

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN COLUMBIA
UNIVERSITY AND SELECTED ITALIAN ACADEMIC INSTITUTIONS
ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF A JOINT SECOND-LEVEL ITALIAN
LAUREA AND A MASTER DEGREE FROM COLUMBIA
UNIVERSITY

THIS EXPRESSES THE DESIRE AND INTENTION TO DEVELOP A FORMAL PROCEDURE FOR A COOPERATIVE PROGRAM BY WHICH SELECTED STUDENTS AT ITALIAN INSTITUTIONS MAY COMPLETE THE FINAL YEAR REQUIREMENTS OF THE ITALIAN SECOND LEVEL LAUREA (THE 5TH YEAR) WHILE SIMULTANEOUSLY COMPLETING COURSES FOR THE MS DEGREE AT COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY.

IT IS INTENDED THAT THIS PROGRAM WILL BE OPEN TO STUDENTS WHO HAVE SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED ALL REQUIREMENTS AND EXAMINATIONS OF THE FOURTH YEAR AT THE PARTICIPATING ITALIAN INSTITUTIONS. ADDITIONALLY, STUDENTS MUST BE RECOMMENDED FOR THE PROGRAM BY THEIR HOME INSTITUTION AND MUST MEET ALL THE REQUIREMENTS FOR ADMISSION TO THE MS PROGRAM AT COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY.

IN THIS INITIAL STATEMENT OF PROPOSED AGREEMENT, PROGRAMS FOR THE MS IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS OF CIVIL ENGINEERING AND ENGINEERING MECHANICS DEPARTMENT ARE SPECIFICALLY ENVISIONED, BUT IT IS THE INTENT THAT THE AGREEMENT WILL EXPAND TO OTHER PROGRAMS AND DEPARTMENTS:

CIVIL ENGINEERING
ENGINEERING MECHANICS
STRUCTURAL MECHANICS
GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEERING
CONSTRUCTION ENGINEERING AND MANAGEMENT
ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING

IT IS NOTED THAT COURSES IN OTHER DEPARTMENTS OF THE SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING AND APPLIED SCIENCE ARE ALSO AVAILABLE TO MS STUDENTS.

IT IS ALSO THE INTENTION OF THE UNDERSIGNED TO SEEK TO DEVELOP A RECIPROCAL MECHANISM BY WHICH GRADUATE STUDENTS FROM COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY WILL BE ABLE TO STUDY AND/OR PURSUE RESEARCH AT ITALIAN INSTITUTIONS FOR UP TO ONE YEAR.

TO ASSIST IN THESE EDUCATIONAL AND RESEARCH GOALS, COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH EFFORTS WITH ITALIAN INSTITUTIONS WILL BE PURSUED.

THE UNDERSIGNED CNR INSTITUTES AGREE TO FOSTER THESE INITIATIVES BY OFFERING RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES AND COLLABORATE IN THE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS FOR ALL STUDENTS.

TOPICS TO BE ADDRESSED IN MORE COMPLETE DETAIL IN THE FINAL AGREEMENT WILL INCLUDE:

1. GENERAL BACKGROUND REQUIREMENTS FOR PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS AT COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY IN ADDITION TO THE GRE AND TOEFL EXAMS THAT ARE CURRENTLY REQUIRED OF ALL APPLICANTS, AND FOR PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS TO ATTEND ITALIAN INSTITUTIONS.
2. THE EXTENT OF FINANCIAL SUPPORT FROM ITALIAN SOURCES NEEDED FOR STUDENTS FOR TUITION AND OTHER EXPENSES FOR THE MS AND THE POTENTIAL FOR CONTINUED SUPPORT FROM COLUMBIA SOURCES FOR QUALIFIED STUDENTS WHO HAVE INTEREST IN PURSUING ADVANCED DEGREES.
3. THE NUMBER OF PARTICIPATING STUDENTS ANTICIPATED AND ANY LIMITATIONS THAT MAY EXIST.
4. THE PROGRAMS OF COURSES AND REQUIREMENTS FOR STUDENTS TO COMPLETE THE MS AT COLUMBIA, AND THE COURSES TO BE ACCEPTED BY THE PARTICIPATING ITALIAN INSTITUTIONS IN FULFILLMENT OF THEIR FIFTH YEAR REQUIREMENT FOR THE SECOND LEVEL LAUREA.

BOTH COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY AND THE PARTICIPATING UNIVERSITIES IN ITALY WILL DESIGNATE INDIVIDUALS WHO WILL MANAGE AND SUPERVISE THE PROGRAM AND WHO WILL DEVELOP THE PROGRAM TO ITS FULLEST POTENTIAL. IT IS UNDERSTOOD THAT THE LOCAL ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE PROGRAM WILL BE COVERED BY THE RESPECTIVE ORGANIZATIONS.

SIGNED:

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

Rimas Vaisaitis

CNR - ISTITUTO PER L'AMBIENTE
MARINO COSTIERO

[Signature]

DATE:

11/17/03