Memorandum of Understanding
Between
The Board of Trustees of
Southern Illinois University Carbondale (SIU)
And
Southwest University (SWU)

In order to advance friendly relations between the United States and China and in the pursuit of excellence in scholarship for the purpose of advancing and disseminating knowledge, Southern Illinois University and Southwest University 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. Engage in joint research and educational activities
b. Promote international experience through exchange of faculty for research, lectures, and discussions.
c. Encourage the exchange of graduate and undergraduate students for learning, research, and internship.
d. Organize joint conferences, symposia, and seminars.
e. Link website onto the partner university’s website to enhance information exchange.

Both institutions agree to appoint one or more representatives to the Planning and Assessment Team in order to undertake the following responsibilities:

a. Serve as liaison and maintain communication and accountability for this Agreement.
b. Initiate an annual Action Plan to undertake tangible activities within this Agreement, including:
   1. The location of implementation and the participants.
   2. The duration of execution of the suggested activity.
   3. A financial plan, detailing the financial resources necessary for implementation.
c. Monitor progress and report on the outcome and evaluate the success of these activities in an annual evaluation.
d. Determine new courses of action to sustain and strengthen the institutional relationship.

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

James Garvey
Professor and Director

Weizhi Yao
Professor and Director
Center for Fisheries, Aquaculture & Aquatic Sciences
Southern Illinois University Carbondale

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And

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Guozhong Dong
Assistant Dean
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Southwest University
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The present agreement shall be effective until termination by either party. Termination can be effected at any time by either party, upon written notification six months prior to termination.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this Agreement by their duly authorized, respective officers, and by doing so, hereby affirm that the terms and conditions herein are mutually enforceable on behalf of and against each party as of the date first written above.

Approved:

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF
SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

Rita Cheng, Chancellor
Southern Illinois University, Carbondale

3-14-14

Date

Glenn Poshard, President
Southern Illinois University

SOUTHWEST UNIVERSITY

Weiguo Zhang, President
Southwest University, Chongqing

April 15, 2015

Date
APPENDIX

Action Plan between the Office of Vice Chancellor for Research,  
Southern Illinois University Carbondale (SIUC)  
And  
College of Animal Science and Technology,  
Southwest University (SWU)

Background Information
Southwest University (SWU), Chongqing, China is a comprehensive university serving greater than 80,000 students. The institution provides a broad range of academic programs including philosophy, law, economics, agriculture, and science. SWU is situated in a geographically unique region of China, in proximity to the upper Yangtze River ecosystem. Professor Jim Garvey, Director of the Fisheries and Illinois Aquaculture Center and Professor of Zoology, has been in contact with SWU about conducting collaborative research and beginning a student exchange program. Similarities between the river region of southern Illinois and the Chongqing region of China will lead to many shared academic pursuits.

Objectives
- Identify shared academic interests and goals, largely related to economic and environmental issues associated with rivers
- Exchange scholars between SIUC and SWU
- Exchange students between SIUC and SWU

Action Plan
I. Areas of cooperation
The project will focus on fishery resources and the ecological environment in rivers.
II. Collaborative Research
(1) Comparative study on the population dynamics and its influencing factors of the silver carp in the Yangtze River and the Mississippi River

- Study the spawning environmental conditions of silver carp
- Study the early ontogeny environmental conditions of silver carp
- Study the growth characteristic of silver carp
- Study the food resources and feeding environment of silver carp

(2) Draw on the monitoring techniques on fishery resources in the Mississippi River for the research of monitoring on fishery resources and environment in the upper reaches of Yangtze River.

(3) By introducing the fishery management evaluation system from US, conduct research on fishery management evaluation on national nature reserve of rare and endemic fishes in the Yangtze River upstream area.

III. Approaches to cooperation

- Exchange scholars

Every year, both sides exchange 1~2 researchers or academic staff members. They will participate in the field study and indoor research for 15~30 days. Each side pays its own scholars’ round trip, and offers free accommodation for scholars of the other side.

- Exchange students

Every year, both sides exchange 1~2 graduate student. The students can attend lectures, participate in research work for 3~6 months. Each side pays its own students the international travel cost, and offers accommodation and living subsidies for visiting students of the other side. Also, exchanging students can study for 1 year and try to finish their dissertation.

- Joint application for scientific research projects

With regard to the fishery research of Yangtze River or Mississippi River, both sides jointly apply for the government funded projects.

James Garvey  
Director  
Center for Fisheries, Aquaculture & Aquatic Sciences  
Southern Illinois University  

Yao Weizhi  
Director  
Center for Fishery Resources and Environment  
Department of Aquaculture  
Southwest University, Chongqing  

Date: 3/31/15  

Date: 7/4/15