Proposed Memorandum of Understanding between

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
FOR AND ON BEHALF OF
SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY CARBONDALE

and

Office of the Prime Minister of Iraq
Higher Committee for Education Development in Iraq

I. Background

Representatives of Office of the Prime Minister of Iraq and Dr. Larry Dietz, Vice Chancellor Student Affairs and Dr. John Jackson, Visiting Professor at the Paul Simon Public Policy Institute, Southern Illinois University Carbondale, Carbondale, Illinois, USA, have held a series of discussions pertaining to the desirability and feasibility of a relationship designed to strengthen the bonds between the two communities and, in the process, contribute to greater understanding and communication between two cultures. The Board of Trustees of Southern Illinois University, for and on behalf of Southern Illinois University Carbondale, Carbondale, Illinois, USA, hereinafter SIUC and Office of the Prime Minister of Iraq of Baghdad, Iraq, Higher Committee for Education Development in Iraq, hereinafter HCEDI, do now hereby wish to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding as follows:

II. Planning Committee

In recognition of the fact that meaningful programs of the type envisioned in this Memorandum of Understanding require constant planning and attention, each Participating Entity will appoint a minimum of two representatives to serve as a Planning Committee. At least one member of the SIUC Planning Committee will be appointed by the Provost and Vice Chancellor, and at least one member will be a representative of the Office of Student Affairs appointed by the Vice Chancellor of that unit, and at least one member will be a representative of the SIUC Office of International Programs and Services appointed by its director. The Planning Committee will concern itself with the following functions: Communication, Planning, and Exploration of Opportunities.

III. Selection of Students

A. As a part of this agreement, SIUC invites qualified persons who are officially sponsored by HCEDI to apply for admission to SIUC according to existing application procedures. Undergraduates shall make their application through the office of International Programs and Services, and Graduate Students shall make their application through the specific academic department through which they hope to earn a degree.

B. All students must meet the general admission standards of the University and of the particular field of study, if different from the general admission standards. See Relevant catalog for both general and program-specific admission requirements.
C. It is understood that there are a number of undergraduate fields that require preprofessional coursework or completion of a pre-major curriculum before formal admission into the major. In these cases, it is understood that students must complete the pre-major coursework and meet the standards of the particular program being pursued as outlined in the relevant SIUC University Undergraduate Catalog.

D. It is understood that there are a number of graduate fields that require successful completion of a specific undergraduate degree or sequence of courses before consideration for admission into the graduate program. In these cases, it is understood that students must successfully complete the specific coursework and meet the standards of the particular program being pursued as outlined in the relevant SIUC University Graduate Catalog.

E. The Relevant University Catalog for any particular student is the one that is in effect when that particular student is admitted into a major or graduate program. That remains the relevant catalog for that student as long as the student is progressing satisfactorily toward his or her degree.

F. The HCEDI has a placement unit responsible for direct contact with the admissions office of the university regarding placement issues.

G. The Iraq Government will select students that meet the academic admission requirements of the University. Students who are academically admissible but do not meet the English proficiency requirement will be offered conditional admission. They will be placed in the University’s intensive English program until the English proficiency standards are met.

IV. Financial Considerations

A. Upon commencement of this agreement, the HCEDI assumes responsibility for all standard costs for the students’ academic program (tuition, and fees). The tuition charged for students selected by the Iraq Government to participate in this program will be an alternative tuition comparable to Illinois in-state tuition. Thus, the HCEDI will be billed directly by the University through the office of International Programs and Services for these charges, and will also pay a third party billing charge of $100 per student per semester which will be used by this office in support of additional administrative and assistive activities related to this agreement, as well as a one time application fee. The current fee for undergraduate students is $30 and for graduate students, $50. This fee is subject to change. Further, the HCEDI provides the students with adequate funds each month to meet cost for room, board and other living expenses. The students are expected to be covered by the SIUC University Health and Medical Coverage through regular fees paid per term.

B. In addition, the HCEDI will meet any reasonable charges that relate to the establishment and continuation of this agreement (student monitoring, academic reporting, etc.). These services are provided through the office of International Programs and Services and payment for these services is included in the above referenced $100 per student per semester third party billing charge.

