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**PRESS RELEASE**

**Strategic Partnership Between Aristotle University, Texas A&M University, and the Texas A&M Engineering Experiment Station**

Thessaloniki, 15/5/2026

As part of the strategic internationalization and outward-looking policy of the Aristotle University, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed today, Friday, 15 May 2026, at the Center for Interdisciplinary Research and Innovation (CIRI/AUTH), between the Aristotle University, Texas A&M University, and the Texas A&M Engineering Experiment Station (TEES).

Professor Kyriakos Anastasiadis, Rector of the Aristotle University, signed the Memorandum of Understanding, while Professor Robert H. Bishop represented the American institutions.

The agreement establishes a broad framework for cooperation in the fields of education, research, innovation, entrepreneurship, and international academic mobility.

Specifically, the agreement provides for the development of joint initiatives that will create significant opportunities for academic and research collaboration among faculty members, researchers, and students of the participating institutions. Within the framework of the agreement, the institutions will promote exchanges of students, researchers, and academic staff, participation in educational and research activities, internships, joint publications, the exchange of scientific and educational material, as well as the organization of lectures, workshops, symposia, and research projects.

At the same time, the partnership extends to promoting entrepreneurship, innovation, and technology transfer through joint research activities and exchanges of scientific personnel. A significant part of the agreement also concerns the exchange

of undergraduate and postgraduate students between the institutions, strengthening participants' international experience and academic networking.

In addition, the Agreement enhances collaboration in fields related to entrepreneurship, innovation, development, and technology transfer through joint research initiatives and exchanges of scientific personnel. It also places particular emphasis on reciprocal educational mobility for undergraduate and postgraduate students, aiming to strengthen international academic experience and the connection between the two academic ecosystems.

### **Dual Master's Degree Program in Biomedical Engineering and in the Design and Manufacturing of Sustainable Medical Devices**

A central pillar of the Agreement is the development of a Dual Master's Degree Program between the School of Biomedical Engineering of Texas A&M University and the School of Mechanical Engineering of the Aristotle University. The program enables students to obtain two postgraduate degrees, one from each institution, provided they successfully complete the academic requirements of both universities.

Specifically, Texas A&M University will award a Master of Engineering (MEng) in Biomedical Engineering, while the Aristotle University will award a Master of Science (MSc) in Design and Manufacturing of Sustainable Medical Devices. The program will rely on study periods at both institutions, recognition and transfer of academic credits, and joint academic coordination.

The structure of the Program combines course work and a thesis, with the possibility of completing the thesis either at the Aristotle University or at Texas A&M University, according to the terms and academic procedures of the two institutions.

Professor Nikolaos Michailidis, Director of the Metallurgy Laboratory of the School of Mechanical Engineering at the Faculty of Engineering, serves as the Program Coordinator on behalf of the Aristotle University. The School of Mechanical Engineering of the Aristotle University and its Chair, Professor Christos Vlahokostas, support the Program, together with faculty members from various Schools of the University.

Professor Kyriakos Anastasiadis, Rector of the Aristotle University, stated: *"The signing of the Memorandum of Understanding with Texas A&M University and the Texas A&M Engineering Experiment Station constitutes a particularly important step in the strategic internationalization and outward-looking policy of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki. Through this collaboration, we create new opportunities for student mobility, joint research, the exchange of expertise, and the development of innovative academic initiatives.*

*The establishment of the Dual Master's Degree Program in Biomedical Engineering and in the Design and Manufacturing of Sustainable Medical Devices carries particular importance, as it connects the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki with one of the most significant academic and research ecosystems in the United States. The Program offers*

*students the opportunity to acquire international academic experience and high-level specialization in a cutting-edge field with strong social, technological, and developmental dimensions.”*

Photographs are attached.

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***We kindly request that this event be published, broadcast, and covered by the media.***