

# LISBON DECLARATION EUROPEAN ENGINEERING DEANS COUNCIL



On September 27<sup>th</sup> 2011, leaders of engineering education from Higher Education institutions converged to Lisbon from different European Countries to create the European Engineering Deans Council (EEDC).

This document contains the reproduction of their inaugural statement, the “Lisbon Declaration of the European Engineering Deans Council”



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## EUGENE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF FLORENCE, SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING



**Prof. Claudio Borri**  
University of Florence  
Vice-Dean for International Relations,  
School of Engineering  
IFEES President 2006-2008



The School of Engineering

Within the University of Florence (founded in 1321, now with 59,500 students, 4,200 staff members, about 520 MEuro turn over with 12 schools, a large medical center, 3 museums and more than 50 Depts.) the School of Engineering is the youngest and one of the most internationally orientated institution. Since the middle of the 90s, the School has developed a strong European network of cooperation in University education, starting with the mobility of students and teachers and developing later on many European actions, usually funded by the European Union. Together with SEFI, of which the school is member since the early 80s, the Florence Engineering School has developed, coordinated and contracted a series of «Thematic/Academic Networks» in engineering education, which have grouped up to 120 engineering schools from all over Europe.

The most recent one that is called “EUGENE” (European and Global Engineering Education), funded for the period 2009-2012, brings together about 90 partner schools in Europe and is primarily devoted to promote the European competitiveness in Engineering Education within the global scene. Amongst the EUGENE partners, IFEES is the organisation ensuring the global connection and interaction of the academic network worldwide. SEFI and ISEL have been in charge of the creation of the EEDC as a EUGENE Transversal action. Strong links between the Global Engineering Deans Council (GEDC) founded by IFEES and ASEE in 2006, and the EEDC exist and have to be consolidated.

## PROMOTING ENGINEERING EDUCATION

### SYNERGETIC EFFORTS

Instituto Superior de Engenharia de Lisboa (ISEL), Portugal, founded in December the 30th, 1852, by Queen Maria II Royal Decree (being therefore one of the oldest non military engineering entities in Portugal), is a public higher education institute that has the following aims: to train students to a higher level of qualification in scientific, technical and professional subjects; to develop scientific and applied research; to render services to the community; to promote scientific and technical exchange with similar national and international institutions; and to participate in national and international projects of cooperation.

By developing this strategy ISEL is actively promoting the establishment of networks on engineering education worldwide, dedicating its resources to promote synergies to achieve innovative responses to the challenges of engineering.

The promotion of the European Engineering Deans Council is a natural step after participating in the creation of the Global Engineering Deans Council, due to the necessity to align its actions at the deans' level also on the European level.



**Prof. José Carlos Quadrado**  
President of Instituto Superior  
de Engenharia de Lisboa



The School of Engineering

## TOGETHER FOR THE BENEFIT OF ENGINEERING EDUCATION AND A BETTER SOCIETY



**Prof. Dr. Anette Kolmos**  
University of Aalborg  
President of European Society  
for Engineering Education  
SEFI

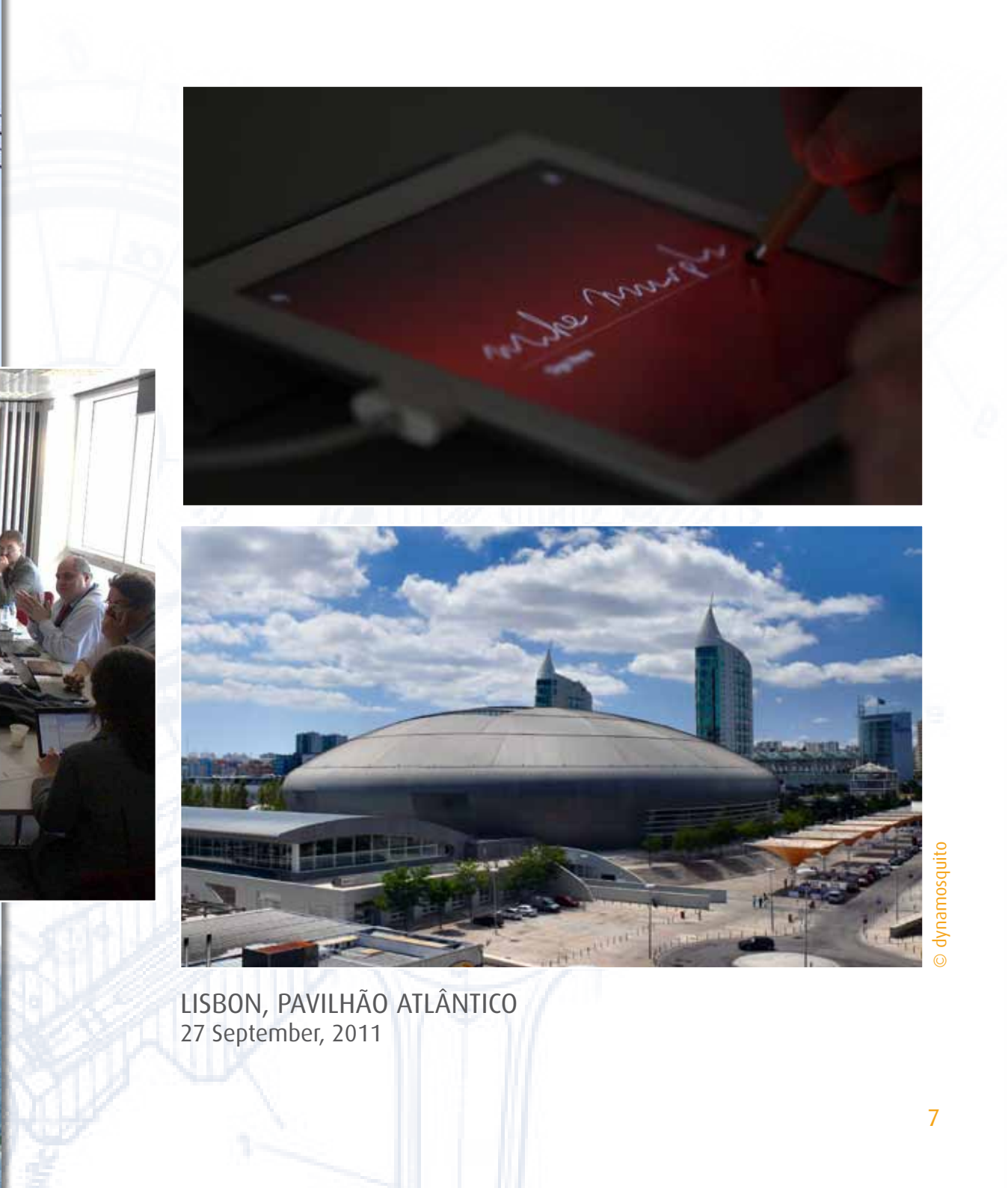
Since its creation in 1973, the European Society for Engineering Education (SEFI), has worked for improving the quality of engineering education by exchange of knowledge and experience among all the actors of engineering education in Europe. The continuous involvement and the outstanding commitment of all these actors active in SEFI - higher engineering education institutions and universities, companies, associations, individual professors, engineers, and students - witness the passion they all share for the education of the engineer.

For this reason, SEFI has actively participated in the creation process of the European Engineering Deans Council in order to create a network offering the Deans a unique platform for meeting and exchanging views on topics of common interest inherent to their position. SEFI regards the establishment of the EEDC as complementary to the regular European Conventions for Deans in Engineering that have been initiated by SEFI and the University of Florence in 2005. The Deans' Conventions are the fora reaching out to all managers in engineering education and now it is time for an additional organisation tool to facilitate the deans in their regular European activities and to position themselves as members of a European Engineering Deans' Community.

Deans in Engineering from Europe need to join their forces to develop National and European policies for the benefit of Society. Furthermore, the collaboration between the EEDC and the Global Engineering Deans Council (GEDC) is another reason that led SEFI to believe in this new initiative as there is a need to collaborate also with the deans from the rest of the World for the benefit of the engineer of tomorrow and therefore for a better world.



**Mrs. Françoise Côme**  
Secretary General of European  
Society for Engineering  
Education- SEFI



EEDC KICK OFF MOMENTS



LISBON, PAVILHÃO ATLÂNTICO  
27 September, 2011

# EUROPEAN ENGINEERING DEANS COUNCIL DECLARATION

**Signed in Lisbon on 27<sup>th</sup> September 2011**

We, Deans of Engineering at European Higher Education institutions, unanimously support the creation of the European Engineering Deans Council (EEDC) as a non-profit organization. In recognition of the diversity of academic structures in Europe, the term “Dean” for the purpose of this Declaration means “a person in charge of an engineering institution, college, school or faculty in a university”.

We agree that the objectives of EEDC shall be:

- To provide a forum for exchange of information and for discussion of experiences, challenges and best practices to lead an engineering College, Faculty or School,
- To identify opportunities for engineering deans to collaborate with industry and other stakeholders in education, research, and innovation,
- To build a network that will support engineering deans in playing a leadership role in developing European and national policies for the benefit of Society.

We recognise that the creation of EEDC is an initiative of the European Academic Network “EUGENE”, coordinated by the University of Florence, supported by the EU-LLP Programme, under the leadership of the European Society for Engineering Education (SEFI) and Lisbon Superior Engineering Institute (ISEL).

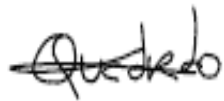
We, the undersigned, confirm our commitment to pool our collective strengths for the advancements of engineering education and research for the benefit of Society and to pursue the establishment of links with similar international organisations that are committed to the same objectives worldwide.



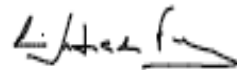


On September 27<sup>th</sup> 2011, in Lisbon, leaders of engineering education from Higher Education institutions converged to Lisbon from different European Countries to create the European Engineering Deans Council (EEDC).