C. A student selected and sponsored by the country of Iraq through this agreement, and admitted for study at SIUC, shall be referred to as a “Country Partner Affiliated Student, or CPAS.”
D. Qualified applicants who are admitted to SIUC as Country Partner Affiliated Students will pay an alternative tuition for the duration of their enrollment at SIUC, as a Country Partner Affiliated Student.

E. Alternative Tuition is a tuition amount that is comparable to that of an in-state student in the same degree program.

V. Academic Monitoring

A. The HCEDI endeavors to work with the university in providing in proper academic advisement of the students by the university to allow smooth progression in their various programs. It seeks a pro-active approach to addressing students’ difficulties (academic & others) where problems may be handled before becoming unmanageable.

B. A HCEDI adviser is assigned to each student and is the first point of contact in addressing any issues that might arise with the students.

C. The HCEDI expects to receive official transcripts for all sponsored students at the end of each term. It is understood that these students must sign a transcript release form at the commencement of their studies to allow such releases.

VI. Continuity for Students in Good Standing

A. Should this MOU expire before a Country Partner Affiliated Student who is in good academic standing and who is maintaining satisfactory progress toward degree, comparable to that required by on campus scholarships, that Country Partner Affiliated Student will continue to receive financial sponsorship from HCEDI until they complete the current degree toward which they are working.

B. Should this MOU expire before a Country Partner Affiliated Student who is in good academic standing and who is maintaining satisfactory progress toward degree, comparable to that required by on campus scholarships, that Country Partner Affiliated Student will maintain eligibility for the alternative tuition charge until they complete the current degree toward which they are working.
VII. Related Administrative Issues

A. The name and contact information for the HCEDI MOU Liaison is
   a. Name: Dr. Zuhair Humadi
   b. Address: The Prime Minister Advisory Board Building
      The International Zone
   c. Higher Committee for Education Development in Iraq
   d. City: Baghdad
   e. Country: Iraq
   f. Telephone: 011 964 7901103462
   g. Fax: ____________________________
   h. Email: zuhairhumadi@yahoo.com

B. The name and contact information for the SIUC MOU liaison is
   a. Dr. Christine L Svec, Associate Director
   b. International Programs and Services
   c. Southern Illinois University Carbondale
   d. Carbondale, IL 62901
   e. USA
   f. TELEPHONE: 618.453.3070
   g. FAX: 618.453.3085
   h. EMAIL: csvec@siu.edu

C. If the liaison duties of either institution are reassigned to a different person, the above information shall be shared with the other institution via contact with the contact person listed above, within thirty days of reassignment.

D. Each Partner shall maintain liability coverage in reasonable and customary amounts to cover claims made directly against them. Neither partner agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the other partner, or their agents and employees, from any claims, demands, or action arising out of the negligent acts or omissions of their respective institution, or their agents or employees, during the term of this memorandum of understanding.

E. This agreement is entered into in a spirit of cooperation by both parties in the recognition that each partner will benefit from this interaction through enhanced global educational opportunities for students and improved professional development opportunities for faculties and staff. This memorandum of understanding shall take effect after approval by appropriate authorities of both partners for an initial period of five years with the intent and option of further renewal as mutually agreed upon programs are implemented, or sooner if necessitated by a change in either partner’s policies or their respective state or national laws or regulations. After this Memorandum has been activated, cancellation of the agreement may be effected by either party with a written notification one year in advance of the anticipated termination. This Memorandum may be immediately terminated by either of the parties prior to the date of the final signature below.

F. This Memorandum of Understanding shall become effective upon the date of the final signature below.

Samuel Goldman, Ph.D.  date  Zuhair Humadi, Ph.D.  date
Chancellor
Southern Illinois University Carbondale
Carbondale, Illinois  USA
Executive Director
The Higher Committee for Education Development in Iraq
Office of the Prime Minister
Baghdad, Iraq
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Chancellor
Southern Illinois University Carbondale
Carbondale, Illinois USA

Zuhair Humadi, Ph.D.
Executive Director
The Higher Committee for Education Development in Iraq
Office of the Prime Minister
Baghdad, Iraq

Aug. 29, 2009
Aug. 30, 2009