MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU)

BETWEEN

VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE AND STATE UNIVERSITY
(Virginia Tech)
BLACKSBURG, VIRGINIA, USA

AND

UNIVERSITÄT BERN
Bern, Switzerland

The Universität Bern and Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (Virginia Tech) agree to implement this memorandum of understanding effective as of the date of its signing.

This agreement is based on the principle of reciprocity and expresses the interest of both parties in exchanging scholars, students, academic information and materials in the belief that the research and educational process at both the institutions will be enhanced and that mutual understanding between their respective scholars and students will be increased by the establishment of such exchange programs.

1. The universities agree to encourage the development of the following exchange programs based on their respective academic and educational needs:

   - Exchange of faculty
   - Exchange of students (undergraduate and/or graduate)
   - Joint supervision of M.S. and Ph.D. students
   - Exchange of academic information and materials
   - Exchange of periodicals and other publications
   - Organization of joint research programs
   - Organization of joint conferences
   - Organization of other academic exchanges agreeable to both universities

2. The parties recognize that the implementation of any exchange program will depend upon the academic interests and expertise of individual faculty members and upon
the availability of financial resources. Accordingly, the implementation of each exchange program based on this agreement shall be separately negotiated and determined by both universities.

3. This agreement is not intended to be a legally binding document. It is meant to describe the nature and to suggest the guidelines of the cooperation described above. Nothing therefore shall diminish the full autonomy of either institution, nor will any constraints be imposed by either upon the other in carrying out the agreement.

4. The agreement shall become effective on the day representatives of both universities affix their signatures and seals, will be in force for a period of five (5) years, and is subject to revision or modification by mutual written agreement. It is also understood that either institution may terminate the agreement at any time, giving written notice to terminate the agreement at least six months before, although is assumed that such action would only be taken after mutual consultation in order to avoid any possible inconvenience to the other institution.

5. For Virginia Tech, Guru Ghosh, and for Universität Bern, Zoë Ghielmetti, shall serve as liaison officers for this agreement.

Dr. Charles W. Steger
President
Virginia Tech
Blacksburg, VA, USA

Prof. Dr. Martin Täuber
Rector
Universität Bern
Bern, Switzerland

10/9/11
Date

27.10.11
Date
Dr. Guru Ghosh  
Associate Vice President for International Affairs  

10.3.11  
Date  

Prof. Dr. Walter Perrig  
Vice Rector International Relations  

25.10.2011  
Date  

Jack Davis, FAIA, Leeds  
Reynolds Metals Professor and Dean  
College of Architecture and Urban Studies  

10.4.11  
Date  

Prof. Dr. Heike Mayer  
Faculty of Science  
Institute of Geography  

17.10.2011  
Date