Yuan Ze University Implementation Regulations for Featured Research Team Projects

Article 1 **Purpose**

These Regulations are established to encourage faculty members and research teams to pursue featured (large-scale) research projects, enhance the University's overall R&D capacity, develop key research areas, advance application-oriented research, promote interdisciplinary collaboration, strengthen international visibility, and foster distinctive academic and industry–academia research outcomes.

Article 2 **Eligibility**

Applications must be submitted by research teams, and proposals should, in principle, be planned as multi-year projects.

Article 3 **Categories of Featured (Large-Scale) Projects**

Featured (large-scale) research projects include: university-led strategic projects; NSTC (National Science and Technology Council) integrated projects in which at least two-thirds of the subprojects are executed at the University; NSTC industry–academia development projects; or projects funded by other government agencies or private enterprises with a total budget exceeding NT$2 million. For projects in the humanities, social sciences, and arts, the minimum budget threshold is NT$1 million. Projects are classified into the following categories:

1. Category I – Summit Projects:

   Research projects initiated by the University or by a funding agency requiring the University to contribute self-funded support at 20% or more.

2. Category II – Navigation Projects:

   Research projects for which the funding agency explicitly requires a specified level or proportion of self-funded support from the University.

3. Category III – Growth Projects:

   Large-scale research projects operated through a research team, with the project led by a team member and involving at least half of the team as participants.

4. Category IV – Foundation Projects:

5. All other projects that do not fall under the categories above.

Article 4 **Matching-Fund Application and Implementation Procedures**

Within one month after the project is approved, the Principal Investigator (PI) shall submit a Matching-Fund Application Form along with the required supporting documents through the established administrative process. Approved matching funds shall be transferred to the project-executing unit, and all expenditures shall be reimbursed by the PI through the project-executing unit in accordance with applicable regulations.

1. Funding Approval Criteria

(1) Category I and II Projects:

Matching funds shall be provided based on the level of support from the project-executing unit and shall not exceed the minimum self-funded amount or percentage required by the funding agency.

If no minimum self-funded amount or percentage is specified, the upper limit shall be 10% of the project's total budget under the University's discretionary control.

For University-initiated projects solicited by the University itself, matching funds may be fully covered by the University.

(2) Category III Projects:

Matching funds shall be capped at 6%–10% of the project's total budget under the University's discretionary control (based on the applicable overhead allocation rate).

(3) Category IV Projects:

Matching funds shall be provided in accordance with the University's overhead rebate Regulations.

(4) Additional Provisions:

The Office of Research and Development may adjust the level of matching funds based on the annual matching-fund budget and the funding needs proposed for each project category. As a general principle, the matching fund includes 0.5%–1% allocated as overhead rebates for the corresponding unit.

2. Execution of Matching Funds

Matching funds may be requested under both capital expenditures and operating expenditures, depending on the needs of each research project; however, principal investigator (PI) fees shall not be included. Matching funds shall primarily support capital-expenditure equipment. As a general principle, funds shall be allocated with 80% for capital expenditures and 20% for operating expenditures. Where project needs justify adjustment, allocations may be made with up to 50% for capital expenditures (including

software and databases) and 50% for operating expenditures.

At the time of project closure, the principal investigator shall submit a record of matching-fund utilization or incentive-fund utilization to the Office of Research and Development (ORD). The execution period for matching funds shall, in principle, align with the original duration of the research project. For multi-year projects spanning more than one fiscal year, any request for the carryover of matching funds shall be proactively submitted by the principal investigator through the project-executing unit and processed in accordance with the University procedures.

Article 5   These Regulations, as well as all subsequent revisions therewith, shall be duly adopted by the Administrative Council prior to implementation.

The English translation is for reference only. In case of any discrepancy between Chinese and English versions, the Chinese version shall prevail.