MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

between

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
FOR AND ON BEHALF OF
SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY CARBONDALE
Carbondale, Illinois, United States of America

and

FEDERAL UNIVERSITY OF PELOTAS
Pelotas, Brazil

In order to advance friendly relations between the United States and Brazil and in the pursuit of excellence in scholarship for the purpose of advancing and disseminating knowledge, Southern Illinois University and Federal University of Pelotas-UFPel sign this Memorandum of Understanding to strengthen mutual understanding, foster friendly cooperation and promote academic excellence, collaboration, and exchange in all fields of academic endeavor.

Both parties agree on the following general forms of cooperation:

a. Establish and regulate programs of academic and scientific cooperation in the areas of common expertise and interests.

b. Develop and promote student and scholar exchange programs.

c. Promote faculty exchanges for short periods or longer term visits, with the details to be arranged and mutually agreed upon in writing.

d. Exchange research resources and engage in joint publications.

e. Organize joint conferences, seminars, training, and academic meetings.

f. Facilitate mutual visits to enable the fulfillment of the above projects. Financial arrangements will be agreed upon in writing in advance.

g. Emphasize scientific and academic cooperation with the Faculty of Veterinary and Biotechnology Center (See Appendix 1 for first Action Plan).

Both institutions will make every reasonable effort to encourage direct contact and research cooperation between their faculty members, departments and research institutes, to the extent
that they are able, under the provisions of this agreement, and endeavor to cooperate in the fields in which both parties are concerned.

The terms and the necessary resources for such joint activities and exchange programs shall be discussed and mutually agreed upon in writing by both parties prior to the initiation of any particular activity or program. Both universities understand that all the financial arrangements should be negotiated and will depend upon the availability of funds.

Both institutions agree to appoint one or more representatives to the Planning and Management Team in order to take on the following responsibilities:

1. Serve as liaison and maintain communication and accountability for this Agreement.
2. Initiate an Action Plan to undertake tangible activities within this Agreement.
3. Monitor progress and report on the outcome of these activities.
4. Determine new courses of action to sustain and strengthen the institutional relationship.

The name and contact information of the respective liaison persons are:

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and

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This Agreement will remain valid for a period of five years and will need to be renewed after review and renegotiation by both universities. This agreement may, at any time during its period of validity, be terminated by either party upon written notification six months prior to termination.

In witness of the terms of this agreement our signatures are affixed:

Dr. Rita Cheng  
Chancellor  
Southern Illinois University Carbondale (SIUC)  
Date 7-19-11

Professor Antonio César Gonçalves Borges  
Rector  
Federal University of Pelotas (UFPel)  
Sergio Luiz dos Santos Nascimento  
NO EXERCÍCIO DA REITORIA  
Date 8-8-12-2011
Appendix 1: Action Plan with Federal University of Pelotas (UFPel)

The Federal University of Pelotas (UFPel) was created in 1969. Currently there are 21 academic units which develop activities related to outreach, scientific research and education (secondary, higher and postgraduate), grouped in five key areas, namely: (I) Agricultural Sciences, (II) Biological Sciences, (III) Exact Sciences and Technology, (IV) Humanities, and (V) Literature and Arts. The university has a total population of 11,961 people, of whom 1,094 are professors, 1,188 are technical and administrative staff and 9,679 are students, including 1,266 in graduate courses, 7,652 in undergraduate programs and 761 in technical colleges. The number of college courses offered by UFPel totals 162 and includes 15 doctoral, 19 master of science, 28 specializations, 9 residencies, a residency in Veterinary Medicine and 91 undergraduate courses. The University also offers three mid-level technical courses. The annual budget for FY 2010 was US$ 120 million, and approximately US$ 12 million was used in research activities and post-graduation studies.

The partnership between SIUC and UFPel began with Professor Eduardo Gastal’s visits to Pelotas in May 2009 and July 2010 to deliver four lectures on the "Use of Large Animal Models (Equine and Bovine) for Comparative Studies of Ovarian Function in Women" and "Applications of Color-Doppler Ultrasonography in Large Animal Reproduction". These two visits resulted in the establishment of a scientific/academic partnership between Dr. João Carlos Deschamps, DVM, MS, PhD and Dr. Tiago Collares, DVM, MS, DS, professors at UFPel, and Dr. Gastal. The initial involvement was as Dr. Gastal participating as co-adviser of Dr. Priscila Marques Moura de Leon, a doctorate student at the Biotechnology Program (http://www.ufpel.edu.br/biociencias/). This was followed by a successful joint research project performed in 2010/2011 between Dr. Gastal and Dr. Carlos Eduardo Wayne Nogueira, DVM, MS, DS and Dr. Bruna Curcio, DVM, MS, DS, two faculty/researchers at the Faculty of Veterinary (http://www.ufpel.tche.br/vet/). Once an active research partnership has been already initiated between these two institutions, several graduate students at SIUC and UFPel have demonstrated an interest in being trained abroad. Such interest from students of both universities will help further establish a promising and successful partnership between the two institutions.

It is expected that under this initial Action Plan, many of the objectives of establishing the Memorandum of Understanding will be addressed and fulfilled. The linkage will enable the development of research and academic projects in Reproductive Physiology and Endocrinology, and Biotechnology at SIUC and UFPel. In addition, the linkage will provide the opportunity for faculty from both institutions to teach courses on areas of mutual interest. It is vital to note three important outcomes of this partnership: (a) teaching, (b) the student exchange program, and (c) the collaborative development of research projects, scientific articles, and technological processes (patents).

Collaborative work over these initial years will result in the strengthening of the fields of Reproductive Physiology and Endocrinology, and Biotechnology in both institutions. Furthermore, it will promote an increase in both qualitative and quantitative scientific activities, which, in turn, will encourage further training in Animal Reproduction and Biotechnology. It will also promote the enrollment of Brazilian students at SIUC and SIUC students at UFPel.

The agreement will be evaluated yearly through on-the-spot workshops or video conferences as well as through reports drawn up by the Planning and Assessment Team at each institution.