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Faculteit Sociale Wetenschappen

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Facultair Management Team

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Datum

2 mei 2012

Onderwerp

Letter of intent

Dear prof. Helbing and prof. Bishop,

With this letter I would like to express the full support of the Faculty of Social Sciences of Utrecht University for the FuturICT Flagship Initiative.

The Faculty of Social Sciences has several strong groups with expertise that match with the FuturICT goals and who can make an important contribution to its research aims and ambitions. In particular, research in the department of Sociology on cooperation, (online) social networks, institutions specifically and complex social science modeling more in general headed by prof. Vincent Buskens can contribute to FuturICT.

The Faculty of Social Sciences intends to contribute on average 120 k€ per year in cash matching for a period of five years and the same amount in kind matching to the FuturICT Flagship initiative if it is retained for EU funding. The cash and in kind contributions are for those parts of projects that will be carried out at the Faculty of Social Sciences at Utrecht University and will consist of the appointment of personnel whose research is on topics relevant for FuturICT, either in a staff position at the department of Sociology or possibly on externally funded projects (cash contribution) and making available research infrastructure, supervision and support (in kind contribution). This contribution is contingent on current FP7 rules for funding being applicable for the total of the FuturICT project.

The Faculty of Social Sciences retains the right to withdraw its intentions, if amongst others, the following situations occur:

- The Faculty's total (cash and in kind) contribution is not matched by at least an equal EU cash contribution to the Faculty of Social Sciences in the framework of FuturICT projects. In the case the EU contribution to FuturICT projects is lower, the Faculty of Social Sciences' contribution will also be lowered;
- The FuturICT activities turn out to be insufficiently connected to the Faculty of Social Sciences' goals and research focus;
- Agreement cannot be reached with the other partners about the details of partnership, including intellectual property rights;
- Changes in the economic climate, Faculty of Social Sciences' financial position, strategy or research focus or any other situation that would necessitate the Faculty of Social Sciences to reconsider its intentions.



We look forward to a fruitful collaboration within the FuturICT Flagship.

Sincerely,

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Prof. dr. Willem Koops
Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences

cc. Prof. Cars Hommes, UVA, Coordinator FuturICT-Netherlands
Prof. Vincent Buskens, Utrecht University