Memorandum of Understanding between the International Centre for Theoretical Physics – South American Institute for Fundamental Research (ICTP-SAIFR) and the Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory Theoretical Physics Group (FNAL-Theory)

The purpose of this agreement is to encourage scientific exchange visits and collaborations between researchers at ICTP-SAIFR and FNAL-Theory in order to promote progress in all research areas of common interest and to build academic ties between the two institutions.

It is agreed that:

1. Postdocs and faculty researchers at both institutions will be encouraged to spend extended visits of one to eight weeks at the other institution.

2. In order to qualify for such a visit, a candidate must submit a request at least one month prior to the visit. The request should explain the benefit of the proposed visit and contain a brief description of the research to be undertaken during the visit.

3. Each institution will appoint for the purposes of this collaboration an exchange visit coordinator who will receive requests for visits under this program and ensure that they are dealt with in a timely manner.

4. FNAL-Theory will support the economy class travel costs of FNAL-Theory researchers coming to ICTP-SAIFR, and ICTP-SAIFR will support the economy class travel costs of ICTP-SAIFR researchers coming to FNAL-Theory.

5. The host institution will provide office space and computing facilities and will cover local costs in the form of airport transfers, accommodation and living expenses. The allotted per diem for living expenses will be at the discretion of the host institution.

6. Upon completion of the visit, a short report will be provided by the visiting researcher to his or her home institution explaining the research outcomes of the visit. It will be the responsibility of each institution to ensure that satisfactory reports from its own member are submitted.
7. Normally, a maximum of one such visit will be supported for each postdoctoral or faculty researcher per academic year.

8. A maximum total of twelve (12) person-weeks of exchange will be supported by each institution each academic year.

9. Where the research visit results in one or more publications, the host institution should be acknowledged in the paper and notified when the publications are submitted and when they are published.

10. Both institutions may, from time to time, collaborate on the organization of workshops and schools on subjects of common interest. Scientists of both institutions are encouraged to propose such activities, with funding normally provided on an equal basis.

11. Balance between visitors to FNAL compared to visitors to ICTP-SAIFR should be maintained over time as much as possible.

12. This agreement is valid for an initial period of two years, whereupon its terms will be revisited in the light of experience, with the expectation that it be renewed on a mutually agreeable basis, for a further two years at a time.

Nathan Berkovits  
Acting Director, ICTP-SAIFR  

Date: April 19, 2013

Stephen Parke  
Head, FNAL-Theory  

Date: April 18, 2013