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Executive Board

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To whom it may concern

Date
October 14, 2011
Subject
Letter of Intent FuturICT

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As the President of Utrecht University, I would like to express our great interest and support for the FuturICT Flagship initiative. The FuturICT vision to combine complexity science with advanced ICT tools to address fundamental as well as socially urgent socio-economic problems provides a pioneering new scientific paradigm for the 21st century.

Utrecht University has various groups with strong expertise that match with the FuturICT research aims. This includes faculty from multi-disciplinary backgrounds such as sociology, economics, human geography and planning, information sciences and mathematics. In particular, the FuturICT initiative is closely related to: ongoing research in our Department of Sociology, where the main fields of research include cooperation, social networks, online networks, social inequality, social influence, migration; research in the Department of Information and Computing Science including research on media technology, decision support systems, social simulation and data mining; research in the Urban and Regional Research Centre Utrecht (URU) on regional resilience and mobile ICT; and to the Climate-KIC in which Utrecht University participates, which aims to significantly accelerate the innovation required for a transformation to a low-carbon economy. Some of these groups are already actively involved in ongoing activities within the FuturICT initiative.

Utrecht University is fully supportive of the EU's FET Flagship Initiative and would like to express its strong support for the FuturICT concept and ambition, its support for those involved in proposal preparation, and confirm its interest in active collaboration should the venture be successful.

Yours faithfully,
the Executive Board,

Yvonne C.M.T. van Rooy,
President