



**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN UNIVERSITY OF
CONCEPCIÓN, UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO AND UNIVERSITY OF SIENA
REGARDING THE TRIANGE PROJECT**

The University of Concepción, Chile, hereby represented by its President, Sergio Lavanchy Merino; University of Idaho, USA, hereby represented by its President, Timothy P. White; and the University of Siena, Italy, hereby represented by its Rector, Silvano Focardi; commit to a shared vision for an innovative, creative, international collaborative partnership called the TRIANGLE PROGRAM.

TRIANGLE is an innovative approach to sharing among three universities their diverse cultural, geographical, scientific and educational experiences and resources to better accomplish our institutional missions and to promote an international partnership that advances the discovery, transmittal, preservation and application of knowledge for the improvement of humankind.

TRIANGLE draws on the diverse experiences and resources of three continents, countries and universities, through three types of programs: education; research and technology transfer; and arts, architecture and culture, and prepares students to be successful in the emerging global society: across culture, geography, ecology, and economy.

We hereby subscribe to the following understanding:

CLAUSES

- I. We will work at three levels that draw upon the strengths and resources of the three institutions; thematic, cultural and institutional.**
 - a. Thematic Programs: Selecting key areas of collaborative research/technology transfer, curriculum and outreach.**
 - b. Cultural Programs: Identify strategic programs in human diversity, sustainable development, architecture and sustainable design, and the performing arts.**
 - c. Institutional Transformation: Comparing institutional norms and functions: organization, finance, management, governance and policy, and academic administration.**

- II. We will work under the following structures:**
 - a. Our program priorities are driven by the visions and strategic plans of our Rectors and President, faculty expertise, and major**



environmental and social issues. We will seek our synergistic potential.

- b. Each Rector and President will appoint an institutional coordinator with staff support.
- c. An inter-institutional executive committee, 3 members from each university (including the institutional coordinator) will coordinate the program, identify thematic priorities and manage the relationships.
- d. Faculty members from the key areas of research, teaching and outreach will be identified.

III. We will work in the following manner:

THEMATIC PROGRAMS

- a. Identify key areas of research where we have expertise and common interests between the institutions and identify promising synergies via partnering.
- b. Create strategic programs that integrate research and education and have potential for significant impact on global, national and local issues.
- c. Concentrate initially on transformative, interdisciplinary Ph.D. programs that also offer undergraduate research opportunities.
- d. Concentrate initially on strengths of undergraduate studies to prepare students for professions in the emerging world.
- e. Draw upon faculty expertise across the disciplines.

CULTURAL

- a. Cultural Programs: Identify special programs in human diversity, architecture and sustainable design and the performing and fine arts.

INSTITUTIONAL

1. We will address institutional norms and functions that most affect our chances for success in our chosen thematic programs and cultural programs (for example, allocation of flexible resources that stimulate multi-disciplinary approaches, faculty and student exchange, international technology transfer and other innovations).
2. The three institutions will cooperate in seeking external financial support from national or international funding agencies for the development of collaborative programs.
3. Each University will nominate an administrative unit/officer which will be in charge of supervision and control of the activities in this Agreement.
4. This Agreement will come into effect when two official copies in Italian, English and Spanish, are signed by the three authorities. Each institution will retain one official copy in each language. The Agreement will last for three years and it will be automatically



renewed for subsequent periods, pending satisfactory progress reports as determined by the Rectors and President.

5. Before any projects or activities are started, the Working Plans must be approved in writing, by representatives of three universities, in accordance with this Agreement. This Agreement will be effective upon signature of the three parties.

IX. The Agreement can come into an end if either one of the three parties involved decide to withdraw with a six month notice before the expiry date.

For the

University of Idaho, USA

Timothy P. White,
President

For the

University of Concepción, Chile

Sergio Lavanchy M.,

Rector

For the

University of Siena, Italy

Silvano Focardi,
Rector

December 19th, 2006, Siena, Italy



University of Idaho

ADDENDUM: Each university will assume responsibility in accordance with its regulations and practices for the travel expenses of its faculty members and students. The receiving University will assume the responsibility of providing general assistance to visiting faculty members and students. Any other arrangements involving financial commitments will be agree in the future.