MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU)

BETWEEN

College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences
Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University
Blacksburg, Virginia, USA

AND

Sozialwissenschaftliche Fakultät
Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München
Munich, Germany

The College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University represented by Jerome A. Niles, Dean, and the Sozialwissenschaftliche Fakultät at Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München represented by Hans-Bernd Brosius, Dean, agree to the following terms:

1. That this MOU is intended to facilitate all exchanges and cooperative initiatives between the units in the area of instruction, exchange, development, research, and community service.

2. That the parties recognize that implementation of any agreement will depend upon the academic interest and expertise of individual faculty members and upon the availability of financial resources. Therefore, joint institutional goals will be accomplished in accordance with separately negotiated department level Implementing Agreements (IA).

3. A variety of cooperative approaches shall be employed, such as:
   - Exchange of undergraduate and graduate students, exchange of faculty members, exchange of research personnel, technical assistance and/or training, exchange of scholarly and pedagogical materials, joint research endeavors, and other cooperative efforts set forth in separate Implementing Agreements (IA).

4. That the initial focus of this linkage agreement will be upon exchange of undergraduate and graduate students, exchange of faculty members, exchange of research personnel, and joint research endeavors.

5. That financial and/or funding considerations shall become the subject of specific discussion and agreement within the framework of a separate Implementing Agreement negotiated at the Departmental level. No financial commitment whatever on the part of either signatory to this general document is intended or implied.

6. That specific projects to which this MOU may lead will be subject to joint and periodic evaluations by appropriate authorities within the respective universities.

7. That this MOU will be in effect for a period of five years and is subject to revision or modification by mutual written agreement. It is also understood that either department may terminate the agreement upon one year’s notice. It is assumed that such action would be taken only after mutual consultation in order to minimize potential inconvenience to the other party to the agreement.
8. That such Memoranda of Understanding are not intended to be legally binding documents. Rather, they are meant to describe the nature and cooperative intentions of those Departments involved, and to suggest guidelines for cooperation. Nothing, therefore, shall diminish the full autonomy of either institution, nor may any constraints be imposed by either institution upon the other.

Jerome A. Niles, Dean
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Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University

Hans-Bernd Brosius, Dean
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James A. Hyatt
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