

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU)**  
**AMONG**  
**VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE AND STATE UNIVERSITY**  
**BLACKSBURG, VIRGINIA, USA**  
**AND**  
**ARMENIAN NATIONAL AGRARIAN UNIVERSITY**  
**YEREVAN, ARMENIA**  
**AND**  
**INTERNATIONAL CENTER FOR AGRIBUSINESS RESEARCH AND**  
**EDUCATION FOUNDATION**  
**YEREVAN, ARMENIA**

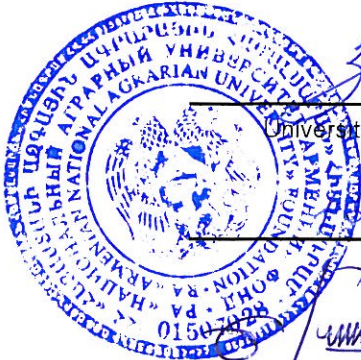
Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (Virginia Tech), the Armenian National Agrarian University (ANAU) and the International Center for Agribusiness Research and Education Foundation (ICARE) affirm their intent to establish ties of cooperation and friendship for the purpose of promoting mutual understanding and academic, cultural and personnel exchange. All parties agree to implement this memorandum of understanding effective as the date the last signature is affixed and shall remain in effect for five years.

This agreement is based on the principle of reciprocity and expresses the interest of all 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 parties agree to encourage the development of exchange programs and activities, based on their respective academic and educational needs and availability of funds, such as:
  - Exchange/study abroad programs
  - Exchange of personnel for the purposes of teaching, research and outreach
  - Exchange activities which foster and strengthen the relationship among partners and further excellence in education both in the USA and Republic of Armenia
  - Exchange of academic information, materials, video courses and presentations
  - Exchange of periodicals and other publications
  - Organization of joint research programs and conferences

- Organization of joint conferences, video conferences and outreach efforts
  - Organization of other exchanges agreeable to both parties
  - Development and strengthening of curricula and course support in selected agribusiness areas such as food science and technology, soil science and fertility, water supply and use
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.
  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 collaboration described above. Nothing therefore shall diminish the full autonomy of any partner institution, nor will any constraints be imposed by any partner institution in carrying out the agreement.
  4. The agreement shall become effective on the day representatives of all partner institutions affix their signatures and seals, will be in force for a period of 5 years, and is subject to revision or modification by written agreement. It is also understood that any partner institution may terminate the MOU at any time, although it is assumed that such action would only be taken after consultation by all institutions in order to avoid any possible inconvenience to the other institutions.
  5. The following signatories to this MOU shall serve as Liaison Officers:
    - a. For Virginia Tech, Dr. Mark G. McNamee, Sr. Vice President and Provost
    - b. For the Armenian National Agrarian University (ANAU), Professor Dr. Arshaluys Tarverdyan, University Rector
    - c. For Virginia Tech, Dr. A. L. Hammett, innovATE, Office of International Research, Education and Development, Director
    - d. For the International Center for Agribusiness Research and Education (ICARE), Dr. Vardan Urutyan, Director
    - e. For Virginia Tech, innovATE/Armenia, Angela M. Neilan, Program Manager

IN WITNESS THEREOF, we sign this Memorandum of Understanding in recognition of our intent to foster genuine and mutually beneficial academic collaboration.



*Z. Hovhannisyan*

University Rector, ANAU

*15.12.2014y.*

Date

*[Signature]*

Director, ICARE



*15.12.2014*

Date

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Date

*Neelima*

Sr. Vice President and Provost  
Virginia Tech

*Feb. 15, 2015*

Date

*[Signature]*

Director, innovATE  
Office of International Research,  
Education and Development  
Virginia Tech

*15 December 2014*

Date

*[Signature]*

Program Manager, innovATE Armenia

*15 December 2014*

Date