STUDENT EXCHANGE AGREEMENT
between
VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE AND STATE UNIVERSITY
(Virginia Tech)
Blacksburg, Virginia, U.S.A.
and
UNIVERSITY OF TURKU
Turku, Finland

In the interest of expanding educational opportunities, Virginia Tech and the University of Turku agree to promote the exchange of students under the following provisions:

1. **Exchange Coordinator**
   Each party to the agreement will appoint an officer who will be responsible for the coordination and administration of the exchange, including the selection and counseling of the exchange participants. For Virginia Tech, the Assistant Program Director for Education Abroad will serve as Exchange Coordinator. For the University of Turku that role will be played by the International Office.

2. **Duration of Exchanges**
   Students may be exchanged for a summer, semester or an academic year.

3. **Number of Students to be Exchanged**
   The number of qualified students to be exchanged will be determined by mutual agreement between the two institutions.

4. **Balancing the Exchange**
   Parity in numbers of exchange students is the objective of the agreement. Numbers should be counted in semester units: $\frac{1}{2}$ summer term = 0.25, 1 summer term = 0.5, 1 semester = 1, 1 academic year = 2. These are defined in the Virginia Tech system approximately as follows: $\frac{1}{2}$ summer is about 3 weeks and 3 credits, 1 summer term is about 6 weeks = 6 credits, a semester is fulltime enrollment in Fall or Spring term, and an academic year is fulltime enrollment for fall and spring semester. Each party should be prepared, however, to consider a disparity in any given semester or year during the period agreement. Any and all imbalances shall be resolved by the end of the period of agreement. At the University of Turku the exchange possibilities are: fall term (4 months) or spring term (5 months) or an academic year (9 months).

5. **Academic Status**
   All students will remain enrolled as regular degree candidates at the home institution and will not be enrolled as candidates for degrees at the host institution. Students are expected to maintain full-time status at the host institution. Exchange students will have the rights and be subject to the same regulations as the students at the host institution. Any incidental fees assessed against participating students under this agreement shall not be greater than those normally paid by students of the host university.
6. **Student Eligibility**
The Exchange Coordinator at each institution, acting after consultation with the appropriate academic unit, will be responsible for the selection of suitable nominees for exchange. It is understood that the Coordinator will nominate students who are both academically and personally suitable for exchange abroad and that details of academic background as well as references will be provided to the host institution. It is hoped that the host institution will not reject a nominated student unless he/she does not meet established admission requirements for international students, or unless the host institution cannot guarantee availability of required courses.

Students involved in the exchange will have proficiency level in Finnish/English that will allow them to attend regular university classes. The appropriate level will be demonstrated through the required tests in each institution.

All participants will be registered as full-time students of the home university, having successfully completed at least one year of study at the home university prior to departure for the host university.

7. **Transcripts**
Both institutions agree to provide a transcript at the end of the period of study, giving details of the courses completed and grades and credits awarded.

8. **Student Program Fees**
Each student will pay his or her regular tuition and fees to the home institution and will receive these benefits in turn from the host institution. All housing and meal costs will be the responsibility of the exchange student. The University of Turku does not offer on-campus housing but will make every reasonable effort to assist students in finding suitable accommodation. Virginia Tech is normally not able to offer on-campus housing to all exchange students and does not reserve off-campus housing, but does offer assistance in finding off-campus housing. All travel costs will be the responsibility of the individual student. Miscellaneous fees such as special course fees, fieldwork courses, key deposits, books, etc. will be paid directly by each participant.

Neither institution will charge incoming students an application fee.

9. **Vacation Periods**
The individual student will be responsible for his or her own housing and meal arrangements and costs during vacation periods (breaks, holidays, or between semesters).

10. **Insurance**
Each participant will provide his or her own health and accident insurance. Proof of adequate insurance coverage must be provided to the international office of each institution. In the case of University of Turku students coming to Virginia Tech, they will be required to provide proof of health insurance that meets Virginia Tech's minimum standards for insurance coverage before registering for courses.
11. **Dependents**
The obligations of each institution under this agreement are limited to the exchange of students and do not extend to partners or dependents. Expenses of accompanying partners and dependents are the responsibility of the exchange student.

12. **Visa Requirements**
Participants will be required to meet any visa requirements that pertain to studying in the host country. In the case of University of Turku students coming to Virginia Tech, they will need to document having sufficient financial resources for the period of stay.

13. **Effective Date and Termination of Agreement**
This agreement shall be in effect for five years from the date of its signing. At the anniversary of the agreement, each institution will exchange a brief report indicating any imbalances of student numbers and/or other issues or problems. This agreement may be amended, and/or extended by mutual written consent of both institutions for a period beyond its original date of expiration. Either party may terminate this agreement by serving written notice to the other party. In this case, if either party desires to balance the numbers before termination, the other party will cooperate in that effort. Otherwise, termination will take effect six months from the date of the written notice. Termination will not affect the implementation of exchanges previously approved.

14. **Southern Association of Colleges and Schools**
Virginia Tech is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools' Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) to award bachelor, master and doctoral degrees. The University of Turku is not accredited by the Commission on Colleges and the accreditation of Virginia Tech does not extend to or include the University of Turku or its students. Although Virginia Tech accepts certain course work in transfer toward a credential from the University of Turku, or collaborates in other ways for generation of course credits or program credentials, other colleges and universities may or may not accept this work in transfer, even if it appears on a transcript from Virginia Tech. This decision is made by the institution subsequently considering the possibility of accepting such credits.

**Institutional Names on an Academic Credential.** For undergraduate academic credentials, students taking courses from participating institutions in a collaborative arrangement may be awarded the academic credential from the SACSCOC-accredited institution when 25 percent or more credits were earned through that institution's own direct instruction.

For graduate academic credentials, students taking courses from participating institutions in a collaborative arrangement may be awarded the academic credential from the SACSCOC-accredited institution where one-third or more of the credits were earned through that institution's own direct instruction.
Use of the SACSCOC Logo. Neither Member nor Partner institutions may use the SACSCOC logo. Its use is reserved exclusively for the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges.

15. Agreement
In agreement with the above terms of participation, the following signatures are affixed:

VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE AND STATE UNIVERSITY (Virginia Tech)

Dr. Charles W. Steger
President

Date 10/19/13

UNIVERSITY OF TURKU

Dr. Kalervo Väänänen
Rector

Date 11/18/2013

Prof. Sue Ott Rowlands
Dean
College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences

Date 10/28/13

Irinja Paakkanen
Head of International Affairs

Date 11/18/2013