

## Support letter for the FuturICT EU FET Flagship Proposal

To Whom It May Concern:

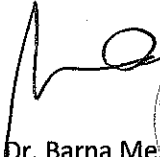
On behalf of the Eötvös Loránd University (ELTE) I want to express our strong support of the proposed flagship project FuturICT.

The goal of sciences has always been twofold: understand the world around us and contribute to the development of mankind, improve the quality of life. As human society is getting more and more complex, new problems and opportunities are arising as consequences of globalization, technological, demographic and environmental changes. To combat these challenges we have to unite the forces of many disciplines and reach new scientific breakthroughs. We consider the FuturICT proposal as one of the first large-scale multidisciplinary projects in the world addressing techno-socio-economic challenges in a common framework.

Eötvös Loránd University has a long tradition of promoting the endeavour of science and seeking excellence in many fields of research. ELTE was founded in 1635 and now it is the largest research university in Hungary with over 30000 students and 1400 scientists. The mission of ELTE is to preserve and enrich national and universal culture, to cultivate science and to pass on academic knowledge, as well as to shape and satisfy the real, long-term needs of Hungarian society and of mankind. Motivated by the conviction that a high standard of teaching at a university is inconceivable without high-quality research, ELTE aims to represent both sides of the traditional concept of a *universitas*, and at a high level: the creative community of instructors and students (*universitas magistrorum et discipulorum*) and the ideal of an institution actively engaged in the pursuit of many scientific and scholarly disciplines (*universitas scientiarum*).

In conclusion, we are looking forward to actively participate in the proposed FuturICT Flagship Initiative, in all aspects which are in our capacity.

Budapest, 3 October 2011

  
Prof. Dr. Barna Mezey  
rector

