Memorandum of Understanding on Collaborative Framework between Universities in Northeast China and University of Alaska System in the U.S.A

The five universities in the North-East of the People’s Republic of China include:

Dalian University of Technology, Harbin Institute of Technology, Northeastern University, Harbin Engineering University, Dalian Maritime University;

University of Alaska System in the United States of America includes:

Anchorage Campus, Fairbanks Campus, and Southeast Campus;

Both entities of the agreement are located in the northern region of their countries, separated from each other across the Pacific. Both entities share a lot of areas that are of mutual interest.

Both entities recognize that their countries each depend on universities and academic research institutes for the education of the future intellectual leaders, for the discovery of new sciences and technologies, and for the development of ideas that can be converted into useful applications for the improvement of the economic and overall well-being of their peoples.

Both entities have research strengths in areas of similar interest and applicability to the countries' economic development; and both entities realize that exchanges of established faculty and researchers and of advanced students provide a proven opportunity for strengthening the respective research and educational enterprises of each university.

Based on the above-mentioned consensus, both entities agree to pursue a cooperation framework by focusing on disciplines that are of mutual interest and that build on current strengths or areas of potential strength. Hereby both entities agree to sign a memorandum of cooperation as follows:

1. Both entities agree to establish relationships that will support the education and training of scholars and students who will help build a foundation for continuing academic interactions between the two countries;

2. Both entities will identify faculty and researchers with similar research interests through such mechanisms as: exchanges of information on research programs; and visits of faculty/researchers to the other university;

3. Both entities will explore opportunities of developing joint academic degree programs at both the undergraduate and the graduate levels.

4. On the basis of reciprocity and subject to the availability of funds and approval of the interested parties of the concerning institutions, both entities, through their respective colleges and faculties, agree to pursue the exchange of
students. Mechanisms for exchanges of graduate students and/or advanced undergraduate students will be developed. These exchanges may be for short-term, e.g. summer research or special short courses, or for longer term, e.g. full year or multiple years. Specific guidelines for selection of students and any particular options for study will be agreed upon by both entities and the relevant institutions and departments.

5. Both entities will hold a seminar every year to summarize the work of the previous phase, and to discuss about their future cooperation. Both entities will take turns to hold the seminars, and each meeting will decide the approximate time and host university of the next meeting.

Moreover, both entities agree to the following general conditions of their collaborative relationship:

Any specific component of the exchange or other activities will require discussion and written agreement by both entities;

Specific collegiate/institute collaborations may be developed as part of the broader agreement between both entities and should be separately agreed upon by collegiate/institute representatives;

Any financial arrangements for any specific activity will be negotiated separately and depend on mutual interest and availability of funds.

This memorandum of cooperation framework will be effective from the date of signature for an initial period of five years; thereafter, it may be revised or renegotiated for five-year periods as agreed by both entities.

Dalian University of Technology
Harbin Institute of Technology
Northeastern University
Harbin Engineering University
Dalian Maritime University

Witness:
China Education Association for International Exchange

Date: 08/12/2008            Date: 08/12/2008
Appendix A

ADMINISTRATION OF PROGRAM

Cooperative issues under the above Memorandum of Understanding are managed by the Vice President of Dalian University of Technology and University of Alaska System.

For five Universities in Northeast China:
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