The University of Aleppo of the Syrian Arab Republic and Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (Virginia Tech) agree to implement this memorandum of understanding signed in May, 2005.

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 international 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 scholars (professors, lecturers, or researchers)
- Exchange of students (undergraduate and/or graduate)
- Summer Programs
- Exchange of academic information and materials
- Exchange of books, periodicals, and other publications
- Organization of joint research programs
- Organization of joint conferences, workshops, and symposia
- 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 five (five) 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, Dr. S. K. De Datta, Associate Provost for International Affairs, and for The University of Aleppo, the Rector of the University of Aleppo, shall serve as the Officers for this Agreement.

[Signatures and seals]

President
Virginia Tech
Blacksburg, VA, USA

Date

Rector
The University of Aleppo

Date
Dr. S. K. De Datta
Associate Provost for International Affairs
Virginia Tech

Blacksburg, Virginia - USA

April 13, 2005

Date

James A. Wyatt
Executive Vice President and CEO
Chief Operating Officer
Virginia Tech

Blacksburgh, Virginia – USA

Date

4/15/2005
MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU)

BETWEEN

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

AND

UNIVERSITY OF ALEPPO
SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC

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5. For Virginia Tech, Dr. S. K. De Datta, Associate Provost for International Affairs, and for The University of Aleppo, the Rector of the University of Aleppo, shall serve as the Officers for this Agreement.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>President</th>
<th>Rector:</th>
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<tr>
<td>Virginia Tech</td>
<td>The University of Aleppo</td>
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<pre><code>        | Blackburg, VA, USA              |
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<p>| Date           | Date                           |</p>