Memorandum of Understanding
between
Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University
Blacksburg, Virginia, USA
and
Universidad Autónoma de Guadalajara
Guadalajara, Jalisco, México

Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (hereafter referred to as Virginia Tech), represented by its President, and the Universidad Autónoma de Guadalajara (hereafter referred to as UAG), represented by its Vice-Rector of Finance, 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 interest 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 material
   - Joint Research
   - Other academic activities as set forth in separate Implementing Agreements (IA)

4. That the initial focus of this linkage will be upon exchange and collaboration between The Natural Sciences and Agriculture at UAG and the Conservation Management Institute of the College of Natural Resources, Virginia Tech in the area el Natural Resources.

5. That financial and/or funding consideration shall become the subject of specific discussion and agreement within the framework of a separate Implementing Agreement negotiated at the College/Department level. No financial commitment whatever on the part of either signatory to this general document is intended or implied.
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 six years, with annual reports of progress and a major review after three years. It 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.

**BY VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE AND STATE UNIVERSITY:**

Dr. Charles Steger  
President/Provost

Dr. Gregory Brown  
Dean  
College of Natural Resources

Dr. Brian Murphy  
Director  
Conservation Management Institute

Date: February 21, 2003

**BY UNIVERSIDAD AUTÓNOMA DE GUADALAJARA:**

Lic. Antonio Leaño Reyes  
Vice-Rector of Finance

Ing. Jaime Hernández O.  
Dean  
College of Sciences and Technology

Biol. José Luis Arreguin R.  
Director  
Office of International Programs

Date: Febr 21 / 2003