Agreement for Academic Exchange and Co-operation between

La Trobe University in Australia

and

Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (Virginia Tech) in the United States

1. OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the agreement are:

1.1 To promote co-operation between Australia and the United States of America in the field of academic research and education.

1.2 To develop closer ties between Victoria and Virginia.

1.3 To expose students, scholars and researchers to the cultures and environments of their counterparts in Australia and the United States of America.

1.4 To promote joint education and research in those fields of interest to both universities, by the exchange of students, scholars and researchers.

1.5 To provide students and staff with an opportunity to conduct research and to participate in coursework.

2. TERMS OF AGREEMENT

Staff Exchanges

2.1 The two universities agree to make arrangements for self-funded staff exchanges.

2.2 Self-funded staff exchanges may be negotiated by interested parties. The number, timing and duration of such staff exchanges shall vary according to the needs of the particular program.

2.3 Staff participating in exchanges shall submit a written report on the experience to both institutions.

Student Exchanges

3.1 The two universities agree to foster student exchange by providing exemption from tuition fees.

3.2 La Trobe University agrees to waive the General Service Fee (GSF) for exchange students and Virginia Tech agrees to waive equivalent fees.

3.3 The two universities shall exchange up to two students each year.
3.4 The period of exchange shall be for one or two semesters.

3.5 The exchange student shall bear all costs associated with his/her exchange except as otherwise noted in this agreement.

3.6 The exchange student may apply to any undergraduate or postgraduate program offered at the Host University, as full-time non-degree status or unclassified students. Any academic credit earned at the host institution may be transferred back to the home institution, in accordance with procedures determined by the home university.

3.7 The exchange student must successfully complete at least one year of continuous study at the home institution before the exchange period.

3.8 Selection criteria for exchange students, including academic qualifications and language ability, shall be subject to negotiation between the two parties to the agreement. The host institution shall reserve the right to make final judgements on the admissibility of all students.

3.9 The Host University shall assist the exchange students in finding suitable accommodation, however the exchange student shall meet the cost of accommodation.

3.10 Any extension of stay must be approved by both co-operating universities and may not exceed the maximum period of stay of 12 months.

3.11 The exchange students must abide by all rules and regulations of the Host University.

3.12 The supervision and examination of graduate students shall be the subject of negotiation and may be conducted jointly by both parties in a manner to be decided.

3.13 Ownership of IPs developed by students who are also employees of the university will be determined by the rules which apply to all university employees. IPs generated by students not employed by the university and not using university resources of at least US$10,000 in their generation will be owned by the student but subject to any applicable prior rights of private sector or government sponsors and the right of the university to use the IP internally at no cost.

3.14 Reciprocity of numbers of students exchanged must be achieved over a five-year period.

3.15 Students participating in the exchange shall provide a written report on the experience to both institutions.
3. DURATION OF AGREEMENT

This agreement will be reviewed after a period of five years from the date of signing and will be subject to change by the written agreement of both parties. It may be terminated by either party given six months written notice to the other party. Any changes must be agreed to in writing by both parties.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have offered their signatures.

For La Trobe University For Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University

Vice Chancellor and President
Professor Michael J Osborne

President
Professor Charles W Steger

Date  June, 2001

Date