THE UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND

STUDENT EXCHANGE AGREEMENT

Between the

University of Rhode Island, Rhode Island, USA

And

The University of Cantabria, Spain

This Student Exchange Agreement is made and entered into on the day of the final signature, by, and between the University of Rhode Island, Kingston, Rhode Island, USA (hereinafter referred to as URI) and the Universidad de Cantabria, Spain (hereinafter referred to as UC). By accepting the text of this agreement, the two institutions decide to participate, officially, in a program of undergraduate student exchange, which include student interns under the terms and conditions outlined below:

Article I

On a basis of reciprocity, and in the interests of both institutions, the goal of this agreement is to establish an exchange program open to qualified undergraduate students and student interns at each of the two participating universities. Each institution, shall assume full responsibility in the assessment and selection of qualified candidates to be sent to the host university. The host institution shall then respect the selection so made.

The exchange agreement will be applied in conformity with the particular regulations of each of the two Universities and in a manner acceptable to both. Unless the context otherwise specifies, home institution shall mean the institution at which a student intends to graduate and host institution shall mean the institution, which has agreed to receive students from a home institution.

Article II

Each institution consents to accepting students having the required qualifications on the basis of equality calculated on the number of semesters.

This agreement assumes the exchange of an equal number of students who will register for courses at the respective schools, though an imbalance may occur in a given year. Any exchange imbalance should be rectified within a three-year period. Student interns are not counted as part of the exchange balance.
The exact number of exchange students will be negotiated annually with the decision to be made no later than April 1st of the preceding academic year for fall semester and academic year participants, and October 1st of the academic year in progress for spring semester participants, for the University of Rhode Island; and, respectively, October 1st of the preceding academic year for the students from the University of Cantabria that participate, both in the fall and spring semesters.

b. Each accepted student would have an academic program approved by the student's advisor for the fall and [and/or] spring terms. The proposed program of study is to be determined in advance as part of the process of approving each student for this exchange program. No student can participate in this exchange beyond the duration of one academic year.

It is the responsibility of the exchange program participant to ensure that the academic record of their academic performance is sent directly to their home institution at the conclusion of each semester. It shall be the sole responsibility of the home institution to decide on the application of those credits to the student's degree program.

c. At the end of their exchange program, incoming exchange students may not continue their studies at URI, unless admitted to a degree program. They must receive approval from the US Department of Homeland Security and the US Department of State to change to an F-1 visa category or J-1 visa subcategory before commencing a degree program.

Incoming students at UC will neither be admitted as degree-seeking students unless they are formally admitted by the corresponding Faculty or School.

Student Interns

d. The name of Student Interns may be submitted by the Spanish International Engineering Program Director at any time during the year to the Office of International Students & Scholars. Student Interns must submit a DS-7002 (Training Internship Placement Plan) before a DS-2019 form may be issued to obtain a J-1 Student Intern visa.

e. Students from the UC who wish to spend a period of Internship at URI may do so for a period up to 12 months. As per the Department of State, Interns cannot be permitted to matriculate in courses, change visa category/subcategory without leaving the country, or extend their period of internship beyond 12 months of participation. These students will not receive an exchange slot and will not be expected to pay tuition and/or fees since they will not matriculate for courses.

All exchange students shall be subject to the same academic regulations regarding class performance (regular attendance to lectures and seminars, assignments and final exams), community standards, and student discipline system, pertaining to all part-time and full time undergraduate students at the host institution.

a. Students coming to URI must be prepared linguistically, so as to be able to participate in the instructional programs of URI. Similarly, students coming to UC must be prepared linguistically to participate in the instructional programs of UC. It is recommended that they meet the standard based on IELTS or TOEFL test scores. Students with below standard scores for IELTS or
TOEFL will be expected to participate in the English Language Studies Courses (oral and expository English language skills).

URI students that have not achieved the required level in Spanish will have to follow Spanish language courses at UC language center.

In accordance with the host institution's academic requirements for its regularly enrolled students, students are expected to be in good academic standing (2.0 GPA/undergraduate, with no F's – US grades or 10/20 minimum – French grades) to continue in the second semester. If such has not been achieved, the host institution may deny second semester enrollment without refund of program cost.

b. Students coming to URI must also meet the standard based on IELTS, TOEFL or TOEIC test scores. For TOEFL, this is an overall paper based score of 550 including a score of 4 or more in the Test of Written English (TWE), or an overall computer-based score of 213 including a score of 4 or more in the Essay Writing Score, or an overall internet-based score of 79 including a score of 20 or more in the Writing Section. For TOEIC, the minimum points required is 785, level B2.

Participation in this exchange program is not intended to imply acceptance into a degree program at either host institution. Interns are not subject to academic regulations.

**Article IV**

In general, students enroll and pay tuition and fees, and other related costs to their respective home institutions (if and when appropriate). They do not have to pay any fees to the host institution. Incoming students will have a regular student status at the host institution, on condition that the balance in semesters is respected. When an imbalance in number of semesters occurs, incoming students may pay these same tuition fees to the host institution or the partner school must wait until parity has been achieved before sending students.

a. URI will agree to make available on-campus housing or its equivalent, whenever possible, to the exchange students during the academic term, provided that the student complies with the residence's requirements and deadlines for application, deposits and payments for residence halls or comparable housing, arrival at the scheduled date.

b. UC will help with off-campus accommodations whenever possible.

c. Interns cannot reside in residence halls operated by the Office of Housing and Residential Life/HRL. They may reside at other residential locations on campus or off campus not managed by HRL.

d. All exchange student and interns are responsible for living expenses also during extended academic recess (e.g., winter and spring breaks), for all transportation costs, for books and supplies, health insurance, and personal and incidental expenses.

**Article V**

All incoming students must purchase URI health insurance or show proof of other comparable health insurance that matches the medical insurance regulations mandated by the Office of Exchange
Coordination and Designation Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, United States Department of State and the University of Rhode Island. The Office of Safety and Risk Management reserves the right to compel students to purchase URI health insurance if the health insurance advance by the student is found to be insufficient. Lack of compliance will result in immediate dismissal.

The cost and treatment of minor illnesses will be paid by fees paid by outgoing URI students and treated at the University of Rhode Island Health Services Center.

Interns are not eligible to receive services at the URI Health Services Center (they do not pay student fees to URI nor does a URI student pay fees on their behalf).

URI students participating in the exchange program are required to purchase a health insurance that also covers for accidents and repatriation.

Article VI
Violation of laws committed in the United States of America shall subject the exchange student and interns to immediate withdrawal from the exchange program and immigration sponsorship; and to immediate expulsion by the Department of Homeland Security from the United States without refund of expenses related to the program cost. The student will be granted 15 days after withdrawal of the academic and immigration sponsorship to leave the host country.

Article VII
The exchange agreement will be applied in conformity with the particular regulations of each of the two Universities and in a manner acceptable to both.

Article VIII
This agreement shall continue for a five year period, from the date of the last signature, renewable for periods of five years by mutual written agreement, or interrupted by request of one of the two institutions with advanced warning of twelve months written notice by registered letter. If an imbalance in semesters exists at the end of the agreement, both universities agree to negotiate to find a solution.

Article IX
The Director of the Office of International Education at the University of Rhode Island and the Head of International Relations Office at the University of Cantabria shall be the officials responsible for carrying out the details of this agreement.

Signed:

University of Rhode Island

Dr. David M. Dooley
President

University of Cantabria

José Carlos Gómez Salar
Rector

20 SET. 2012

(date)