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July 29, 2010

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this note to acknowledge the contribution CIVET had in promoting our research projects, and to strongly support the continuation of its valuable role of bridging between university research and potential investors and industry.

Our team benefited from CIVET's expertise and guidance in two projects, the TrafficView and the CyberBike. Both projects were in the emerging field of vehicular computing. TrafficView is a project aiming to provide car-to-car communication for immediate and accurate information on the traffic ahead, while CyberBike aims at reducing bicyclist accidents by automatically detecting approaching vehicles from behind and warning the bicyclist. In both cases, CIVET has been instrumental in offering the opportunity to present the projects to potential investors.

The summits organized under CIVET's auspices have been remarkably prepared with numerous meetings between CIVET staff and our team members. In the CyberBike case, the presentation was made by one of my Ph.D. students, Steve Smaldone, who had the chance to learn a lesson never taught in class on how to translate a research project into a successful technology transfer. The valuable knowledge he acquired through this process had undoubtedly contributed to his successful research path as graduate student, confirmed by the Dean's Award for Excellence in Research he received this year. I gave this example to illustrate CIVET's role not just as a bridge university-industry but also as an integral part of the of the university educational process.

To conclude, I consider that CIVET plays a distinct and valuable role at Rutgers, which I look forward to seeing diversified and amplified in the future.

Sincerely,

Liviu Iftode,
Professor