



Memorandum of Understanding
between
the Oxford Centre for Mission Studies (OCMS) and
the Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu (LBUS)

Given the developing relationships between members of the faculty of OCMS and those of the Faculty of Orthodox Theology at the LBUS;

Given the experience of sharing in various academic mission conferences in 2018 and 2019;

Given the overlapping and complementary strengths of the two institutions, relating to breadth and depth of theological and interdisciplinary research and scholarship, different degrees of secularisation and challenges to the Church in its different forms, contacts with broader expressions of the Body of Christ, financial and other resources;

Given the desire to collaborate for mutual benefit;

The two parties, through this Memorandum of Understanding agree to develop a range of activities, including:

- Shared participating academic conferences focused on mission;
- Periodic lecturing and teaching on mission, at the invitation of the partners;
- Support for doctoral students and visiting scholars through short residencies in Oxford;
- Joint research and publishing on issues of common concern such as, for example: Responses to secularisation in Romania and possibly other Eastern European countries or Language change in Romanian Orthodox churches in Western Europe (initially focusing on the UK);
- Translation and publication of theological and missiological works by Romanian scholars that would be of benefit to the broader English speaking world under Regnum's 'Global Voices' publication venture.

In general, the two parties will be responsible for their own costs incurred through the partnership.

While this MOU is between OCMS and the LBUS, this in no way excludes involving other partners as appropriate such as colleagues from the Orthodox Faculty of Theology, Babes-Bolyai University of Cluj or the Institute for Orthodox Christian Studies in Cambridge, UK.

The two parties will appoint a member of their faculty to co-facilitate the collaboration. This MOU will be reviewed annually by the leadership of each institution with a view to assessing the ongoing benefit of this arrangement.

At LBUS, activities which are the object of this Memorandum of Understanding are conducted through the Faculty of Orthodox Theology.

This MOU is not legally binding but expresses the good will and commitment to collaborate of the signatories.

For the Oxford Centre for Mission Studies

Professor Paul Bendorsamuel, Ph.D.

Director

Date:

For the Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu

Professor Sorin Radu, Ph.D.

Rector

Date: July 24, 2020

