

# MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

between

**VIGNAN'S FOUNDATION FOR SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & RESEARCH, A  
DEEMED UNIVERSITY LOCATED AT  
VADLAMUDI, GUNTUR DISTRICT, ANDHRA PRADESH, INDIA  
and**

**THE UNIVERSITY OF THE FRASER VALLEY, CANADA**

## PREAMBLE

Recognising the mutual benefits to be gained through a cooperative program promoting scholarly activities and international understanding, the Vignan Foundation for Science, Technology & Research, ("VFSTR") and the University of The Fraser Valley ("UFV") enter into this Memorandum of Understanding (hereinafter referred to as the "MOU") and agree to the following:

## 1.0 THE PURPOSE OF ACADEMIC CO-OPERATION

VFSTR and UFV agree to enter into an academic partnership. Within the context of global integration the two institutions will cooperate to meet the needs for cultivating international professionals. Societies are increasingly characterized by complexity, diversity and interconnectedness. This requires graduates to be internationally and interculturally competent to live and work effectively. This MOU is intended take full advantage of the education resources at both institutions and provides for the development and expansion of the education markets.

### About UFV

The University of the Fraser Valley is a public post-secondary institution fully accredited by the Ministry of Advanced Education and Labour Market Development of the Government of British Columbia <http://www.aved.gov.bc.ca/degree-authorization/welcome.htm> . UFV is also a full member of the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada, which represents and provides services for all of Canada's publicly recognized universities -- [http://www.uacc.ca/index\\_e.html](http://www.uacc.ca/index_e.html)."

Nestled in the beautiful Fraser Valley just east of Vancouver, UFV has campuses in Abbotsford, Chilliwack, and Mission and regional centres in Hope and Agassiz. UFV is a university with a focus on teaching excellence, enrolling over 10,000 students per year. Most recently UFV was graded with an overall "A" average among Canadian universities in the annual University Report Card developed by Canada's leading national newspaper, The Globe and Mail, in conjunction with The Strategic Counsel and Educational Policy Institute:

[http://www.ucfv.ca/MarCom/newsroom/UFV comes out on top in Globe and Mail University Report.htm](http://www.ucfv.ca/MarCom/newsroom/UFV%20comes%20out%20on%20top%20in%20Globe%20and%20Mail%20University%20Report.htm)

UFV is unique in that it offers traditional university degrees while also providing a wide variety of applied certificate and diploma programs as well as extensive developmental programs such as English as A Second Language and Adult Basic Education. The University is involved in many research projects that directly serve the community as well as discipline-based research. Many UFV programs offer a Co-operative Education (Co-op) option, combining study with supervised, professional, paid, off-campus work experience. Students from over 70 countries have attended UFV making it a diverse institution. UFV's domestic population includes students from many ethnic, religious and national backgrounds. In

particular, UFV has developed an emphasis in Indian and South Asian studies based at our Centre for Indo-Canadian Studies -- <http://www.UCFV.ca/CICS.htm> .

### **About Vignan's for Foundation for Science, Technology and Research – A Deemed University notified by the Government of India.**

Vignan Group of Institutions has over 30 years of experience in Education sector and has grown from a humble beginning in 1977 to one of the largest private education group in the state today catering to Educational needs at School, Jr.Colleges (10+2), Under Graduate Course & PG level. The Group today has 8 Engineering Colleges, 3 Pharmacy Colleges besides several Schools & Junior Colleges. One of the Engineering Colleges located at Guntur namely Vadlamudi Engineering College(VEC) has been granted University status by Government of India. Thus the present University has an experience of 30 years behind it and the group is headed by an enlightened management who are very keen to establish and maintain High Standards in all its Institutions. The University has been started, inter alia, with the following objectives :-

- To establish centres of Excellence in Education and Research and provide the necessary infrastructure required for the advancement of appropriate teaching learning process.
- To establish and run Institutions of higher education in the fields of Arts, Science, Social Sciences, Management, Engineering, Teacher Education, Medical, Para-Medical, Ayurveda, Homeopathy, Dental and Tourism.
- To confer degrees, grant diplomas and / or certificates to persons who have satisfactorily completed the approved courses of study / research as may be prescribed and shall have passed the prescribed examinations.
- To undertake extra-mural studies, extension programmes and out reach activities to contribute to the development of the society.

