



**Memorandum of Understanding  
To Establish Collaborations and Encourage Cooperation Between the  
American Association of Community Colleges  
and the  
All India Council for Technical Education**

This Memorandum of Understanding is based on the success of the U.S.-India Higher Education Dialogue to establish and enhance joint initiatives and collaborations based on mutual interests and benefits.

Whereas, the development of educational partnerships beyond the borders of individual nations becomes increasingly important to the prosperity and progress of all nations, as technological advances and a global economy bring the nations of the world closer together ;and

Whereas, in the present knowledge society, colleges perform a crucial role concerning individual career development and community economic development on the one hand and social cohesion in society on the other; and

Whereas, in the Indian context, it is recognized that developing skills is essential for raising productivity, securing decent employment, contributing towards inclusive growth, and reducing the gap between organized and unorganized employment; and

Whereas, the primary policy of the Skills Development Initiative aims to improve the relevance and quality of skills training, make programs more demand driven and responsive to the needs of labor market, and increase access for disadvantaged populations; and

Whereas, the American Association of Community Colleges (AACCC) is the national association representing over 1,100 U.S. community colleges; and

Whereas, the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) was established with a view to the proper planning and co-ordinated development of the technical education system throughout the country, the promotion of qualitative improvement of such education in relation to planned quantitative growth, and the regulation and proper

maintenance of norms and standards in the technical education system for matters connected therewith. There are over 10,500 polytechnic and degree level institutes in offering education, research and training; and

Whereas, collaboration between the All India Council for Technical Education and the American Association of Community Colleges would promote the following broad areas of activity in support of the Skills Development Initiative:

- A. The sharing of best practices, research and learning materials in areas deemed mutually beneficial, including but not limited to academic programs, teaching methodologies, accreditation and assessment, and credit transfer;
- B. The growth of up to 35 institutional partnerships within the following sectors identified for the Skill Development Initiatives: Construction, Automotive, Retail, Hospitality/Tourism, Health Sciences, Agriculture, and Food Processing. New sectors may be added by agreement from both the partners.
- C. Increased mobility of students so they can take part of their studies or internships in the other country, have those fully recognized, broaden their education and acquire international competencies;
- D. Increased mobility of faculty so they can learn from each other and explore the development of joint modules, courses or programs;
- E. Increased exchange of administrators so that they can better understand and appreciate the other and can initiate more sustainable and practical institutional or sectoral partnerships; and
- F. Other areas can be added by agreement from both partners.

Whereas, U.S. community colleges would be encouraged to collaborate with Indian polytechnics and other technical education institutes; and

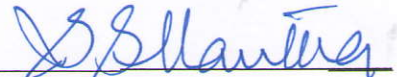
Whereas, invitations would be provided to Indian polytechnics and other technical education institutes to visit the United States to participate in activities offered by the American Association of Community Colleges and to visit U.S. community colleges; and on a reciprocal basis, invitations would also be extended to the U.S. community colleges to visit India to participate in the activities offered by Indian institutes; and

Whereas, this partnership would enhance understanding and appreciation of each other's cultures and education systems;

Therefore, a collaborative partnership between the American Association of Community Colleges and the All India Council for Technical Education will be established to encourage cooperation, develop and implement the activities between Indian polytechnics and other technical education institutes and U.S. community colleges in the area of skills development.



Ms. Alice Blayne-Allard  
Associate Vice President  
American Association of Community Colleges  
Education



Dr. S. S. Mantha  
Chairman  
All India Council for Technical

25 June 2013

Date

25.06.2013

Date