MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU)

between

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

and

BIBLIOTHECA ALEXANDRINA
ALEXANDRIA, EGYPT

VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE AND STATE UNIVERSITY, (hereinafter referred to as Virginia Tech, or VT), and the BIBLIOTHECA ALEXANDRINA, (hereinafter referred to as BA), enter into an agreement of cooperation to establish a program of academic and scientific exchange and collaboration in areas of interest and benefit to both institutions. This agreement is to provide the basis for future cooperation between Virginia Tech and BA as per the following articles.

I.

The purposes of the cooperation in Science and Engineering between Virginia Tech and BA are as follows:

- to enrich curricula and to prepare graduate students, researchers and technical staff of the respective institutions to compete in a global environment;
- to promote interest in the teaching and research activities of the respective institutions;
- to deepen the understanding of the economic, cultural and social environment of the respective institutions; and
- to promote better relations and understanding between peoples of the Middle East and North Africa region and the United States and to encourage scientific co-operation and educational exchange among scientists of the two regions in areas of mutual interest and benefit.

II.

To achieve these goals, Virginia Tech and BA will, insofar as the means of each allow:

- Promote institutional exchanges by inviting faculty and staff of the partner institution to participate in a variety of teaching and/or research activities and professional development;
- Receive selected graduate students, researchers and technical staff of the partner institutions for a period of study and/or research;
- Invite academic representatives of the other institution, when appropriate, to participate in symposia, conferences, short courses and meetings on research issues;
- Cooperate in joint research and continuing education programs;
- Exchange on a purely voluntary basis information pertaining to developments in teaching, student development, and research at each institution;
- Studying and implementing projects of common interest; and
- Other forms of co-operation that may be mutually agreed upon by the two entities.

Specifically, Virginia Tech and BA agree, in principle, to the following items. The parties agree to negotiate in good faith and subject to applicable institutional rules supplemental agreements detailing the logistics associated with each of the following:

- Virginia Tech and BA will discuss extending Virginia Tech’s high performance computing expertise to BA. BA is interested in establishing high performance computing facility in Alexandria, Egypt to serve Egypt and the Middle East and North Africa, MENA, region.

- Virginia Tech and BA will discuss cooperation and exchange between the University Visualization and Animation Group, UVAG, also known as VT-CAVE at Virginia Tech and the Information and Communication Technology, ICT, sector at BA. The VT-CAVE group would play a lead role in supporting BA in acquiring, developing, and operating a state-of-the-art visualization facility.

III.

Virginia Tech and BA agree to designate the following individuals to oversee and facilitate implementation of this agreement in cooperation with other appropriate administrators at the respective institutions:

Program Coordinators:

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<th>For VIRGINIA TECH</th>
<th>For BA</th>
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<tr>
<td>Sedki M. Riad</td>
<td>Magdy Nagi</td>
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<tr>
<td>Professor, Director of International Programs, College of Engineering</td>
<td>Head of the ICT sector</td>
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<td>Virginia Tech</td>
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<td>Email: <a href="mailto:sriad@vt.edu">sriad@vt.edu</a></td>
<td>Email: <a href="mailto:Magdy.Nagi@bibalex.org">Magdy.Nagi@bibalex.org</a></td>
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The program coordinators shall have the following responsibilities:

- To promote academic collaboration at both faculty and student levels for research and study;
- To act as principal contacts for individual and group activities and to plan and coordinate all activities within their institutions as well as with the partner institution;
- To distribute to each institution information about the faculty, facilities, research, publications, library materials and educational resources of the other institution;
- To review and evaluate past activities periodically and to work out new ideas for future cooperative agreements;
- To develop detailed plans for execution of this agreement, as well as various jointly approved projects of cooperation; and
- To plan and co-ordinate all relevant activities within their respective institutions, as well as the partner institution.

The program coordinators should meet periodically in order to evaluate past activities and to develop ideas for future co-operation projects.

IV.

This MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING shall be identified as the parent document of any program agreement executed between the parties. Further agreements concerning any program shall provide details concerning the specific commitments made by each party and shall not become effective until they have been reduced to writing, approved and executed by the duly authorized representatives of the parties. The scope of the activities under this agreement shall be determined by the funds regularly available at both institutions for the types of collaboration undertaken and by financial assistance as may be obtained by either institution from external sources. Both partners agree to exert their best effort to secure funding from third parties to finance different aspects of this co-operation.

V.

- Except as may be stipulated in any specific program agreement, each institution shall be responsible for expenses incurred by its employees under this agreement. The host institution will assist professional staff engaged in teaching or research to find local living facilities.

VI.

Upon approval by each institution, this agreement shall remain in effect until terminated by either institution. Such termination by one institution shall be effected by giving the other institution at least six (6) months advance written notice of its intention to terminate. Termination shall be without penalty. If this agreement is terminated, neither Virginia Tech nor
BA shall be liable to the other for any monetary or other losses that may result.

EXECUTED by Virginia Tech and BA in duplicate copies, each of which shall be deemed an original.

VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE AND STATE UNIVERSITY

By (Signature and Name):

James A. Hyatt,
Executive Vice President
And Chief Operating Officer

By (Signature and Name):

Magdy Nafii
Head of the ICT sector

S. K. De Datta, Associate Provost
International Affairs

Charles B. Steger, President

DATE: 1/22/07

BIBLIOTHECA ALEXANDRINA

By (Signature and Name):


Ismail Serageldin, Director

DATE: 25 Feb. 07