MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU)

BETWEEN

VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE AND
STATE UNIVERSITY
BLACKSBURG, VIRGINIA, USA

AND

RESEARCH CENTER OF ECOLOGICAL AND
ENVIRONMENTAL ECONOMICS
BEIJING, CHINA

Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (hereafter referred to as Virginia Tech), represented by its President or Provost, and Research Center of Ecological and Environmental Economics (RCEE), represented by its director, 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 expertise 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; and/or
   - Other efforts as set forth in separate Implementing Agreements. (IA)

4. That the initial focus of this linkage agreement will be upon joint research.

5. That financial and/or funding considerations shall become the subject of specific discussion and agreement within the framework of a separate Implementing
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 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.

9. Dr. A. L. Hammert, Coordinator of International Program in the College of Natural Resources at Virginia Tech and Ms. Xiufang Sun, Head of Trade and Environment Program, Research Center of Ecological and Environmental Economics will act as contact persons for this agreement.

[Signature]
Dean
College of Natural Resources

6/30/00
Date

[Signature]
President/Provost
Virginia Tech

8/30/00
Date

[Signature]
Director
RCEE

5/18/00
Date