



The Open University

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Prof Dirk Helbing
ETH Zurich

24th March 2010

Dear Prof Helbing,

FET Flagship: FuturICT

The Open University fully supports the proposed FuturICT Flagship and will do everything it can to make the project a success. The Design Complexity Group at the Open University has an international reputation for its research into the way complexity impinges on design and design embraces complex systems science. We hope to be able to contribute our expertise as the Flagship develops.

Also we will be pleased to contribute our well known expertise in education and distance learning to the project. With over forty years experience of educating millions of students in many countries the Open University will be able to provide programmes of education and support at the level the Flagship will require across many countries and institutions.

As you know the European ASSYST project based in my department is committed to supporting the FuturICT Flagship project, which we see as having the potential to be one of the most important scientific innovations of this century. We congratulate you for developing this exciting and innovative project. The ASSYST community strongly supports it.

The Open University will be also pleased to do whatever it can to help prepare and promote the FuturICT proposal through the efforts of ASSYST and my research group.

We wish you luck, yours sincerely

Jeffrey Johnson
Professor of Complexity Science and Design
Director of the European ASSYST Coordination Action Project