1. General Overview.

The American College of Thessaloniki (ACT) and Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (VT) hereby enter into an agreement to provide university-level instruction at ACT's campus in Thessaloniki, Greece for students of VT wishing to study abroad for a period of either one semester or one year.

A. Instruction will be provided by ACT in the following areas:
   1. Greek language, history, art and culture (Greek Studies)
   2. Business Administration
   3. Computer Management Information Systems
   4. English Language and Literature
   5. History and International Relations
   6. Psychology
   7. Elective programs in Liberal Arts (Social Sciences & Humanities)

B. All instructional materials including syllabi, course books, supplementary materials will be created/selected by ACT.

C. Faculty will be provided by ACT.

D. Course equivalencies/transferability of courses from ACT to VT will be determined jointly during discussion among academic administrators from both institutions in advance of the signing of this MOU. Course equivalencies/ transfers will be subject to periodic review as programs of study and areas of instruction offered by ACT evolve.

E. ACT will provide, in addition to instruction, academic advising services, registration services, and related academic support to students of VT.

F. Following the conclusion of each academic semester, ACT shall provide official transcripts to the Office of International Research, Education, and Development for each student who has successfully completed the semester and disbursed all financial obligations to the College. Transfer credit for all courses completed at ACT shall be granted in accordance with procedures and policies in effect at VT.

G. ACT will provide, through the office of its Director of Student Services, assistance in obtaining suitable off-campus housing, an orientation program, three cultural excursions throughout the course of the semester (year) in which students from VT matriculate at ACT. All extracurricular activities offered by ACT shall be open to VT students who wish to participate in one or more of these.

H. Comprehensive program costs for one semester (year) of study at ACT shall be determined each spring for the following academic year (see below, under "Financial Agreement").

I. Both institutions agree to publicize the opportunity for study at ACT through such means as each deems most appropriate and effective.
This program shall be overseen, at ACT, jointly by the Offices of the Vice President of Academic Affairs (academic) and that of the Director of Student Services (housing, orientation, cultural extracurricular programs and activities, pastoral care) and at VT, by the Assistant Director for Education Abroad.

Should a student from VT be unable to complete the full semester (year) of study at ACT for any reason, following appropriate consultation among the student and the administration of ACT and VT, the student shall be requested either to modify his/her program, or to depart from Thessaloniki before completion of the semester (year). The student assumes responsibility for any expenses associated with early departure from the host institution.

Study Abroad students are expected to comply with ACT’s rules and disciplinary regulations as these are outlined in the Catalogue of Study and other pertinent college documents.

II. Financial Agreement

A. Tuition and associated academic fees, off-campus housing costs, orientation and cultural excursions/field trips for one semester of study at ACT shall be:

2002-2003 Academic Year

Tuition: $2,200 US
Housing: $1,700 US
Study Abroad Fee: $945 US
Field Trip Fee: $500
Orientation Fee: $350

TOTAL: $5,695 US

Security Deposit: $200 US (refundable)

Students should arrange for full payment within the first week of classes.

Students assume independent responsibility for the following:

- Travel costs from/to the US
- Food
- Textbooks and/or other required course materials
- Personal expenses

B. All VT students planning to study at ACT are required to obtain a student visa from the nearest Greek Consular Office in the US in advance of their departure for Greece. Students planning to remain in Greece more than three months will be required to apply for a residency permit (2002-2003 cost: $350 US) following arrival in Thessaloniki.

C. VT students studying at ACT should arrange to purchase a Study Abroad health/accident insurance policy in advance of their departure from the US.

\(^1\) Tuition & fees are adjusted annually.
D. Tuition and fees are non-refundable to those students asked to depart for disciplinary or academic reasons. Tuition is refundable only to those students compelled to interrupt their studies for medical or other serious personal reasons, and will be refunded in proportion to the percentage of the semester they have completed at the time of departure.

III. Promotion of Inter-institutional Cooperation.

In addition to providing study-abroad opportunities to students of Virginia Tech, other means of promoting cooperation between ACT and VT shall also upon occasion be realized through particular initiatives which both institutions agree shall contribute to the enhancement of the academic programs and cultural understanding of each. Such initiatives may include, but are not limited to, visits by faculty and administrative personnel of each to the partner institution, the opportunity for graduate and undergraduate student internships by students at VT within specific departments of ACT, specially-designed summer programs in Thessaloniki to be hosted at ACT, as well as others which may arise as the two institutions gain familiarity with one another’s strengths and needs. Details of each additional initiative shall be elaborated in amendments to this MOU, or if deemed necessary in separate MOUs arrived at through a comparable process.

IV. Duration of Agreement.

This MOU shall be in effect for a period of three years, with provision for review each spring of academic program offerings and program costs for the upcoming academic year. Should either institution desire to terminate the agreement before the conclusion of the initial three-year period, notice in writing should be provided to the partner six months in advance of the intention to terminate. Any students enrolled in the study abroad program at the time of termination of the agreement shall be permitted to complete the semester in progress.

Richard L. Jackson
President,
The American College of Thessaloniki
Date: 3/31/03

Charles W. Steger
President,
Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University
Date: 2/14/03