LETTER OF INTENT BETWEEN VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE AND STATE UNIVERSITY AND THE NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY OF THE UNITED MEXICAN STATES

The Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University and the National Council for Science and Technology (CONACYT), designated as the “PARTIES”;

CONSIDERING that the scientific and technological relationships between the United States of America and the United States of Mexico have been strengthened and increased by an Agreement of Scientific and Technical cooperation signed on 15 June 1972 and its annex dated 22 September 1994;

ACKNOWLEDGING the advancement in binational cooperation in North America through the Partnership for Prosperity and the importance of scientific and technological development and academic training in this process;

DESIRING to promote and strengthen cooperative relations in scientific and technological areas;

EXPRESS THEIR INTENTION TO:

1. Initiate a consultative process for the establishment of an Agreement of Cooperation between the PARTIES in the following areas:

   a) Graduate Student Education;
   b) Interdisciplinary Graduate Programs;
   c) Exchange of Faculty and Researchers;
   d) Postdoctoral Training and Faculty Sabbaticals;
   e) Short Research and Training Visits;
   f) Collaborative Research Programs in Selective Areas; and
   g) Other Collaborative Initiatives and Promotion of the Agreement.

[Signature]
2. The consultative process will include the following activities:
   a) Discussion of a mechanism of communication for the development of activities; and
   b) Dialogue on an action plan and a schedule to proceed with the necessary discussions in order to eventually sign a formal agreement of cooperation.

Signed in the City of Guadalajara, Mexico, on the twenty-ninth of June of two thousand and four, in two original copies, in Spanish and English, both texts being equally valid.

FOR THE VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE AND STATE UNIVERSITY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

[Signature]
John Dooley
Provost for International Affairs

FOR THE NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY OF THE UNITED MEXICAN STATES

[Signature]
Jaime Parada Ávila
Director General