

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Between

Georgian Technical University, Republic of Georgia, Tbilisi, Georgia,

and

The Community Colleges for International Development, Inc.

This document represents an agreement between the **Georgian Technical University (GTU) and Community Colleges for International Development, Inc. (CCID)**

I. OBJECTIVE

The purpose of this agreement is to develop a program of joint activities in technical higher education between U.S. community colleges and the main higher engineering education institution in the Republic of Georgia. GTU is charged by the Ministry of Education and Science (MES) with key economic development responsibilities, e.g., for workforce development, professional education, and re-training throughout the country. The parties are jointly interested in adapting the U.S. community college model to Georgian conditions through technical assistance, cooperative programs between higher education institutions in the two countries, and other methods. The parties have agreed that dependent upon funding:

1 Officials from GTU will visit colleges in the United States to gain a greater understanding of their role, function and operations and develop curriculum.

2 American higher education officials and teachers will visit Georgia to offer technical assistance to Georgian colleagues in organizing re-training programs for teachers, preparing curricula, and establishing economic and workforce development programs according to responsibilities given to GTU by the Ministry of Education and Science (MES).

II. SCOPE OF THE AGREEMENT

Exchanges and cooperative ventures conducted under the terms of this agreement will be based on the spirit of reciprocity and mutual benefit and may encompass the following areas: the exchange of faculty, staff, and administrators; student exchanges & study abroad activities; joint proposal development and exchange

of consultants; cultural exchanges; and short term training programs of mutual benefit; curriculum development; and other disciplines as determined from time to time.

The major area of emphasis will be strengthening GTU's capacity for delivering high-quality bachelor's education and supporting GTU's role in the framework of higher education reforms in Georgia. A high priority will be given to development of curriculum in technical fields, developing relations with industry and professional organization stakeholders, and training of teachers, especially in the framework of Georgia's new system of professional education.

III. PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION

Georgian Technical University and **CCID**, will act as principals for the promotion and implementation of this agreement and as central agencies for information about facilitation of, and coordination of new programs to be developed between the GTU and **CCID**. The needs of both parties will be registered, reviewed, and coordinated through consultation with each other.

GTU and **CCID**, each in its own country, may support possible fund-raising efforts in support of projects which fall under this basic agreement of educational exchange and cooperation. Joint program development activities may be supported through letters of endorsement, technical writing in support of grant applications, and coordination of promotion and marketing efforts for cooperative programs and exchange activities.

IV. ADMINISTRATION OF THE AGREEMENT

Both parties agree to monitor the progress of this basic agreement through generation of reports and exchange visits. Written correspondence and e-mail will be the customary working method of evaluation, but when necessary, meetings for consultation and decision will be held. Sub-agreements will explain how financial arrangements will be made to carry out specific activities envisioned under this agreement.

V. DURATION OF AGREEMENT

This agreement becomes effective upon signing by both parties and is continued under the signature of officials representing the two parties. Either party may terminate this agreement by giving written notice of termination to the other, with

the understanding that any sub-agreements and elements of this cooperative agreement then in progress will be completed according to the provisions of the sub-agreement.

FOR THE GEORGIAN MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SCIENCE

Ramaz Khurodze, Rector, GTU

_____ **Date:** _____

Name & Title

**FOR THE COMMUNITY COLLEGES FOR
INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT, INC.**

_____ **Date:** _____

John A. Halder, CCID President