MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU)

BETWEEN

VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE AND STATE UNIVERSITY
(Virginia Tech)
BLACKSBURG, VIRGINIA, USA

AND

UNIVERSIDAD DEL BIO BIO
CONCEPCION, CHILE

The Universidad del Bio Bio (UBB) and Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (Virginia Tech) agree to renew and extend the memorandum of understanding signed on December 16, 1997, as of this 25th day of January, 2006.

This agreement is based on the principle of reciprocity and expresses the interest of both parties in exchanging scholars, students, academic information and materials in the belief that the research and educational process at both the institutions will be enhanced and that mutual understanding between their respective scholars and students will be increased by the establishment of such exchange programs.

1. The universities agree to encourage the development of the following exchange programs based on their respective academic and educational needs:

   - Exchange of faculty
   - Exchange of students (undergraduate and/or graduate)
   - Joint supervision of M.S. and Ph.D. students
   - Exchange of academic information and materials
   - Exchange of periodicals and other publications
   - Organization of joint research programs
   - Organization of joint conferences
   - Organization of other academic exchanges agreeable to both universities

2. The parties recognize that the implementation of any exchange program will depend upon the academic interests and expertise of individual faculty members and upon the availability of financial resources. Accordingly, the implementation of each exchange program based on this agreement shall be separately negotiated and determined by both universities.
3. This agreement is not intended to be a legally binding document. It is meant to describe the nature and to suggest the guidelines of the cooperation described above. Nothing therefore shall diminish the full autonomy of either institution, nor will any constraints be imposed by either upon the other in carrying out the agreement.

4. The agreement shall become effective on the day representatives of both universities affix their signatures and seals, will be in force for a period of 5 years, and is subject to revision or modification by mutual written agreement. It is also understood that either institution may terminate the agreement at any time, although is assumed that such action would only be taken after mutual consultation in order to avoid any possible inconvenience to the other institution.

5. For Virginia Tech S.K. De Datta, Associate Provost for International Affairs, and for Universidad del Bio Bio, the General Director of International Relations, shall serve as liaison officers for this agreement.

6. Mr. Hilario Hernández Gurruchaga’s Legal Capacity to represent Universidad del Bio Bio has been established under the ministry of Education 2002 Exempt Decree Number 191.

Mr. James A. Hyatt’s Legal Capacity to represent Virginia Tech has been established by resolution of the Virginia Tech Board of Visitors dated March 21, 1988.

Charles W. Steger
President
Virginia Tech
Blacksburg, VA, USA

Date

Hilario Hernández
Gurruchaga
Rector
Universidad del Bio Bio
Concepción, CHILE

Date
Dr. S.K. De Datta
Associate Provost for
International Affairs
Virginia Tech
Blacksburg, VA, USA

Feb. 5, 2006
Date

Mr. James A. Hyatt
Executive Vice President and
Chief Operating Officer
Virginia Tech
Blacksburg, VA, USA

3/14/2006
Date
MEMORANDUM DE ENTENDIMIENTO

ENTRE

INSTITUTO POLITECNICO Y UNIVERSIDAD ESTATAL DE VIRGINIA
(Virginia Tech)
BLACKSBURG, VIRGINIA, EUA

Y

LA UNIVERSIDAD DEL BIO BIO
(CONCEPCION, CHILE)

La Universidad del Bio-Bío y el Instituto Politécnico y Universidad Estatal de Virginia (Virginia Tech) acuerdan renovar y extender el Memorándum de Entendimiento firmado el 16 de diciembre de 1997, por el actual, firmado el 25 de enero de 2006.

Este convenio se basa en el principio de la reciprocidad, y expresa el interés de ambas partes de intercambiar académicos, estudiantes, información y materiales académicos, en el convencimiento de que el proceso educativo y de investigación en ambas instituciones será fortalecido, y que se enriquecerá el entendimiento mutuo entre sus respectivos académicos y estudiantes con el establecimiento de estos programas de intercambio.

