COLLABORATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN VALLEY CITY STATE UNIVERSITY – HEREINAFTER REFERRED TO AS “VCSU” REPRESENTED BY ITS PRESIDENT STEVEN W. SHIRLEY, Ph.D. AND UNIVERSIDAD AUTONOMA DE BAJA CALIFORNIA SUR HEREINAFTER REFERRED TO AS “UABCS” REPRESENTED BY ITS INTERIM DIRECTOR, M. EN C. JAVIER GAITAN MORAN WITH THE PURPOSE OF ESTABLISHING A BI-LATERAL RELATION OF MUTUAL BENEFIT TO CONTRIBUTE TO INTERNATIONAL UNDERSTANDING.

DECLARATIONS

I. "UABCS" DECLARES:


B. That its legal representative is the Interim Director M. EN C. Javier Gaitán Moran, who has all the faculties to celebrate this agreement in the terms of the Article 3rd fraction IV, 13, 15 Fraction I,X and the one related in the actual Organic Law of the Autonomous University of Baja California South.

C. That the institution goals pointed out in its Organic Law, Article 2 are:

a) To provide education for the training of professionals corresponding to the needs of society.

b) To encourage and to promote scientific research with preference to projects that can solve state and national problems.

c) To share and to allow all community members to participate in the university's cultural benefits.
D. That “UABCS” is located at Carretera al Sur Km. 5.5 Apartado Postal 19_B, Código Postal 23000, La Paz, Baja California Sur, México.

E. That “UABCS” has the necessary human, methodological and material resources to achieve the aims of this agreement.

II. “VCSU” DECLARES:

A. That “VCSU” is one of eleven campuses which together comprise the North Dakota University System. The historical antecedent of the university was as a State Normal School, chartered in the original North Dakota Constitution. In 1987, the Legislative Assembly designated the institution as Valley City State University, a regional baccalaureate university of the North Dakota System of Higher Education.

B. That “VCSU” is located in the southeastern part of the state at 101 College Street SW, Valley City, ND, 58072.

C. That the President is its representative with the ability to initiate this agreement and execute all actions necessary to achieve institutional goals.

III. BOTH PARTIES DECLARE:

I. That having initiated this agreement in 1998, they continue to find common interest in both academic and cultural areas.

II. That as universities they exist to establish channels of communication that permit exchanges of both scientific and cultural knowledge.

III. Because of the above, the signing parties manifest their interest in achieving scientific, academic and cultural exchanges that will further their academic relationship, establishing the appropriate means for such exchanges.

IV. That for all these reasons it has been decided to orchestrate this Agreement between Valley City State University and the Universidad Autónoma de Baja California Sur, in agreement with the following:
CLAUUSES

FIRST: The objectives of this agreement are to increase faculty and student exchange in interdisciplinary areas, as well as to expand to include student-teaching practice experiences, research and cultural exchanges within those areas in which there is common interest.

SECOND: In order to fulfill the goals of the previous clause, the parties agree to develop programs of scientific and cultural exchange that may consist of the following:

1. The development of joint research projects.
2. Programs for postgraduate study and research.
3. Exchange of faculty, researchers and scholarship students.
4. Delivery of classes, seminars, symposia, etc.

THIRD: In order to execute and fulfill these purposes, both parties agree to name a committee to oversee the Agreement. The committee will have a representative of each of the signatories.

FOURTH: Each of these institutions is interested in offering programs that benefit students and academic personnel, the base of which is:

A. “VCSU” will offer up to two annual scholarships for “UABCS” university students to be selected jointly by the host and home universities. The scholarships will be for a regular term of nine months, and will include tuition. Students will be responsible for all travel costs, medical insurance, university fees, room, board, VCSU laptop fees/rental, and personal expenses. VCSU will assist students in locating appropriate housing.

B. “UABCS” will offer up to two annual scholarships to “VCSU” students, to be selected jointly by the host and home universities. The scholarships may be for one or two semesters, may be for either undergraduate or graduate work, and will include tuition and university fees. UABCS will co-ordinate room and board. Students will pay for all their personal expenses such as: travel costs, medical insurance, room and board.

C. For the Student-Teaching Program “VCSU” will name a University Supervisor from “UABCS” to act as a co-coordinator for each participating institution or collaborating High School in the event that “VCSU” students request student teaching in La Paz, B.C.S., Mexico.
D. All student applicants will need to complete the normal enrollment process, to facilitate admission for the students recommended by the home institution, and to facilitate the exchange of faculty. At the discretion of the receiving campus, applicants may be required to demonstrate language competency or participate in an online interview prior to acceptance.

E. TOEFL scores (that meet minimum standards, as published in the VCSU Catalog) are required for admission to VCSU.

F. At VCSU, the Communication Arts and Social Science Division Chair will approve the student exchange; at UABCS, the Academic Secretary will approve the student exchange.

G. To facilitate the exchange of faculty and research, the receiving (host) campus will provide housing and a stipend, subject to Clause Eight, below.

FIFTH: This agreement may be modified or added to by mutual agreement of both parties. The modifications will take effect on the date agreed upon by the two institutions.

SIXTH: The present agreement will take effect on the date in which it is signed and will have duration of three years that can be extended automatically for the same period unless one of the parties indicates the desire to end it by submitting a written notice to the other with at least a three month notice of suspension.

SEVENTH: Any problems in regard to the interpretation or execution of the Agreement will be resolved by the committee described in the Third Clause of this document.

EIGHTH: The financial responsibility for activities developed under this Agreement will be subject to budget process of each party.

Representatives of Valley City State University (VCSU) and the Universidad Autónoma de Baja California Sur (UABCS), hereby sign this Agreement and affix their respective seals in the city of La Paz, Baja California Sur, on the date of February 21st 2011.

FOR THE “UABCS”:

FOR “VCSU”:

M. EN C. JAVIER GAITÁN MORAN

PH.D. STEVEN W. SHIRLEY

Interim Director

Presidente