



To: Wolfgang Boch
Head of FET

23 March 2010

Re: **FuturICT - Unleashing the Power of Information for a Sustainable Future**

Dear Wolfgang,

As you know, GSD is very much concerned with identifying new techniques of ICT influenced mathematics that we require in order to assist policy makers with their decision making, particularly in the area of sustainability. GSD Partners have been informed, and indeed are informing, the proposal being put forward by Professor Helbing for his idea of a flagship. Although GSD is approaching its end, new ideas are now being fed into many different projects. It is bizarre that despite all the advanced mathematics available to us we are still not able to successfully model social interactions. It is this inability which lets scientific advisors down in their efforts to provide advice to politicians and others on the best way forward.

As Coordinator of the GSD project I firmly support this notion for a flagship and I know that my colleagues are also supportive. We feel that we have only just begun to scratch the surface on how modelling and simulation can be brought together to inform and influence policy decision-making both for governance and in business. Furthermore we have identified new way to both instigate and collect data that will help form the basis for new actions. For this reason we are very much interested in this project.

Furthermore we recognise that the ideas being proposed go even beyond our ambitions and therefore the FuturICT programme is truly both adventurous and challenging.

Finally, the goals of FuturICT very neatly match not only my own research interests, but also many of my colleagues here at UCL.

I am therefore very keen to work with Professor Helbing and will be happy to collaborate on this important project. I know that this attitude is already mirrored by a large number of my colleagues on our GSD database and I am sure that the others will follow suit once they become more aware of the particulars.

Yours sincerely

Steven Bishop
Professor of Nonlinear Dynamics

Email : s.bishop@ucl.ac.uk

www.ucl.ac.uk

www.globalsystemdynamics.eu