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 RURAL UNIVERSITY OF PERNAMBUCO
Pernambuco, 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 Rural University of Pernambuco-UFRPE 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 student and scholar exchanges.

c. Promote faculty exchanges for short visits or longer term periods, 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 advance and in writing.

g. Emphasize scientific and academic cooperation with the Veterinary Medicine Course (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 provisions of this agreement, and endeavor to cooperate in the fields with 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 undertake 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 7/18/12

Professora Dra. Maria José de Sena  
Rector  
Federal Rural University of Pernambuco  
(UFRPE)  

Date 10-22-12
Appendix 1: Action Plan with Federal Rural University of Pernambuco (UFRPE)

The Federal Rural University of Pernambuco originated from the old School of Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine "St. Benedict", founded in 1912 in the city of Olinda, Pernambuco. In 1967 it was transferred to the Ministry of Agriculture Education and Culture with the designation of the Universidade Federal Rural de Pernambuco - UFRPE (http://www.ufpe.br). The UFRPE currently has 38 undergraduate courses, 20 MS courses, and 10 PhD courses, with about 9,000, 500, and 300 students, respectively. Its FY 2009 budget totaled the amount of US$ 169 million and the Expenditures were US$ 152 million. The resources used in research and post-graduation are approximately US$ 15 million per year.

The partnership between SIUC and UFRPE began with Professor Eduardo Gastal's visit to Pernambuco in July, 2010 which resulted in the establishment of a scientific/academic partnership between Dr. Gustavo Ferrer Carmeiro, DVM, MS, PhD and Dr. Aurea Wischral, DVM, MS, DS, professors at UFRPE, and Professor Gastal. This was followed by successful joint research grant which awarded a post-doctorate fellowship for Dr. Wischral to come to SIUC. Dr. Wischral has already initiated her research activities at SIUC and will be working in hormonal and gene expression preovulatory follicle changes in mares and cows. Recently, several MS students at SIUC have demonstrated an interest in being trained abroad. Such interest from SIUC students 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. 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 UFRPE.

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.