**Memorandum of Understanding for Prospective BD Advisors**

**Bridge to the Doctorate Program 2017-19**

**University of Connecticut**

**Bridge to the doctorate program Commitments**

Bridge to the Doctorate (BD) Fellows and their Faculty Advisors will engage in a suite of activities designed to enhance academic success and retention. These will include the following:

**Faculty Advisor Mentorship**:

All Faculty Advisors to BD fellows will:

* Develop a customized, individual plan of study, to include required coursework, a roadmap of academic milestones, supervised teaching, and weekly progress meetings. (use ICP from Graduate school)
* Maintain an “open door” policy to ensure open communication.
* Mentor Fellows on teaching, collaboration and team skills.
* Engage the Fellows in discussions on career development and remain a mentor and a point of technical contact during and post-graduation.
* Help the Activity Assessment Body (internal and external evaluators) in the assessment of the Fellows’ development of professional skills, including communication, teaching, collaboration and team building; assessment of the Fellow/Advisor relationship; and identification and resolution of possible problems.

**BD Cohort Meetings:** AllBD Fellows, faculty advisors and other BD program personnel at UConn will convene for a meeting at the start of the school year and meet quarterly thereafter.

**Professional Development:** Faculty advisors will afford their BD Fellows the time required to attend a series of *prescribed* workshops, seminars and certificate programs during their first two years of study at UConn to develop professional skills. These programs will nurture proficiency in teaching instruction, research pedagogy, effective oral and written communication, proposal writing and related skills.

**K-12 Outreach/Mentoring:** Faculty advisors will ensure their BD Fellows the time required (no more than 20 hours/month) for Fellows to engage in outreach or mentoring programs at UConn.

**Research Presentation:** Faculty Advisors will afford their BD Fellows the time required to prepare for scholarly research presentations, including the NSF Graduate STEM Edge Symposium.

**Financial Support:** BD Fellows will receive two full years of Fellowship support on the BD Program so long as they fulfill the expectations of Ph.D. study at UConn and the BD Program Activities. Faculty Advisors will secure additional funds beyond this initial two year period to support BD fellows through the completion of their Ph.D. requirements. Faculty advisors will assist their Fellows in submitting proposals for federal Graduate Research Fellowships and/or TA, RA to receive post-BD Activity support.

**Agreement**

I have read the preceding summary of BD Activities and attest that I agree with and will adhere to them, to the best of my ability, should I be selected as a BD Advisor.

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Name Department/Unit Date