MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

BETWEEN

COASTAL RESOURCES CENTER

Graduate School of Oceanography, University of Rhode Island, USA

AND

DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES AND AQUATIC SCIENCES

University of Cape Coast, Ghana

THE COASTAL RESOURCES CENTER of the Graduate School of Oceanography of the University of Rhode Island is implementing a five year project (2015-2019) funded by the United States Agency of International Development, named Sustainable Fisheries Management Project (SFMP).

And

THE DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES AND AQUATIC SCIENCES of the University of Cape Coast is implementing a five year project (2014-2019) funded by the United States Agency of International Development, named Fisheries and Coastal Management Capacity Building Support Project (FCMCBSP).

While

RECOGNIZING the existing Memorandum of Understanding between the University of Rhode Island and the University of Cape Coast signed on March 5, 2015.

FURTHER RECOGNIZING the areas of cooperation and mutual consent under the inter-Universities MOU, to establish cooperative relations, especially to develop academic, research and extension interchange in areas of marine fisheries and coastal management.

DESIRING to strengthen and further develop cooperation between the in-country projects SFMP and FCMCBSP in the field of marine fisheries and coastal management in the context and intent of the institutional MOU referred above.

BELIEVING such cooperation will serve to strengthen research and education between the two universities (URI/UCC), their fisheries and coastal management programs and leverage each—
other’s resources from USAID-funded projects and others to provide an efficient contribution to the development of science and technologies in fisheries and coastal management for the benefit of Ghana’s fisheries and coastal resources.

HAVE AGREED TO THE FOLLOWING:

I- OBJECTIVES

The objectives of this MOU are to identify and strengthen areas of synergy between CRC and DFAS and UCC’s newly established Center for Coastal Management (CCM) in the implementation of their respective USAID-funded projects and create avenues to continue the exchange of scientific expertise and management capabilities in areas of marine fisheries and coastal management beyond the life of the two USAID funded projects.

The parties agree to leverage existing academic and outreach programs of both universities in marine fisheries and coastal management and provide opportunities for faculty and staff to engage in joint research, education and extension programs.

The parties agree to continue ongoing consultations at all levels on the basis of mutual benefit of their respective USAID-funded projects.

II- AREAS OF COOPERATION

Each party shall, subject to the terms and conditions of the cooperative agreement of each project, promote cooperation in the following areas:

- Exchange of faculty, research scientists, and specialists.
- Facilitate opportunities in graduate degrees for UCC at URI (MA, MSc and PhD).
- Development of short-term training for UCC graduate students at URI.
- Development of joint research and development and extension projects.
- Organizing joint science and technology conferences, symposia, courses and seminars.
- Participation in each other’s activities, seminars and workshops.
- Exchange of material and information.
- Development of undergraduate January term and/or August term programs (J/A-term) implemented with UCC.
- Professional development of UCC staff.
- Any other areas of cooperation in the field of marine fisheries and coastal resources.

III- DESIGNATED AUTHORITY

The designated authority responsible for the implementation of this MOU on behalf of the Coastal Resources Center shall be the Director of the Coastal Resources Center and on behalf of the Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences shall be the Head of the Department.

The Senior Fisheries Advisor of the SFMP project is herein designated to coordinate and facilitate the execution of the joint programs and maintain communication at all levels between the two parties.
IV- IMPLEMENTATION

In the implementation of this MOU, the parties, through the designated authorities take upon themselves to encourage and facilitate where appropriate, cooperation between the respective projects.

The parties shall facilitate the exchange of annual work plans, progress reports, and any relevant technical and administrative reports deemed necessary for the efficient implementation of the overall vision of both parties and for the benefit of USAID-funded marine fisheries and coastal projects.

Research staff within each project may conduct, under this MOU, specific educational and research projects of mutual benefits in areas of marine fisheries and coastal management. These implementing arrangements should identify:

- General purpose
- Objectives and plan of action
- Procedures of personnel and material exchanges
- Procedures of transfer or exchange of material and equipment
- Deliverables, timeline and milestones

On an annual basis, the Parties shall prepare a separate scope of work, in addition to the annual work plan, to identify joint projects and activities conducted under the terms and conditions of this MOU, along with budgets and assigned personnel of each institution to carry out the work. Agreed on joint activities will identify a lead PI from one or the other institution and a co-PI from the other as part of the Scope of work. Scope of work and budgets are to be approved by the SFMP Chief of Party and CRC Program Manager and by the Head, DFAS.

V- PARTICIPATION OF THE FISHERIES COMMISSION

The parties agree to invite appropriate members of the Ghana Ministry of Fisheries and Aquaculture Development and the Fisheries Commission (FC) to take part in the cooperative activities conducted under this MOU. In carrying out each cooperative activity, the parties shall ensure that the MOFAD/FC has been consulted and informed of the research and education agenda and the results of each joint project conducted under the provisions of this MOU.

VI- PARTICIPATION OF STAKEHOLDERS

The parties recognize the importance of stakeholders’ participation in the fisheries and coastal research and management process. Under this context, the parties agree to invite appropriate members of the stakeholders to take part in the cooperative activities out under this MOU. In carrying out each cooperative activity, the parties shall ensure that the major stakeholders associations have also been informed of the research and education agenda and the results of each joint project conducted under the provisions of this MOU.
VII- DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION

The use of the logo of a Party or its institution in any publication created as a result of joint research and activities under this MOU shall be subject to the approval of the communication officers of both parties.

Scientific and other information resulting from cooperative activities under this MOU shall be made available, unless otherwise agreed, to staff of both projects, the FC and stakeholders. However, any raw data or information will be made publicly available after the PIs have either published the information as a technical report or journal article, or three years after data have been collected. USAID supported activities will follow the guidelines and policies concerning data access as outlined in the USAID agreements between URI and UCC. Data sets involving human subjects that is made publicly available will remove any personal identifiers as to source of information prior to release.

Publications resulting from joint activities will be co-authored by at least one individual from each institution and lead investigator/author determined as part of the scope of work for the activities producing such publications. All authors must have read and provided written consent to have their names listed as a co-author and thereby agree to the release of the final document.

VIII- REVISION, MODIFICATION AND AMENDMENT

Either Party may request in writing a revision, modification or amendment of all or any part of this MOU.

Any revision, modification or amendment agreed to by the Parties shall be in writing and be considered in the context of compliance with the overarching URI-UCC MOU, upon which it shall become an integral part of this MOU.

IX- DURATION

This MOU shall become effective upon the date signed by the last signatory and shall be in force over the duration of SFMP and FCMCBSP.

The University of Rhode Island

David M. Dooley, President
Dr. Anton Post, Director
Coastal Resources Center

Dr. Denis Aheto, Head
Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences

University of Cape Coast

Domwini D. Kaptule, Vice Chancellor

(date)

15 April 2016

(date)

15 April 2016