ACADEMIC COOPERATION AGREEMENT

This agreement is made this ___ day of ________, 2000, between the University of Amsterdam (UA) and Southwest Texas State University (SWT).

1. DEFINITIONS AND BACKGROUND

1.01 UA is an institution of higher learning in the Netherlands, organized according to Dutch law.

1.02 SWT is an agency of the State of Texas in the United States of America, and organized pursuant to Section 96.41 of the Texas Education Code.

1.03 Both institutions are comprehensive universities that share common academic, scientific, and cultural goals.

1.04 Both institutions believe that mutual cooperation helps and enhances their ability to achieve their common goals and to respond to the educational needs of their respective societies.

2. OBJECTIVES

2.01 The first objective of the agreement is to increase academic and cultural cooperation between UA and SWT.

2.02 The second objective of the agreement is to establish procedures and methods to effect academic and cultural cooperation.

3. AGREEMENT

3.01 The University of Amsterdam (UA) and Southwest Texas State University (SWT) agree to establish a semester-long, reciprocal student exchange program. Each institution will create an equal number of places in an agreed upon semester that will be filled by students from the other institution. The places will consist of tuition and fees, and will be paid for by the students who go on the exchange. Each student will be responsible for his/her room and board. For UA students, SWT will hold a room in a dormitory if such students make a timely reservation. The number of students and the
semester in which the exchange will take place will be negotiated and determined each year by the Chair of SWT's Department of Speech Communication and the Chair of UA's Department of Speech Communication, Argumentation Theory and Rhetoric.

3.02 SWT students who wish to obtain academic credit for their performance in courses at UA must enroll in and pay for independent study courses at SWT. UA will evaluate the work of its students at SWT in accordance with its own policies. At the completion of the semester or term, each institution agrees to issue an unofficial evaluation on the performance of each student in each course attended to the Chairs listed below.

3.03 UA and SWT each agree to provide normal medical care on campus for the visiting students. The campus medical care will be paid for by the exchanged students. Major medical care or problems cannot be accommodated, and any student so affected will have to return for care to his/her own country at his/her expense and without any possibility of a refund for unused time or uncompleted courses. In addition, UA students who enter the U.S. on J visas are required to provide proof of health insurance coverage as follows: $50,000 minimum per accident or illness, $10,000 medical evacuation, $7,500 repatriation benefits, and a deductible not to exceed $500 per policy year. SWT students should also provide proof of health insurance to UA officials. Emergency evacuation and repatriation of remains is also available as an option.

3.04 All students involved in the exchange are subject to the laws and regulations of the host country and university. Any student who is determined by the host university to be disruptive of the academic and cultural purposes of the university will be sent back to his/her country at his/her expense.

3.05 The Chair of SWT's Department of Speech Communication and the Chair of UA's Department of Speech Communication, Argumentation Theory and Rhetoric will be primarily responsible for negotiating the details of the semester exchange. The semester exchange will ordinarily take place beginning in the Fall semester. The Chairs will provide the list of exchangees, including faculty members, to each university by April 1 for the Fall semester and October 1 for the Spring semester.
3.06 This agreement is effective from the date of the signatures below and will remain in effect unless canceled in writing by either party six months before the list of exchangees is to be presented or by November 1.

4. SIGNATURES

4.01 Agreed to this 5th day of July, 2000:

Robert D. Gratz  
Acting President  
Southwest Texas State University

J.J.M. Franse  
President  
University of Amsterdam

T. Richard Cheatham  
Dean, College of Fine Arts and Communication  
Southwest Texas State University

K. van der Toorn  
Dean, Faculty of Humanities  
University of Amsterdam

Steven Beebe  
Chair, Department of Speech Communication  
Southwest Texas State University

F.H. van Eemeren  
Chair, Department of Speech Communication Argumentation Theory and Rhetoric  
University of Amsterdam