

9/11/11

**AN AGREEMENT OF COOPERATION BETWEEN ST.PETERSBURG
STATE UNIVERSITY AND UNIVERSITY OF JOENSUU**

Preamble

In order to strengthen the intellectual growth and international orientation of the faculty and students of the two universities, to help the universities carry out their academic objectives, to foster cross-border cooperation between Russia and Finland, and to promote the Northern Dimension in European integration, St. Petersburg State University and the University of Joensuu agree to cooperate in the following activities as and when appropriate:

- a) cooperation in research and development;
- b) cooperation in education and training;
- c) exchange of faculty;
- d) exchange of students;
- e) organization of symposia, workshops, and other academic activities;
- f) other mutually agreed undertakings.

Cooperation in research and development

To facilitate the identification of mutual research interests, the two universities agree to regularly exchange information on ongoing and completed research and on scholars interested in participating in the exchange programme. Whenever possible, the two universities shall establish joint research and development projects and seek funding for them from outside sources, e.g. the European Union, the Nordic Council of Ministers, the United Nations, the World Bank or other appropriate funds. Special efforts will be made to jointly develop and transfer innovative technology.

Cooperation in education and training

Whenever possible, the two universities shall cooperate in the development of their curricula. Funding for joint curriculum projects, including joint degree programmes, shall be sought from external sources, e.g. from the European Union, the Nordic Council, the Soros Foundation, or other sources. The two universities shall also cooperate in the development of open and distance learning programmes.

Exchange of faculty

Faculty exchanges may be arranged from time to time as agreed by the appropriate parties in each institution. The host university will help in providing office space and locating accommodation for the visiting faculty members, e.g. in university guest rooms. Whenever possible, funding for such visits shall be sought from the European Union, the Nordic Council of Ministers, the Finnish Center for International Mobility (CIMO), the Soros Foundation, or other sources. If visiting faculty members are invited to do some teaching, they shall be paid at the regular rate for part-time instructors.

The host institutions accept no responsibility for the health care of visiting faculty. Each visitor is required to have insurance covering medical care in case of sudden illness or accident.

Exchange of student

Each year, both universities may nominate a small number of students to study for a period not exceeding a total of nine months, at the other university. In addition, student exchanges shall be conducted within the FIRST exchange programme sponsored by the Finnish Centre for International Mobility, CIMO. Students of St. Petersburg State University may also complete for places in the International Master's Degree Programme in Information Technology, IMPIT, offered by the Department of Computer Science of the University of Jyväskylä in cooperation with Lappeenranta University of Technology. The host institution may reject any student not considered appropriate. Each student shall be assigned to the care of a faculty member who shall act as his/her supervisor. Doctoral students shall have the opportunity to participate in ongoing research at both universities. Each exchange student's performance shall be evaluated using the European Credit Transfer System, ECTS. If successfully completed, the student's studies at the host university shall be recognized as part of the student's degree programme at the home university.

No tuition fees shall be required of exchange students at the host university; they shall, however, have to bear the costs of materials, (optional) study tours included in their academic programmes, and travel expenses between the home and the host university. Each university shall offer the incoming student a monthly scholarship and free accommodation. The International Relations Offices of the two universities will know the exact amount of the scholarships. The host university shall also pay the Student Union fees of incoming students. All students participating in the exchange programme shall be responsible for their own health care. They shall be required to show proof of adequate health insurance coverage before being allowed to register at the host university.

Whenever possible, external funding shall be sought to cover the cost of student exchanges, for example, from the European Union, the Nordic Council of Ministers, the Finnish Centre for International Mobility (CIMO), the Soros Foundation, or other sources. Exchange students shall be provided with the full range of services normally available for international students enrolled at the host institution. All new incoming students shall be required to participate in the orientation programme arranged for international students at the beginning of their first semester at the host institution.

Organizing of workshops, symposia, and other academic activities

The two universities agree to organize workshops, symposia, conferences or other meetings on topics of mutual interest. Special attention shall be paid to issues related to the border area between Russia and the European Union, and to the promotion of cooperation between Russia and the EU countries.

The two universities also agree to help each other in organizing study tours for groups of students and/or staff coming from the partner university. The host university shall help in locating accommodation for the visiting faculty members and students.

Other mutually agreed undertakings

The two universities shall cooperate in the development of their international activities and their International Relations Offices and International Student Services. Funding for such activities shall be sought from the European Union, the Nordic Council, or other sources.

Administration and duration of the agreement

With respect to both faculty and student exchanges, the two universities shall observe the principle of reciprocity. However, it is recognized that a perfect match in the numbers and fields of research/study or participating faculty and students in any given year might not be attainable nor necessary.

Student exchanges shall be coordinated by the International Relations Offices of the two universities. Each university shall send proposals with the names of the candidates for an exchange, as well as their application forms, to the other university by **March 15 of the previous academic year.**

The dates and practical arrangements of each faculty exchange shall be agreed upon directly between the visitor and the host department.

The terms and conditions of this agreement shall remain in effect for five years, subject to annual review and modification by the contracting universities. The meeting for the annual review shall take place **in February.** Either university may terminate the agreement by providing the other with written notice at least one year prior to the intended termination.

The following signatures are affixed as acknowledgement and ratification of the terms of this agreement:

Date: *23.03.2001*

For St. Petersburg State University

Ludmila A. Verbitskaya
Rector



Date:

For the University of Joensuu

Perttu Vartiainen

Perttu Vartiainen
Rector



U. Ba, 24.5.01