

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING



TU Delft

ETH Eidgenössische
Technische Hochschule
Zürich

RWTH

On the occasion of the first plenary meeting of the IDEA LEAGUE at Delft University of Technology on October 5 and 6, 1999, the representatives of the following universities - Imperial College, Delft University of Technology, ETH Zürich and RWTH Aachen - hereby confirm their mutual interest in strategic co-operation. The partners will strive for a structural exchange of ideas and expertise. Furthermore, they will actively promote the development of joint activities, in particular with respect to internationalisation of education, common research interests, human resource development and other strategic policy issues. Within this context the following two projects have been defined.

With reference to the "Bologna Declaration" the partners recognize the need for comparison of their courses of study, in terms of content, level and quality. The partners will mutually compare two of their undergraduate courses as case-studies. The results of these case-studies will be used to investigate whether it is possible to develop a framework for comparison of their other courses of study. In addition, the partners have agreed to try to arrive at a definition of the characteristics of the two main cycles, undergraduate and graduate.

The partners of the IDEA LEAGUE hereby confirm their intention to co-operate in the development of internal quality procedures which could be applied in a similar way in each of our universities. This development will be based on the mutual comparison and adjustment of the procedures presently used by each of our institutions. In time, the results of this exercise may be presented to the relevant authorities in the respective countries and so eventually may contribute to the development of an international system for quality measurement, quality management and accreditation.

It is agreed that the official representatives of the IDEA LEAGUE partner universities will meet annually for evaluation and validation of the achievements of the various projects and to set directives for further co-operation.

The Netherlands, Delft, October 6, 1999

for Imperial College:

Gareth Jones

pp The Lord Oxburgh, Rector

for ETH Zürich:

O. Kübler

O. Kübler, President

for Delft University of Technology:

N. de Voogd

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for RWTH Aachen:

B. Rauhut

B. Rauhut, Rektor