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Subject Letter of Support



TO Dr.ir. A. Iosup
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Dear dr. Iosup, dear Alexandru,

As the Dean of the EEMCS faculty and especially as Dean of Open and Online Education at TU Delft, I would like to share through this letter my strong support for your project proposal MagnaData. My support is based on personal experience working with you and on the quality of the proposal, whose results I am interested in using in the context of TU Delft's Extension School for Open and Online Education. I also agree with actively participating, possibly through a delegate, in the User Advisory Board for this project.

TU Delft's mission is to make a significant contribution towards a sustainable society for the twenty-first century by conducting groundbreaking scientific and technological research. Our ambition is to be acknowledged as world-class, by training scientists and engineers with a genuine commitment to society and by supporting the valorisation of the knowledge developed. We are facing new challenges in fulfilling this mission, both in traditional and open education. TU Delft is a world leader in online education, and a member of the select group of universities signatory of the edX Online Education Charter. TU Delft currently offers more than 130 Open CourseWare courses and pioneers several large enrolment MOOCs. Our on-premise and online enrolment has soared, boosted by the national economic situation and by an influx of international students. In 2015, the number of international MSc students at TU Delft rose by 45% and the number of students enrolled in our MOOCs has exceeded 600,000.

Smart, data-driven analysis of student performance and other complex ICT data services will enable our education processes for the next decade. Making such services affordable and accessible to all teachers is an important goal for us, which enables TU Delft to expand its leadership position in online education. This goal requires further research in resource management and scheduling. MagnaData addresses this goal and, after reading the proposal, I agree that your project will build the ICT innovation we need. Therefore, the Extension School would like to participate in the users committee for this project and become early adopters of the innovations created in the MagnaData project.

My involvement in the MagnaData project includes three specific points. Firstly, the Extension School will be happy to have a high level delegate in the MagnaData User Advisory Board and my team will support progress in your project with regular feedback and know-how about education workflows.

