

SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS

Academic and Student Affairs
Consent

AGENDA ITEM: 5 – H
DATE: December 11-12, 2024

SUBJECT

Agreement on Academic Cooperation – SDSU

CONTROLLING STATUTE, RULE, OR POLICY

[BOR Policy 5.3](#) – Agreements and Contracts

BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION

BOR Policy 5.3 requires board action on a range of items including “Affiliative agreements and other agreements that provide for joint sponsorship of educational programming for which credit shall be awarded.” To comply with this requirement, South Dakota State University (SDSU) seeks approval to enter into an agreement on academic cooperation with Bursa Uludağ University, located in Bursa, Turkey.

IMPACT AND RECOMMENDATION

The agreement with Bursa Uludağ University will allow the two universities to explore staff exchange and collaboration, joint research activities and publications, continuing education and professional development opportunities, and student exchanges.

Board staff recommends approval.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment I – Agreement on Academic Cooperation – SDSU & Bursa Uludağ University

DRAFT MOTION 20241211_5-G:

I move to approve South Dakota State University to finalize and execute the agreement on academic cooperation between SDSU and Bursa Uludağ University in substantially similar form to that set forth in Attachment I.



**AGREEMENT ON ACADEMIC COOPERATION
BETWEEN
SOUTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY, USA
AND
BURSA ULUDAĞ UNIVERSITY, TURKEY**

FOR A VISITING RESEARCH AND ACADEMIC SCHOLARS

On the basis of a mutual commitment to further international understanding and friendship, to share academic knowledge and to establish and develop mutually beneficial opportunity for a Visiting Scholar at South Dakota State University (SDSU) from the Bursa Uludağ University agree to the following:

I. Scope of the Cooperation

- Article 1. The institutions agree to exchange experience and information on questions of pedagogy, organization and contents of instruction, and the training of faculty and students, as appropriate.
- Article 2. The institutions agree to exchange scientific and technical expertise, educational practices, as well as exhibitions and other materials, as appropriate, illustrating the activities and achievements of both institutions.
- Article 3. The institutions agree, as appropriate, to help faculty members of both parties to conduct joint research projects. Specifically, to offer to students from Bursa Uludağ University a Visiting Research/Academic Scholar positions in Ag & Biosystems Engineering at South Dakota State University.
- Article 4. Both institutions agree to discuss other proposals relating to future collaborations, including the possibility of brief exchange visits, joint publication of research, and other similar projects as appropriate.

II. Visiting Research/Academic Scholars -Visa and Insurance Requirements

- A. Under this agreement, Visiting Research/Academic Scholars taking part in programs at South Dakota State University shall comply with the immigration requirements of the host university.
- B. South Dakota State University and Bursa Uludağ University will provide the appropriate assistance to the Visiting Research Scholars and will assist with finding appropriate housing near campus.
- C. The Host Institution shall provide the Visiting Research Scholars with a formal letter of invitation and other documents as may be required to establish Visiting Scholar status to obtain a J-1 visa.
- D. The Department of Ag & Biosystems Engineering at South Dakota State University will offer students from Bursa Uludağ University a Visiting Research Scholar position. This will give students an opportunity to expand his/her experience in the area of research from the perspective of the U.S.
- E. The Visiting Research Scholars, besides assisting with research in the laboratory, will participate in seminars, industry meetings, and journal clubs in the Department. The Visiting Scholar is also encouraged to interact with other groups in the Department as well as with scientists in other parts of the South Dakota State University where they find areas of mutual interests. The Visiting Scholars will report to Dr. Xufei Yang South Dakota State University.
- F. The Visiting Research Scholar will purchase health insurance with the South Dakota Board of Regents plan. In addition, an official copy of the Visiting Research Scholar's diploma, which is needed for his official appointment, will be required.
- G. The institutions agree to comply with all applicable U.S. export control laws and regulations.

III. Appointment of Coordinators

- Article 5. Each institution shall designate an individual who will serve as coordinator for this agreement. The coordinator will be responsible for maintaining, revising, and/or renewing the agreement, as appropriate. In addition, each institution shall name at least one academic contact, and this person will coordinate the specific aspects of the agreement.
- Article 6. The following individuals at each institution will be responsible for coordinating this agreement:

South Dakota State University	Bursa Uludağ University
<p>PRIMARY CONTACT FOR AGREEMENT Name: Sally A. Gillman, Ph.D. Title: Director for Education Abroad Office: Office of International Affairs Mailing Address: Briggs Library, Suite 119 Brookings, SD 57007, USA Email: sally.gillman@sdstate.edu Telephone: 605-688-6094</p> <p>ACADEMIC UNIT CONTACT Name: Dr. Kasiviswanathan Muthukumarappan Title: Klingbeil Endowed Dept Head and Distinguished Professor Office: Ag & Biosystems Engineering Mailing Address: Raven Precision Ag Building 136H, Box 2100 Brookings, SD 57007 Email: kas.mutthukumg@sdstate.edu Telephone: (605) 688-5666</p>	<p>PRIMARY CONTACT FOR AGREEMENT Name: Seval Sahin Title: Office Coordinator Office: International Academic Relations Mailing Address: Bursa Uludag University Bursa Uludag University, Bursa, Turkey Email: uaik@uludag.edu.tr Telephone: +90 224 294 2816</p> <p>ACADEMIC UNIT CONTACT Name: Dr. Ferudun Yilmaz Title: Rector Office: Bursa Uludag University Mailing Address: Bursa Uludag University Bursa, Turkey Email: uaik@uludag.edu.tr Telephone: +90 224 294 2816</p>

Article 7. The individuals in the positions listed above agree to respond to inquiries and correspondence from the partner institution in a timely and efficient manner.

IV. Terms of Agreement

Article 8. This agreement shall be valid for a period of five years. This agreement will be effective upon signature of the responsible authority of each institution and may be terminated by either party by given written notice to the other institution six months in advance of the date of termination. A termination of the agreement will not affect persons who have already begun an exchange under its provisions.

Article 9. Matters not provided in this agreement shall be decided by mutual agreement between the two institutions. Additional joint activities, such as student or faculty exchange, will require the execution of a separate agreement.

Article 10. Modifications of this agreement shall be made in the form of a written addendum signed by both parties.

Article 11. Nothing in the above agreement shall be construed as being legally binding.

Article 12. This agreement depends upon the continued availability of appropriated funds and expenditure authority for this purpose from the Legislature of the State of South Dakota. If for any reason the Legislature fails to appropriate or grant expenditure authority or if funds become unavailable by operation of law or federal funds reductions, this agreement will be terminated by the State. Termination for any of

these reasons is not a default by the State nor does it give rise to a claim against the State.

In the spirit of international friendship and cooperation, we hereby set our signatures:

for South Dakota State University

for Bursa Uludağ University


Barry H. Dunn, President

Prof. Dr. Ferudun Yilmaz, Rector


Date:

Date: