

**Memorandum of Understanding
Between
The Joint Information Systems Committee (JISC)
And
SURF Foundation**

November 2004

VISION

1. In signing this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), the Joint Information Systems Committee (**JISC**) and the **SURF** Foundation demonstrate their commitment to collaboration and innovation in the delivery of world-class technologies for education and research.

PARTIES TO THE MEMORANDUM

4. **JISC** supports further and higher education by providing strategic guidance, advice and opportunities to use Information and Communications Technology (ICT) to support teaching, learning, research and administration in the UK. **JISC** is funded by all the UK post-16 and higher education funding councils.

5. **SURF** is the higher education and research partnership organisation for network services and information and communications technology (ICT) in the Netherlands. **SURF** is funded by the Dutch government and all Higher Education and research institutions from across the Netherlands.

STRATEGIC ACTIVITIES

6. **JISC** promotes innovation across information and communications technology (ICT) in UK education and research by providing funding and strategic leadership for:

- the Joint Academic Network (JANET), providing a world-class network infrastructure.
- access and provision of electronic resources to support learning, teaching and research.
- a range of development programmes, established to explore the opportunities and challenges presented by emerging technologies, practices and standards.
- the promotion and facilitation of effective uses of ICT, by the provision of advice and guidance across a range of education and research activities.

7. **SURF** promotes co-operation in the development and application of information and communications technology (ICT) in education and research for the Netherlands. In doing so, **SURF** provides funding and strategic direction for a range of innovation programmes to explore current challenges and prepare for future requirements within information and communications technology (ICT) for education and research. **SURF** also provides governance for:

- SURFnet, is one of the world's most advanced computer network for education and research in the Netherlands.
- SURFdiensten, which negotiates with ICT-providers for licence agreements with special provisions for the education and research community.

AGREEMENT

8. The parties to the Memorandum, **JISC** and **SURF**, agree as follows:

9. **Aims:** Where appropriate, **JISC** and **SURF** will co-ordinate their activities in support of the Memorandum aims:

- i. Stimulate and Inform strategic development, by senior management dialogue and the active sharing of strategic information.
- ii. Share financial and human resources and thereby the risks required by innovative approaches in the development and use of Information and Communications Technologies (ICT) and to increase the return on investments.
- iii. Spread expertise through knowledge networks and engendering staff development.
- iv. Advise international education and research agendas in the use of Information and Communications Technologies (ICT) by influencing policy and standards.

10. **Management:** There will be at least two joint Senior Management meetings each year. These meetings will provide an opportunity for knowledge sharing and the identification of operational activity. Specifically, these meetings will define any planned activities, to be managed by a lead organisation, agreeing anticipated deliverables and resources, both financial and human.

11. **Funding arrangements:** Mutual agreement from **JISC** and **SURF** is required before any funds are released.

- €15,000 requires email approval from the Executive Secretary to **JISC** and Director of **SURF**.
- €15,000 to €75,000 requires consideration and approval at one of the Joint Senior Management meetings.
- €75,000 or more requires committee approval from both **JISC** and **SURF**.

12. **Membership:** Whilst retaining independent rights of veto, **JISC** and **SURF** are entitled to nominate expert employees to observe their partner committees, working groups or advisory groups as appropriate to the aims of the memorandum.

13. **Knowledge Management:** **JISC** and **SURF** are committed to the open sharing of intelligence and non-confidential information between their organisations.

14. **Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) and Copyright:** Copyright and independent ownership rights will be decided upon initiation of each joint activity, where possible joint IPR will be arranged, otherwise ownership rights will be retained by the lead project organisation.

GENERAL

15. This Memorandum of Understanding serves to record the understandings between **JISC** and **SURF** and is not intended to create any legal obligations.

16. This Memorandum of Understanding will guide the relationship between **JISC** and **SURF** and will remain in effect for four (4) years from the date of signing. **JISC** and **SURF** intend to evaluate the cooperation two (2) years after the signing of the memorandum. Besides, parties intend to extend the cooperation hereafter, and will reconsider the aims of this cooperation six

months before the end of the period mentioned above. Each party can terminate the agreements by means of sixty (60) days written notice to the other party. The termination of this memorandum of understanding will not affect the conclusion of projects formalised prior to its termination. This memorandum of understanding may be amended by the written consent of the parties.

17. Agreed to by and signed in two copies:

Dr. Malcolm Read

Prof. Dr. Wim Liebrand

Executive Secretary

Director

Joint Information Systems Committee
(JISC)

SURF Foundation