MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU)

BETWEEN

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

AND

WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICAN COUNCIL FOR AGRICULTURAL
RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT
(CORAF/WECARD)
DAKAR, SENEGAL

The West and Central African Council for Agricultural Research and Development (CORAF/WECARD) and Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (Virginia Tech) agree to implement this memorandum of understanding effective as of September 30, 2006.

This agreement is based on the principle of reciprocity and expresses the interest of both parties in exchanges of scholars, students, academic and research 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 this partnership.

1. The university and CORAF/WECARD agree to encourage the development of the following programs based on their respective needs:

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

2. The parties recognize that the implementation of any program will depend upon the research and other interests and expertise of individual faculty members and researchers and upon the availability of financial resources. Accordingly, the implementation of each program based on this agreement shall be separately negotiated and determined by both parties.
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 institutions affix their signatures and seals, will be in force for a period of 4 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 it 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 Michael Bertelsen and for CORAFWECARD, Paco Sereme shall serve as liaison officers for this agreement.

[Signatures and dates]

Charles Steger
President
Virginia Tech
Blacksburg, VA, USA
14/4/06
Date

James A. Hyatt
Executive Vice President
And Chief Operating Officer
Virginia Tech
Blacksburg, VA, USA
9/28/2006
Date

Dr. S.K. De Detta
Associate Provost for International Affairs
Virginia Tech
Blacksburg, VA, USA
9/20/2006
Date

Dr. Paco Sereme
Executive Secretary
CORAFWECARD
Dakar, Senegal
Le Secrétaire Exécutif du CORAFWECARD
Dr. Paco SEREME
Date 08 SEP. 2006