MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU)

BETWEEN

VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE AND STATE UNIVERSITY
BLACKSBURG, VIRGINIA, USA

AND

NATIONAL PINGTUNG UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
PINGTUNG, TAIWAN, R.O.C.

Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (hereafter referred to as Virginia Tech), represented by its President, and National Pingtung University of Science and Technology (hereafter referred to as NPUST), represented by its President agree to renew the agreement signed May, 1999, and have agreed to the following terms:

1. That this MOU is intended to facilitate all exchanges and cooperative initiatives between the universities 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 interest of individual faculty members and upon the availability of financial resources.

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
   - Other cooperative research as set forth in separate Implementing Agreements (IA)
4. That the initial focus of this linkage will be upon faculty exchange and collaboration.

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

6. That specific project 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 six years, with annual reports of progress and a major review after three years. It is subject to revision or modification by mutual agreement. It is also understood that either institution 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 institutions 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 upon the other.

Dr. Charles W. Steger  
President  
Virginia Tech  

Date: March 30, 2005

Dr. Chang-Hung Chou  
President  
NPUST  

Date: March 1, 2005
Dr. S. K. De Datta  
Associate Provost for  
International Affairs  
Date: 3/20/2005

James A. Wyatt  
Executive Vice President  
and Chief Operating Officer  
Date: