Supplemental Program Agreement
Between
THE ARAB ACADEMY FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY,
Alexandria, Egypt
and
VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE AND STATE UNIVERSITY
For the
VT-AAST Partnership: VT-Middle East North Africa Graduate Program

THE ARAB ACADEMY FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, (hereinafter referred to as AAST) and VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE AND STATE UNIVERSITY (hereafter referred to as Virginia Tech or VT for short) agree to work together for the development of the following academic program (hereafter referred to as VT-AAST partnership program, or VT-MENA (Middle East and North Africa) graduate program for short). This Supplemental Program Agreement is part of the general Agreement of Academic and Scientific Cooperation between AAST and Virginia Tech signed by the parties and subject to all of its terms and conditions.

A. The VT-AAST Partnership

The VT-AAST Partnership aims to establish a resident graduate degree program at the AAST facilities in Egypt to help Egypt and the MENA countries to meet the serious demand for qualified faculty and professionals in areas of modern technology and sciences.

The program is intended to serve the region’s universities and technical research institutions, the private sector technology companies, and the Egyptian government, by facilitating the production of Masters and Ph.D. graduates that meet the immediate needs of the region and supports the its long term technology vision and objectives.

The partnership is to adopt an open arms policy that proactively seeks interactive collaboration with above cited entities to enlarge the program’s circle of beneficiaries as well as strengthen the partnership program.

The partnership is to be responsive and sensitive to the region’s beneficiaries needs as it allows for:

- Enrollment of students in the resident graduate program while on the job [in country] as opposed to sending the individual abroad for an extended period.
- Tailoring specific courses and research to address local needs that are responsive to regional objectives
- Inviting the private sector, government, and NGOs in the establishment of a premier research facility for the resident program that can serve the regional and national research and development needs
- Working with the private sector to establish scholarship funds for sponsoring outstanding students in the resident graduate program; including the option of internships and ongoing

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work assignments.

- Developing a formal process to seek the involvement of interested government entities, NGOs, private sector participants, and other civil parties to both ensure that we continually focus and shape the program to meet current industry and societal needs but also to ensure impute from those parties that will benefit most from the continued program success.

B. The VT-MENA Resident Graduate Program Features

The desired VT-MENA graduate program is to allow Egyptian and MENA region, Middle Eastern and North African, students to pursue Virginia Tech’s graduate studies towards Virginia Tech’s M.Sc. and Ph.D. degrees at the AAST facilities in Egypt.

This resident program would start the Ph.D. studies for the enrolled students at the AAST facilities and offers selected courses for the students to prepare for their Qualifying Examination as well as for their planned Ph.D. studies and research. This program is expected to provide the student participant with an opportunity to study the early part of their Ph.D. in their home region, and hence reduce the cost and the duration of their stay abroad. Graduate degree’s residency requirement as determined by the VT graduate school and the respective VT department regulations must be observed in executing the proposed program.

A long term goal of this program may be to establish resident Research Center(s) through which program students would be able to complete their degree research requirements locally. This would allow for greater flexibility in completing the program and allow for reduction in total program costs to the students and their sponsors.

C. Coordination

AAST and Virginia Tech designate the following individuals to coordinate the intended VT-MENA graduate program and will serve as liaison between the two institutions:

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<tr>
<th>For AAST</th>
<th>For VIRGINIA TECH</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Yasser Hanafy</td>
<td>Sedki M. Riad, Professor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistant to the President for</td>
<td>Electrical and Computer Eng.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information Technology</td>
<td>Department, Virginia Tech</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P.O. Box 1029</td>
<td>340 Whittemore Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alexandria, Egypt</td>
<td>Blacksburg, VA 24061-0111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phone: (+203) 348-7785</td>
<td>Phone: +1 (540) 231-4463</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fax: (+203) 548-7786</td>
<td>Fax: +1 (540) 231-3362</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email: <a href="mailto:yhanafy@aat.edu">yhanafy@aat.edu</a></td>
<td>Email: <a href="mailto:ariad@vt.edu">ariad@vt.edu</a></td>
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D. Academic Issues

- All program faculty must be VT affiliated faculty.
- All courses and programs are subject to the appropriate approval processes of the Virginia Tech Graduate School.
- Some VT faculty would travel as determined by the project plan and the allotted budget, to teach at AAST, while others would participate through distance education.
Preferably, adjunct faculty would be appointed from the AAST faculty as well as from local residents in Egypt and the MENA region, to support the teaching, research, advising, and administrative components of the program. In compliance with accreditation requirements, program adjunct faculty would be chosen and employed directly by VT. Program coordinators will oversee the adjunct faculty selection process and assignment of duties.

Participating adjunct faculty would be eligible to spend sabbatical periods (a semester or a year) at VT. This sabbatical would be used for skills development purposes as well as to enhance the ties between the program faculty and the rest of the VT faculty. It is also envisioned that this will reduce the total program cost.

Virginia Tech will be in charge of student admissibility decisions. Established VT admission standards and requirements would be used in this regard.

Program coordinators will work with the respective VT departments in setting the plan and schedule of course offerings for the VT-MENA graduate program. Offered classes will be taught as they are taught at VT with the same textbooks and same course syllabi. Classes would be taught using one or more of the following modes:

- Traditional instruction (Professor in class)
- Distance internet courses
- Distance video conference live instruction (would be synchronized with class time at VT, 7 hours time difference)

Before implementation, the program is subject to applicable review and approval by the Commonwealth of Virginia, Virginia Tech's Board of Visitors, and any applicable Egyptian government agencies.

A detailed Implementation Agreement will be executed by both parties once final program requirements are established.

E. VT-AAST Partnership Commitments

VT and AAST will work together in cooperative partnership to ensure successful planning and execution of the program. Both VT and AAST are to support program advertisement, marketing, and publicity. Both are to provide necessary support to the program operations both academically and administratively as well.

Together, VT and AAST intend to cooperate in developing creative approaches to assimilation of modern technology in the Arabic language and the regional culture in the Middle East. Moreover, both institutions intend to explore the establishment of an Arabic and Islamic studies program at VT.

F. Amendment, Term, Termination And Renewal

This Agreement shall commence in January 1, 2005 and continue through December 31, 2009 (five years) subject to revision or modification by mutual agreement. No amendment shall be effective unless reduced to writing, approved and executed by the authorized representative of each institution. This agreement may be terminated upon six (6) months written notice by either party. However, termination of this agreement shall not prevent students already admitted as

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well as students undergoing their studies under this agreement from proceeding with their studies towards their degrees as “regular” VT students.

The Agreement is renewable by mutual consent of the parties.

*EXECUTED by the Arab Academy for Science and Technology and Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University and witnessed by UNESCO Cairo Office, UCO, in triplicate copies, each of which shall be deemed an original.*

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<th>THE ARAB ACADEMY FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY</th>
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<th>UNESCO CAIRO OFFICE</th>
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<td>By:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gamal E. Mokhtar</td>
<td>Charles W. Steger</td>
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<td>President, AAST</td>
<td>President, Virginia Tech</td>
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