1. Ambas universidades acuerdan fomentar el desarrollo de los siguientes programas de intercambio, fundamentándose en sus necesidades académicas y educativas:

- Intercambio de docentes
- Intercambio de estudiantes (de pregrado y/o de posgrado)
- Supervisión conjunta de estudiantes en programas de maestría y doctorado
- Intercambio de información y materiales académicos
- Intercambio de publicaciones periódicas y otros tipos de publicaciones
- Organización de programas de investigación colaborativa.
- Organización de conferencias conjuntas
- Organización de otros intercambios académicos de común acuerdo entre las partes
2. Las partes reconocen que la implementación de cualquier programa de intercambio dependerá de los intereses académicos y área de especialidad de cada docente, así como de la disponibilidad de recursos económicos. Asimismo, acuerdan que la implementación de cada programa de intercambio basado en este Convenio será negociada y determinada separadamente por ambas instituciones.

3. No se tiene la intención de que este Convenio sea un documento legalmente vinculante; más bien, tiene la finalidad de describir la naturaleza y sugerir los lineamientos para la cooperación antes mencionada. Por lo tanto, nada disminuirá la plena autonomía de ninguna de las dos instituciones, ni ninguna impondrá ningún tipo de restricción sobre la otra en el cumplimiento de este Convenio.

4. El presente convenio entrará en vigencia a partir de la fecha en que los representantes de ambas universidades firman el documento, el cual será efectivo durante un período de cinco años y estará sujeto a revisión o modificación por consentimiento mutuo. Asimismo, se entiende que cualquiera de las partes podrá finalizar el convenio en cualquier momento, aunque se asume que tal acción se adoptaría hasta después de consultarse mutuamente a fin de evitar cualesquier inconvenientes a la otra institución.

5. Por Virginia Tech el Dr. S.K. De Datta y el Director General de Relaciones Internacionales, por la Universidad del Bío-Bío, servirán como coordinadores para el presente Convenio.

INSTITUTO POLITECNICO Y 
UNIVERSIDAD ESTATAL 
DE VIRGINIA 
(Virginia Tech)

Dr. Charles W. Steger
Presidente

Fecha

March 13 2006

Fecha

Dr. S. K. De Datta
Preboste Asociado para
Asuntos Internacionales y
Director de la Oficina de Investigación
Internacional, Educación y Desarrollo

Fecha

James A. Hyatt
Vicepresidente Ejecutivo y Jefe de Operaciones

Fecha

UNIVERSIDAD DEL BIO-BIO

Hilario Hernández Gurruchaga
Rector

Fecha
STUDENT EXCHANGE AGREEMENT
between
VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE AND STATE UNIVERSITY
(Virginia Tech)
Blacksburg, Virginia, U.S.A.
and
UNIVERSIDAD DEL BÍO-BÍO
Concepción, Chile

In the interest of expanding educational opportunities, Virginia Tech and Universidad del Bío-Bío agree to promote the exchange of students under the following provisions:

1. **Exchange Coordinator**

   Each party to the agreement will appoint an officer who will be responsible for the coordination and administration of the exchange, including the selection and counseling of the exchange participants. For Virginia Tech, the Assistant Program Director for Education Abroad will serve as Exchange Coordinator. For the Universidad del Bío-Bío, that role will be played by the Director of International Relations.

2. **Duration of Exchanges**

   Students may be exchanged for a summer, semester or an academic year.

3. **Number of Students to be Exchanged**

   The number of qualified students to be exchanged will be determined by mutual agreement between the two institutions.
4. **Balancing the Exchange**

Parity in numbers of exchange students is the objective of the agreement. Numbers should be counted in semester units: 1 summer= 0.5, 1 semester=1, 1 academic year=2. Each party should be prepared, however, to consider a disparity in any given semester or year during the period agreement. Any and all imbalances shall be resolved by the end of the period of agreement.

