SPECIFIC AGREEMENT FOR THE EXCHANGE OF STUDENTS BETWEEN THE UNIVERSITY OF OVIEDO, SPAIN, AND THE POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE OF VIRGINIA AND THE STATE UNIVERSITY (Virginia Tech) (United States)

Dr. Juan Antonio Vázquez García, Rector, University of Oviedo, with institutional address in San Francisco, 3. P.C. 33003 Oviedo. Asturias (Spain)

Dr. Charles Steger, President of the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, with institutional address in Burruss Hall, Blacksburg, VA 24061 (United States)

CONSIDER

1. That in the days 12\textsuperscript{th} of November and 20\textsuperscript{th} of November of 1998, both Institutions signed an Agreement of academic, scientific and cultural to promote a reciprocal cooperation in the fields of teaching, scientific research and general cultural activity.
2. That this Agreement established in its third clause that cooperation programmes will be established through Specific Programmes agreed by both parts with their teaching and research guidelines.
3. That both parts are interested in the fact that this cooperation will be concrete firstly and mainly through the exchange of students.

AGREE ON

Establish an exchange of students, which contains the following

CLAUSES

FIRST: Coordinators of the exchange

Each part will designate a director who will be the responsible of the coordination and the administration of the exchange, including the selection and counselling of the participants in the exchange. In Virginia Tech, the Director Assistant of Foreign Education will also be the Coordinator of the Exchange. In the University of Oviedo, this post will be occupied by the Director of the International Relations Office.

SECOND: Duration of the Exchanges

Students can make the exchange during summer months, during a semester or an academic year.
THIRD: Number of students that will participate in the Exchange.

The number of these qualified students to be exchanged will be determined between involved academic units of both institutions.

FOURTH: Exchange balance.

The equality in the number of the exchange students is the objective of the Agreement. The exchanges will be counted by biannual units: 1 summer = 0.5, 1 semester = 1, 1 academic year = 2. Therefore, imbalances in one semester or year can happen. These ones will be solved at the end of the valid period.

FIFTH: Academic Situation

Students will be registered as regular university students at their home institution; they will be considered like full-time students at the host university.

SIXTH: Students selection

The exchange student Coordinator at each institution, in consultation with the faculty and staff of the appropriate academic unit, will be responsible for the selection of suitable students for exchange. It is understood that the Coordinator will nominate students who are both academically qualified and personally suitable for exchange abroad and that academic transcripts 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.

SEVENTH: Certificates

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

EIGHTH: Studies recognition.

The recognition of the studies achieved will be done by the competent Organs, according to the following system of equivalences:

a) The Honors qualification (A+) of Virginia Tech, is equivalent to the qualification (M) Matricula de Honor at the University of Oviedo.

b) The Excellent qualification (A, A-) of Virginia Tech, is equivalent to the qualification (B) Sobresaliente at the University of Oviedo.

c) The Very Good qualification (B+, B, B+) of Virginia Tech, is equivalent to the qualification (N) Notable at the University of Oviedo.
d) The Satisfactory qualification (C+, C, C-) of Virginia Tech, is equivalent to the qualification (A) Aprobado at the University of Oviedo.
e) The Fail qualification (F) of Virginia Tech, is equivalent to the qualification (S) Suspensio at the University of Oviedo.

NINETH: Fees of the Students Programme

Each student will pay his / her tuition fees at their home institution and he / she will obtain the benefits of the host institution. The individual student will be responsible for his or her own housing and meal arrangements during the exchange. Each receiving institution agrees to provide reasonable assistance to exchange students in finding appropriate living accommodation in residence halls or out of the campus, according to circumstances. All the expenses of the travel will be responsibility of each student. All the charges originated at the host institution (like courses with special expenses, fieldwork courses, deposits of keys, books, etc...) will be responsibility of the own students.

No institution can make students pay application fees.

The University of Oviedo will provide a travel aid of 600 euros to each student of the University of Oviedo who will take part in the exchange, charge to the budgetary application 20.01.134B 491.07 “Area of European and Northern American Relations Agreement, or the one which finances the present agreement during the current financial year”.

TENTH: Holiday periods

Each student will be responsible for his or her own housing and meal arrangements and costs during vacation periods.

ELEVENTH: 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 Oviedo students who will go to Virginia Tech, they must have a health certificate which covers the minimum requirements of Virginia Tech before doing the registration.

TWELFTH: Family in charge of the student

The obligations of each institution under this agreement are limited to exchange of students and do not extend to partners or dependants. Expenses of accompanying partners and dependants are the responsibility of the exchange student.
THIRTEENTH: Requirements to obtain the visa

Participants should fulfill all the requirements for obtaining the visa that will allow him/her to study at the host country. In the case of students from University of Oviedo who will go to Virginia Tech, they will need a document that justifies the fact that they have enough economic resources for the stay period.

FOURTEENTH: Date of validity and of the agreement

This Agreement will be in force after its signing and for a period of two years, with the possibility of being automatically renewed for the same period of time. Either of the two parties may terminate this Agreement by giving six months' notice. 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. In case there is a notice to terminate the Agreement and one part wants to make a balance of the number of students before the ending, the other part should collaborate in this effort. Even though, the end of the agreement will enter into effect six months later than the date of the written announcement.

FIFTEENTH:

Acknowledging the terms expressed above and the implications thereof, the two signatories of the Specific Agreement hereby established, declare, as representatives of the two institutions involved, their willingness to accept all the obligations devolving thereon. And as proof of their conformity therewith, and in order that it may be put into effect, this Agreement has been signed in duplicate, in the places and on the dates indicated below:

In Oviedo, 21st October 2003
THE UNIVERSITY OF OVIEDO
THE RECTOR

In Virginia, 31st November 2003
VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE
and STATE UNIVERSITY
PRESIDENT

Dr. Juan Antonio Vázquez García

Dr. Charles Steger
EXTENSION OF THE GENERAL AGREEMENT OF ACADEMIC, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE UNIVERSITY OF OVIEDO (SPAIN) AND THE VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE AND STATE UNIVERSITY (UNITED STATES)

His excellence Dr. Juan A. Vázquez García, Chancellor of the University of Oviedo, and Dr. Charles Steger, President of the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University

DECLARE

That both institutions have carried out academic exchanges under the General Agreement formalized the 20th of November, 1998.

That this Agreement has a statute of limitations of five years, these ending the 20th of November, 2003.

That, in agreement with the conditions of its sixth clause, this Agreement may be ratified or modified by mutual consent of both institutions.

AND DO HEREBY AGREE

Firstly: to maintain the close relationship of cooperation initiated the 20th of November, 1998 under the Agreement cited above.

Secondly: The Agreement shall remain in force until either party gives six months' notice in writing of a desire to amend or terminate the Agreement.

In Oviedo, on 31st July 2003
UNIVERSITY OF OVIEDO
THE CHANCELLOR

Juan A. Vázquez García

In Virginia, on 8th August 2003
VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE
AND STATE UNIVERSITY
THE PRESIDENT

Charles Steger