MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE,
VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE AND STATE UNIVERSITY,
AND THE SINGAPORE INSTITUTE OF SYSTEMS SCIENCE

This Memorandum of Understanding (hereinafter called 'MOU') is made on the 7th day of November 1997.

BETWEEN

Department of Computer Science of Virginia Polytechnic Institute
and State University (also called Virginia Tech, and herein referred
to as "VT")

AND

Institute of Systems Science of Singapore

are happy to announce their intention of collaborating on digital library related topics, including
international content management and scalable federated search techniques that will be enhanced by the
presence of a high-speed network, and to apply those techniques to various digital library initiatives.

The following applications and research areas are seen as being relevant to this collaboration:

1. APPLICATIONS

1. To build a distributed content management system which will handle bibliographic, multilingual
   full-text, image, and video information.

2. To investigate the architectures and distributions of information sources to yield the best
   performance in distributed searching.

3. To develop a federated search architecture to enable information query, exchange, and integration
   across distributed sources.

4. To focus on educator's spaces as testbeds for making learning more likely and more efficient. The
   role of educators can be viewed in some cases as oracles, in others as facilitators, in both cases
   shaping the delivery environment so learners benefit.

5. To make use of ISS's Virtual Institute as a testbed in Singapore for user interface studies.

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II. RELATED RESEARCH

1. Formulate a sound theoretical foundation to help digital libraries support multilingual, multicultural, multimedia requirements through the 4S model. This will be pursued by developing a logic and a language for each of the 4 "S": Scenario, Structure, Space, and Stream.

2. Formalize the interactive dialogue between user and system in an information seeking task. We expect background work to require the use of situational semantics and modal logics.


We hope to initiate, and possibly to formalize, an exchange of students and staff.

We intend to request research funding for these areas of collaboration.

We will deal with issues involving patents, copyright etc. on a case-by-case basis.

In WITNESS whereof the parties hereto have caused this MOU to be duly executed and the day and year first abovementioned.

SIGNED by, for and on behalf of

VIRGINIA TECH

SIGNED by, for and on behalf of

INSTITUTE OF SYSTEMS SCIENCE

Dr Anne H. Moore
Director, Information Technology Initiatives
Information Systems

Dr Juzar Motiwalla
Director