5. **Academic Status**

All students will remain enrolled as regular degree candidates at the home institution and will not be enrolled as candidates for degrees at the host institution. Students are expected to maintain full-time status at the host institution. Exchange students will have the rights and be subject to the same regulations at the host institution.

6. **Student Eligibility**

The Exchange Coordinator at each institution, acting after consultation with the appropriate academic unit, will be responsible for the selection of suitable nominees for exchange. It is understood that the Coordinator will nominate students who are both academically and personally suitable for exchange abroad and that details of academic background as well as references will be provided to the host institution. It is hoped that the host institution will not reject a nominated student unless he/she does not meet established admission requirements for international students, or unless the host institution cannot guarantee availability of required courses.

Students involved in the exchange will have proficiency level in Spanish/English that will allow them to attend regular university classes. The appropriate level will be demonstrated through the required tests in each institution.

7. **Transcripts**

Both institutions agree to provide a transcript at the end of the period of study, giving details of the courses studied and grades and credits awarded.

8. **Student Program Fees**

Each student will pay his or her regular tuition and fees to the home institution and will receive these benefits in turn from the host institution. All housing and meal costs will be the responsibility of the exchange student. The host institution
agrees to provide all necessary assistance in arranging accommodation in the residence halls or off campus, as appropriate. All travel costs will be the responsibility of the individual student. Miscellaneous fees such as special course fees, fieldwork courses, key deposits, books, etc. will be paid directly by each participant.

Neither institution will charge incoming students an application fee.

9. **Vacation Periods**

The individual student will be responsible for his or her own housing and meal arrangements and costs during vacation periods (breaks, holidays, or between semesters).

10. **Insurance**

Each participant will provide his or her own health and accident insurance. Proof of adequate insurance coverage must be provided to the international office of each institution. In the case of Universidad del Bio-Bio students coming to Virginia Tech, they will be required to provide proof of health insurance that meets Virginia Tech’s minimum standards for insurance coverage before registering for courses.

11. **Dependents**

The obligations of each institution under this agreement are limited to the exchange of students and do not extend to partners or dependents. Expenses of accompanying partners and dependents are the responsibility of the exchange student.

12. **Visa Requirements**
Participants will be required to meet any visa requirements that pertain to studying in the host country. In the case of Universidad del Bio-Bio students coming to Virginia Tech, they will need to document having sufficient financial resources for the period of stay.

13. **Effective Date and Termination of Agreement**
This agreement shall be in effect for five years from the date of its signing. At the anniversary of the agreement, each institution will exchange a brief report indicating any imbalances of student numbers and/or other issues or problems. This agreement may be amended, and/or extended by mutual written consent of both institutions for a period beyond its original date of expiration. Either party
may terminate this agreement by serving written notice to the other party. In this case, if either party desires to balance the numbers before termination, the other party will cooperate in that effort. Otherwise, termination will take effect six months from the date of the written notice.

This agreement is written and executed in English and Spanish languages. Both versions are considered as authentic.

14. **Legal Capacity**
Mr. Hilario Hernández Gurruchaga's Legal Capacity to represent Universidad del Bio Bio has been established under the Ministry of Education 2002 Exempt Decree Number 191.

Mr. James A. Hyatt's Legal Capacity to represent Virginia Tech has been established by resolution of the Virginia Tech Board of Visitors dated March 21, 1988.

15. **Agreement**
In agreement with the above terms of participation, the following signatures are affixed:

VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE AND STATE UNIVERSITY (Virginia Tech)

[Signature]
Dr. Charles W. Steger
President
Date: 10/16/01

UNIVERSIDAD DEL BIO-BIO

[Signature]
Hilario Hernández G.
Rector
Date, Concepción, Chile, August, 2nd, 2006
Dr. S. K. De Datta  
Associate Provost for International Affairs and Director of the Office of International Research, Education and Development  
Oct. 11, 2006  

Date  

James A. Hyatt  
Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer  
10/13/2006  

Date  

Dr. Aldo A. Ballerini  
Director of International Relations  
Date: Concepción, Chile, August, 2nd, 2006