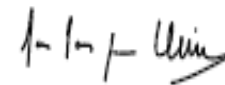




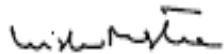
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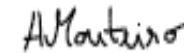
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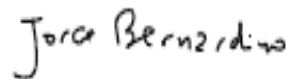
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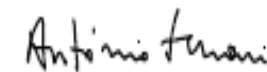
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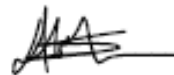
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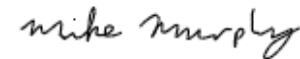
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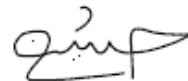
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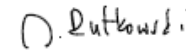
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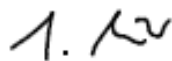
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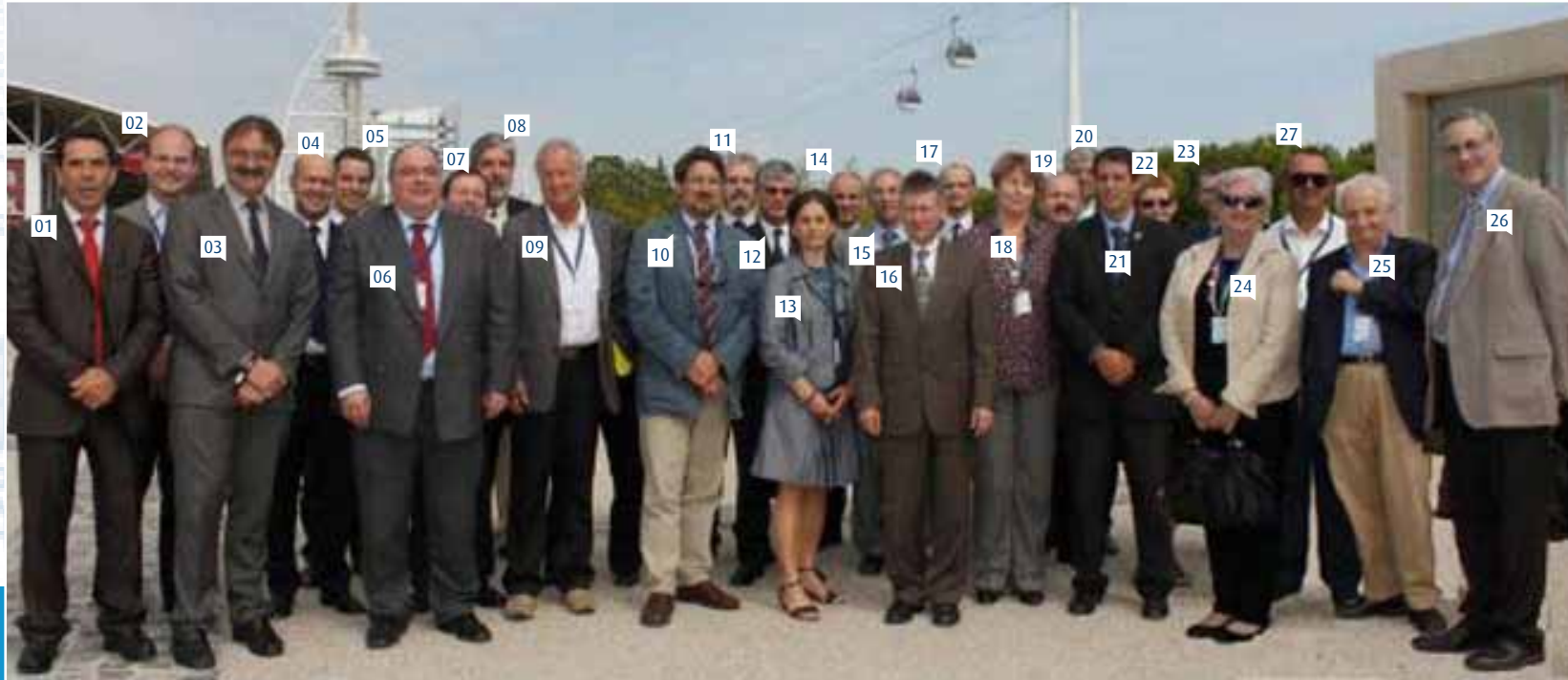
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Missing on the picture : Dean Ludo Froyen , Anette Kolmos (SEFI President), Dean Anne-Marie Jolly, Aris Avdelas and Dean Mohamed Houcine Hassan.

## SPONSOR COMMENTARY

Among the substantial outcomes of the EUGENE project, the creation of the European Engineering Deans Council creates the promising perspective of a forum open to all engineering education leaders of the continent. As a member of SEFI and a participant in the EUGENE network, Dassault Systemes is happy to support an initiative that further advances our shared vision of a vibrant, innovative and globally connected community of engineering education institutions.



**Xavier Fouger**  
Dassault Systemes  
Senior Academic Program Director



## SPONSOR COMMENTARY

Deans of Engineering of Europe,

It is an honor and a pleasure to sponsor and attend the foundation of the European Engineering Deans Council here in beautiful Lisboa. May I wish you success in your endeavors as you strive to continue to seek excellence in engineering education across Europe.



**Lueny Morell**

Strategic Innovations & Research Services Office  
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Past President IFEES



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The creation of the EEDC is an initiative of the EU-LLP “EUGENE” Academic Network project coordinated by the University of Florence, in the context of EUGENE Transversal Action 2 lead by ISEL and SEFI.

We thank our sponsors for the support they provided for the organisation of the EEDC kick off meeting held in Lisbon on 27 September 2011



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