COOPERATION AGREEMENT

BETWEEN

THE UNIVERSITY OF MACEDONIA,
156 Egnatia Street, Thessaloniki, GREECE,
represented by Prof. Ilias Kouskouvelis, Rector,
hereinafter referred to as "UoM"

AND

THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF IRELAND, GALWAY,
with an address at University Road, Galway, Ireland, represented by Prof. Dr. Stefan Decker, the Digital Enterprise Research Institute (DERI)
hereinafter referred to as NUIG

PREAMBLE

UoM and NUIG recognizing the importance of educational, cultural and scientific cooperation between international universities, and sharing the same interest in promoting links that may lead to a strong and fruitful relationship between both Universities establish the following Cooperation Agreement on Academic Exchange.
ARTICLE I (Objectives)

1.1 The main objective of this Agreement is to promote international scientific cooperation in the domain of academic education, training and research.

1.2 The partner institutions will:
   - exchange useful information in the purpose of educational and research activities;
   - encourage development of shared educational and research projects;
   - organize visits and interchange programs involving students, academic and research staff;

Such objectives are carried out purely on a voluntary basis, serving this Agreement only to adjust in general terms the relationships between both parties. The financial conditions and implementation details for any particular case will have to be defined in specific working programs, to be approved by the Rectors or Presidents of both Universities or by their representatives.

ARTICLE II (Specific Actions)

2.1 Both Universities may voluntarily exchange academic materials of common interest, consisting in publications, curricular information and research reports. Neither institution is obliged to furnish specific or a predetermined quantity of documents to the other.

2.2 Each University, whenever finds it appropriate, may invite representatives from the partner University to participate to conferences, colloquia, seminars, workshops and research programs and also promote common PhD programs.

2.3 Visits of academic staff will may consist in:
   - Short - term periods for general information exchange and knowledge transfer meetings;
   - Long - term periods for joint research, supervision or participation in the teaching activity of the host University;

Long term visits will necessarily be subject to individual negotiation, taking into account the policies of each University, including policies on confidentiality, protection and assignment of intellectual property and the availability of funding and facilities involved.
2.4 Graduate students are encouraged to submit application files in academic programs for advanced degrees, according to the procedures adopted by each University.

2.5 Each University agrees to appoint a Coordinator for the administration of this Agreement.

2.6 The Coordinator will serve as contact person, being responsible for arrangements with regard the visits, ensuring that necessary approval and the general welfare of the participant students and academic staff during the stay.

2.7 Special arrangements for exchanges or visits for academic or research purposes are to be made through the Coordinators of this Agreement, and are subject to approval by the authorities of each University.

2.8 The coordinators of this Agreement are named: on behalf of UoM, Prof. Konstantinos Tarabanis, respectively Prof. Stefan Decker on behalf of NUIG.

ARTICLE III (Duration)

3.1 This Agreement will be effective immediately after it is signed by the legal representatives of the two Universities and will last for a period of five years.

3.2 Either institution may terminate the contract, with or without a cause, by giving three months prior written notice to the other.

3.3 Any serious violation of this Agreement by one party gives the other the right to terminate it.

a) A serious violation of contract is the violation of fundamental terms concerning the objects or purposes of this Agreement.

b) A serious violation makes the defaulting partner liable for all the caused damages.

3.4 If termination is not indicated by either partner three months before the expiring period agreed upon in 3.1, the Agreement shall remain effective until either partner gives the other the notice of termination.

ARTICLE IV (Accidental and Unforeseen Circumstances)

4.1 Neither party shall be liable for failures or delays that jeopardize any obligations imposed under this Agreement in case such failures or delays are caused by: fire, explosion, water flood, natural hazard, strikes, vandalism, war,
riot, sabotage, or similar causes; nor shall either party be legally responsible for the destroyed value of material loss or personal property due to such causes.

ARTICLE V (Additions or changes to the Agreement)

5.1 Any additions or changes to the present Agreement must be mutually approved by both parties.

5.2 The appropriate authorized representative of NUIG as well as the Rector of the UoM shall ratify this Agreement.

5.3 In witness whereof, the parties have caused this Agreement to be completed by their respective accordingly authorized representatives as on the date indicated below.

ARTICLE VI (Legal Disputes)

6.1 Any dispute arising from this Agreement shall first be discussed between the involved parties in order to find a satisfactory solution for all litigants.

This Agreement has been drawn up in two originals, in English and shall be kept in one original copy by each party.

Thessaloniki, 01/07/2008

Galway, 01/07/2008

ON BEHALF OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF MACEDONIA

Ilias Kouskouvelis
THE RECTOR

ON BEHALF OF THE
THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF IRELAND, GALWAY

GALWAY

DIRECTOR, TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER OFFICE,
Dr. Daniel O’Mahony

With co-signature by
Prof. Stefan Decker