



UCC

Coláiste na hOllscoile Corcaigh, Éire
University College Cork, Ireland



*Office of the Vice-President for Research & Innovation,
4th Floor, Block E,
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7th January 2011

Re: Flagship FuturICT

To Whom It May Concern

As Vice President for Research at UCC, I am pleased to confirm UCC's strong interest in and continued support for the FuturICT proposal for a FET flagship.

UCC's strategy includes a focus on concentrating research resources in areas that are producing research at the highest international levels, consolidating research activities through clustering to establish critical mass in organised research units while also promoting and supporting large scale interdisciplinary research projects and new emerging areas of research.

The ambitious goal of the FuturICT Flagship which is to understand and manage complex, global, socially interactive systems, with a focus on sustainability and resilience has our full backing and furthermore deserves the support of the broader scientific and academic community. The focus on revealing the hidden laws and processes underlying societies by integrating ICT, Complexity Science and the Social Sciences will facilitate a symbiotic co-evolution of ICT and society and spur further activity in many different areas within academic and industrial research.

The global problems that are posited in the FuturICT proposal require a multi-disciplinary approach as the breadth of the problem is too large for any singular academic research area. The scale of these problems require a Flagship approach in order to address and tackle the multiple issues if future generations of humanity are to avoid the severe impacts of decisions made by the previous and present administrations. Fortunately, UCC has always had a strong culture of interdisciplinary collaboration across its broad spectrum of academic excellence and are in a strong position to be able to link research activities and outputs in order to help make a difference on these global issues.

In conclusion, given this synergistic research agenda, we are delighted by the ideals of FuturICT in seeking to provide new ways to combine knowledge and information for social good, addressing all these challenges and others besides. It has grand aims, but we believe that progress on these topics is both possible and essential to the pursuit of a better society for all humanity through the application of knowledge.

UCC is strongly committed to FuturICT, and hopes to have an opportunity to further extend that commitment as the programme develops. We hope others will share our excitement at the opportunities offered.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mr. Peter Kennedy". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Professor M. Peter Kennedy
Vice President for Research