STATE COLLEGE OF DENVER

Dr. Stephen M. Jordan
President

Date 9/15/09

Approved as to Form
Fort Hays State University
General Counsel

6/2/09
APPENDIX A

Fort Hays State University's admission requirements for Graduate School and in particular the Master of Business Administration (MBA) degree can be found at http://www.fhsu.edu/gradschl/programs.shtml
Or
http://www.fhsu.edu/mba/mbal_application.php

In regards to this Collaborative Agreement, Fort Hays State University is willing to provide an “automatic fast track admission” opportunity for graduates from the College of Business of Metropolitan State College at Denver. This special “automatic fast track admission” criteria for Academic Year 2009-2010 is:

200 x Undergraduate Degree G.P.A. + GMAT Score >= 990

If students do not have a score of 990 or above using this equation, then they may apply as a regular MBA student and be admitted under the requirements established by the FHSU MBA Committee.

Students eligible for “fast track” admission will only need to submit documentation as requested for admission purposes: