Imperial College London

Department of Chemical Engineering
Imperial College London

C508 Roderic Hill Building
South Kensington Campus
Tel: +44 (0)20 7 594 9920 Fax: +44 (0)207 594 1129

e.pistikopoulos@imperial.ac.uk
www.imperial.ac.uk

Professor Stratos Pistikopoulos PhD FIChemE **FREng**

Abo Akademi University & the Academy of Finland

August 12, 2014

Dear Members of Assessment Committee

Re: OSE – Centre of Excellence

It is with great pleasure to offer my strongest possible support for the Optimization and Systems Engineering (OSE) research centre as a national Centre from the Academy of Finland and an internal Centre at Abo Academi.

OSE focuses on theoretical advances in applied mathematics and systems engineering, and is a leading research group in this field not only nationally but also one of the leading groups in this research field in Europe and worldwide. Its interdisciplinary theme connecting various departments from Natural Sciences and Engineering under the chairmanship of Professor Tapio Westerlund, has provided a very successful platform to address complex engineering problems and other applications. Of particular note it has been the novel development of mixed integer nonlinear optimization theory and software tools – putting OSE in an internationally leading position.

The exceptional quality, breadth and depth of its research programme, the established international reputation, all these constitute important ingredients and treasures that Abo Academi and Finland should further build upon and strongly support. OSE has excellent possibilities to continue as a leading internal Centre of Excellence for the period 2015-18, as well as being an excellent candidate for a national Centre of Excellence from the Academy of Finland in the near future.

Overall, a top notch centre with top notch people with I enthusiastically support – OSE has become a great ambassador of optimization and systems engineering in Finland and its continuation and strong support is imperative.

Yours sincerely,



Professor Stratos Pistikopoulos FREng