AGREEMENT FOR ACADEMIC EXCHANGE

between

VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE AND STATE UNIVERSITY, USA

and the

UNIVERSITÄT STUTTGART, GERMANY

Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (Virginia Tech) and the Universität Stuttgart (referred to here as the “parties”) recognizing the value of academic cooperation and exchange, agree to enter into an arrangement to support and promote collaboration between the two parties.

STUDENT EXCHANGE PROGRAM

In this program, “exchange” shall mean a reciprocal exchange of student numbers, “exchange students” shall mean students participating in the exchange implemented here, “home institution” shall mean the university at which the student intends to graduate and “host institution” shall mean the university which has agreed to receive the exchange students from the home institution.

Numbers

Virginia Tech will send up to five students each year to participate in the SUMMER UNIVERSITY offered by the Universität Stuttgart. The SUMMER UNIVERSITY is a short six-week intensive program in German Language and Culture combined with a specialization in one subject area (European Architecture, European Art, European Politics and European Economics). The number of subject areas offered is dependent on the total student participation each year and may vary.

The Universität Stuttgart will send one student for an academic year (two semesters) to study at Virginia Tech for every five students from Virginia Tech who have participated in the Summer University at the Universität Stuttgart (“piggy-bank system”).

These numbers assume a reciprocity in numbers of participating students over time and may require adjustment should reciprocity not be maintained for any reason.

Selection of Participants

Virginia Tech will choose the students who will take part in the SUMMER UNIVERSITY at the Universität Stuttgart and inform the Universität Stuttgart by 15 February of its choice. Each year, the Universität Stuttgart will guarantee the availability of five places up until this date. Should Virginia Tech not fulfill this quota by the above-mentioned date, then, the Universität Stuttgart is free to offer such remaining places to other institutions.

The following guidelines apply to all exchange students:

a) The students from Virginia Tech will participate in the German Language course and choose one area of specialization from the Summer University program.
The exchange students from the Universität Stuttgart may apply to any academic program offered at Virginia Tech as full time, non-degree graduate or undergraduate students. The academic status of the exchange student (graduate or undergraduate) will be determined in cooperation between the two partner institutions. The host institution reserves the right to exclude students from restricted enrollment programs. Presently, restricted programs at Virginia Tech include Computer Engineering, Computer Science, Accounting and Information Systems and Business Information Technology. These may change over time and such changes will be reported to Universität Stuttgart as they occur.

b) Exchange students must have completed at least one year of tertiary studies at the home institution prior to commencing studies at the host institution.

c) The host institution may impose language requirements and/or other prerequisites.

d) Any academic credit earned at the host institution may be transferred back to the home institution in accordance with procedures determined by the latter. For Virginia Tech students, successful participation in the Universität Stuttgart Summer program shall entitle each to credit for six (6) semester hours of Virginia Tech credit.

e) The exchange students must abide by all the rules and regulations of the host institution. Virginia Tech expects students on exchange to have and to maintain adequate health insurance while enrolled at Virginia Tech. Virginia Tech also expects that entering exchange students will comply with relevant United States law requiring demonstration of financial wherewithal to study at Virginia Tech for the desired period. The contact at Virginia Tech for this agreement will be the University’s Office of International Programs or its successor.

Responsibilities of Virginia Tech

Virginia Tech agrees to accept the prescribed number of exchange students, to enroll them as full time, non-degree students for the two regular semesters of the academic year or for one semester only. Virginia Tech will assist the exchange students from the Universität Stuttgart, as far as possible, in arranging accommodation, and will provide appropriate assistance in matters of health, language and local custom that may arise. At the end of each academic year or semester, Virginia Tech will send to the Universität Stuttgart an official transcript of credit for each exchange student from the Universität Stuttgart studying at Virginia Tech.

Virginia Tech agrees to collect all charges associated with participation in the SUMMER UNIVERSITY and transfer to the Universität Stuttgart the agreed amount to cover food and board (except lunch), required excursions, and transport within Stuttgart. This amount will be agreed upon in writing by December 15 each year and transferred to the Universität Stuttgart six weeks prior to the opening of the SUMMER UNIVERSITY.

Responsibilities of the Universität Stuttgart

The Universität Stuttgart agrees to accept the prescribed number of exchange students. Accommodation will be arranged for these students and they will be given the appropriate assistance in any matters of health, language and local custom that may arise. At the end of program the Universität Stuttgart will provide an official transcript of credit for each exchange student from Virginia Tech participating in the Summer University at the Universität Stuttgart.
Finance and Services

All exchange students must register/enrol and pay tuition and other fees to the home institution. They will not be required to pay any examination fee or tuition fees to the host institution.

The host institution will provide the supporting documentation needed for the visa. All participating students will be responsible for the following:

- The cost of accommodation as well as meal and travel expenses
- Medical insurance and/or medical expenses not covered by the insurance
- Textbooks, clothing and personal expenses
- Passport and visa costs
- Non-compulsory incidental fees e.g. optional excursions
- All other debts incurred during the course of their stay.

TERMS OF RENEWAL, AMENDMENT, AND TERMINATION

This agreement shall remain in force for a period of five (5) years from the date of the last signature. With the understanding that it may be terminated by either party giving twelve months notice to the other party in writing. The agreement may be extended by mutual consent of the two parties.

This agreement may be amended by the exchange of letters between the two institutions. Such amendments, once approved by both institutions, will become part of this agreement.

Prof. Dr.-Ing. Dieter Fritsch
Rector
Universität Stuttgart
April 5, 2002

Prof. Charles W. Steger
President
Virginia Tech
April 9, 2002