Vignan Group today has over 35000 students on its rolls distributed across various locations in the State of Andhra Pradesh.

## **2.0 DEFINITIONS**

2.1 In this MOU, unless otherwise stated or the context otherwise requires:

- a) "MOU" means this Memorandum of Understanding together with any Supplemental Letter of this MOU or other attachments;
- b) "Party" means a party to this MOU and includes their representatives; and
- c) "MOU Coordinator" ("Coordinator") means an institutional representative designated as administrator and liaison for the MOU.
- d) "Home Institution" means the institution from which a student intends to graduate or the university which is the regular employer of staff participants, and;

- e) "Host Institution" means the university which has agreed to host exchange participants.

### 3.0 OBJECTIVES

Co-operation between the two institutions will focus on areas of common interest.

- 3.1 The objectives of this MOU can include, but not be limited to, the following:
  - a) the development of articulation/transfer agreement/agreements;
  - b) the development of dual credential programs and articulation agreements;
  - c) the organisation of joint academic activities, such as courses, conferences, seminars, symposia or lectures;
  - d) the development of collaborative research projects
  - e) the exchange of research and teaching personnel;
  - f) the exchange of students; and
  - g) the exchange of publications and other materials of common interest.
- 3.2 Cooperative projects under this MOU may include any of the academic disciplines of VFSTR and UFV.
- 3.3 Initial areas of cooperation may include but not be limited to :
  - The development of an articulated transfer program between VFSTR's Information Technology and UFV's Computer Information Systems programmes.
  - The investigation of potential for cooperation in the areas of science and applied sciences.

### 4.0 IMPLEMENTATION

- 4.1 In order to carry out and fulfil the aims of this MOU, VFSTR and UFV shall each designate an MOU Coordinator who shall manage the development and conduct of joint activities.
- 4.2 Either Party may initiate proposals for activities under this MOU.
- 4.3 Specific details of any activity shall be set forth in a Supplemental Letter of Agreement or other attachments, which upon signing by the President/Rector (or delegate) at each institution, shall become an integral part of the general MOU.
- 4.4 Future Supplemental Letters of Agreement or other attachments shall include such items as:
  - a) the elaboration of the responsibilities of each Party for the agreed upon activity;
  - b) schedules for the specific activities;
  - c) budgets and sources of financing; and
  - d) any other items necessary for the efficient achievement of the activity.
- 4.5 The Coordinators shall be responsible for the evaluation of activities under this MOU according to the practices of their respective institutions.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

**5.0 DURATION AND TERMINATION OF MOU**

- 5.1 This MOU shall become effective on the date that it is signed by both parties and shall be valid for a period of four years, but may be renewed or extended by mutual consent expressed in writing.
- 5.2 Any changes to this MOU shall be subject to the written consent of both Parties.
- 5.3 This MOU may be terminated by either Party at any time provided that the terminating Party gives written notice of its intention at least six months prior to termination.

**6.0 DISPUTE RESOLUTION**

- 6.1 Any dispute arising under the terms of this MOU shall be referred to an independent mediator as agreed to by both Parties.
- 6.2 Where there are two or more versions of this MOU in different languages, and where a dispute arises, the English version shall prevail for the purposes of interpretation of the MOU.

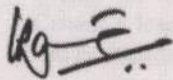
This MOU terminates and supersedes any existing or continuing MOUs between the parties.

As witness to their subscription to the above articles, the representatives of VFSTR and UFV have hereunto provided their endorsement.

For and on behalf of

**VIGNAN's FOUNDATION FOR  
SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY &  
RESEARCH**

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**Dr. L. Rathaiah**  
Chairman & Chancellor



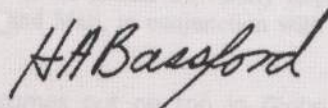
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date: 19<sup>th</sup> Feb, 2009

Vadlamudi,  
Guntur (District) - 522 213  
Andhra Pradesh,  
INDIA

For and on behalf of

**UNIVERSITY OF THE FRASER  
VALLEY**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Dr. Harold Bassford**  
President and Vice-Chancellor



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Date: 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb, 2009

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