MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU)

BETWEEN

VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE AND
STATE UNIVERSITY
BLACKSBURG, VIRGINIA, USA

AND

UNIVERSITY OF BENIN

(Branch)

BENIN-CITY, NIGERIA

(City, Country)

Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (hereafter referred to as Virginia Tech), represented by its President of Provost and Vice-Chancellor represented by its Vice-Chancellor, have agreed to the following terms:

1. That this MOU is intended to facilitate exchange and cooperative initiatives between the universities in the area of instruction, exchange, development, research, and community services.

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
Other cooperative efforts set forth in separate Implementing Agreements (IA)

4. That the initial focus of this linkage agreement will be upon 
and Technical Assistance and/or training.

5. That financial and/or funding considerations shall become the subject of specific 
discussion and agreement within the framework of a separate Implementing 
Agreement negotiated at the College/Departmental 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 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 Memorandum 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.

[Signatures]
President/Provost

[Signatures]
Representative of Overseas Institution

31 October 2001
Date

30 December 2000
Date