MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
between
THE COUNCIL OF HIGHER EDUCATION, REPUBLIC OF TURKEY
and
THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK, U.S.A.
FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF DUAL DIPLOMA PROGRAMS

The Turkish Council of Higher Education (YÖK) and The State University of New York (SUNY) hereby agree that universities from both systems will form partnerships to establish dual diploma programs in specified fields of study. As used hereinafter, the terms “partner universities” or “partner institutions” shall refer to the individual campuses of the State University and the institutions within the Turkish system of higher education that have formed partnerships to offer the degree programs described below.

Objectives
The main objective of this agreement is to establish comprehensive partnerships to provide students and faculty from both systems with new opportunities for academic collaboration and to enhance the cultural understanding of the involved students and faculty. The design of the dual diploma programs is expected to be a new alternative for Turkish and American students to receive a unique, high quality education.

Admissions
Students will meet the admission requirements of both partner universities. However, for Turkish applicants, it is agreed that Turkish Student Selection Examination (ÖSS) scores will be substituted for SAT1 scores and used as one of the major criteria in the placement of students in the dual diploma programs. In addition, students will be required to meet English proficiency requirements of the participating institutions. If necessary, English language preparation will be provided by the Turkish universities before the students begin their programs. In addition, it is understood that Turkish students participating in the dual diploma program shall apply for and receive the appropriate student visa prior to their enrollment at a participating SUNY campus.
Structure of the program

Each dual diploma program will have three components: courses to be offered by a participating SUNY campus in the U.S.; courses to be offered by a participating Turkish university in Turkey; and online courses to be offered by either participating institution. Each set of partner universities will be responsible for developing the curriculum of their programs. Students will meet the program requirements of both partner universities. The language of instruction in each dual diploma program will be English.

A list of the partner institutions participating in this agreement is attached as Appendix A. New programs and institutions not participating in the partnership activities at the time of the signing of this document may be included in this partnership with the approval of SUNY and YÖK.

Cost of the program

The participating SUNY campus will charge Turkish students regular out-of-state tuition and fees for the semesters when they are in residence at the participating SUNY campus and for any online courses administered by SUNY. The students will be charged the appropriate tuition by the participating Turkish university for the courses administered in Turkey. Separate Memorandum of Understanding agreements will be signed by each set of partner institutions. The agreements will include financial matters such as the collection and deposition of tuition, fees and other related costs, in compliance with each institution’s internal regulations.

Scholarships

When available, scholarships may be granted for Turkish students by SUNY. In this case, a separate committee including representatives of SUNY and YÖK will be formed to govern the administration of any scholarship program.

Administration

YÖK and SUNY will be responsible for the overall coordination of the partnership. However, partner institutions will assume responsibility for the administration of academic programs. For that purpose, each participating institution will assign one person at the appropriate level of university administration as the campus coordinator of their programs.
Diplomas

Upon successful completion of a dual diploma program, each student will be awarded two diplomas: one from the participating SUNY campus and one from the partner Turkish university.

Promotion and publicity

All institutions involved in this partnership, particularly YÖK and the participating Turkish universities, will take necessary steps to promote and publicize the dual diploma programs. YÖK will design a new brochure describing the dual diploma programs and requirements and circulate this brochure to university candidates in Turkey.

Terms of the agreement

This agreement shall be effective for five years (i.e., from the 2003/04 academic year through the 2008/09 academic year). It shall be subject to revision, modification or renewal by written agreement.

Either party may terminate the agreement by written notice submitted at least nine months in advance of the next academic year.

In the event of termination of the agreement, no new students shall be admitted into the program but students matriculated in the dual diploma programs shall be permitted to complete the degree program.

Kemal Gürüz
President

on behalf of
The Turkish Council
of Higher Education

Robert L. King
Chancellor

on behalf of
The State University
of New York

May 1, 2003
New York City
Appendix A: List of Partner Institutions Participating in this Agreement

The State University of New York

The State University of New York at Binghamton
The State University of New York at Buffalo
The State University of New York Empire State College
The State University of New York at New Paltz

Turkish Universities

Anadolu University
Bilkent University
Boğaziçi University
Istanbul Technical University
Middle East Technical University