

To Delegates and Representatives
First (constitutional) General Assembly
European Open Science Cloud (EOSC)
Association

Brussels, 18 November 2020

Subject: Endorsement of Karel Luyben as President of EOSC Association

Dear colleagues and fellow Members and Observers of the EOSC Association,

Two years ago, Professor Karel Luyben, *Rector Magnificus Emeritus* of Delft University of Technology, was elected Co-Chair of the Executive Board of the European Open Science Cloud (EOSC-EB), with the joint support of the European University Association (EUA), CESAER and ALLEA. With this letter, EUA fully supports the candidacy of Karel Luyben as first President of the recently-founded EOSC Association.

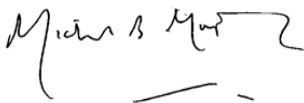
In the era of data-intensive science, it is of utmost importance to support widespread sharing and re-use of open and FAIR research data, publications, software and other research artefacts. EOSC will be the trusted, digital and federated environment that will facilitate the circulation of digital resources and services for research, contribute to improved reproducibility in science, enhance (interdisciplinary) collaboration and catalyse innovation, all for the benefit of society.

As EOSC-EB Co-Chair, Karel Luyben greatly contributed to the first steps in making this a reality. He continues to work towards that goal, showing responsiveness to community needs and listening carefully to stakeholders. Addressing current and future challenges - social, technological and economic - depends on the joint and coordinated efforts of a broad range of research and innovation (R&I) stakeholders represented in the EOSC Association.

Universities are unique institutions within the EOSC ecosystem, as they cover the entire knowledge triangle: research, education and innovation. They also host most of the core services and activities that are needed to store, share and re-use research data across borders and scholarly disciplines. As the largest and most comprehensive organisation representing universities in Europe, it matters to EUA that the voice of universities is heard by the EOSC Association and that the diverse end-users they represent within the EOSC ecosystem are recognised and empowered.

Karel Luyben's undisputed commitment and dedication to Open Science in general, and to the shaping of EOSC in particular echoes this. At European level, he has been an active member of the Open Science Policy Platform (OSPP) set up by the European Commission. He is also a member of the EUA Expert Group on Science 2.0/Open Science. In addition, his strong reputation as a R&I community leader as well as his close connection to national and international R&I initiatives are evidenced in his former leadership positions, both as long-standing rector of TU Delft and president of European organisations such as CESAER and the European Federation of Biotechnology. EUA is convinced that he will be an excellent President for the EOSC Association, uniting different stakeholders and communities in a collective effort to support activities such as federating interconnected digital infrastructures in the EOSC Core and Exchange, training researchers and staff, developing policies, and reforming research assessment systems to recognise a wide range of researcher contributions.

EUA therefore endorses Karel Luyben's candidacy as first President of the EOSC Association and strongly supports it.



Michael Murphy
EUA President