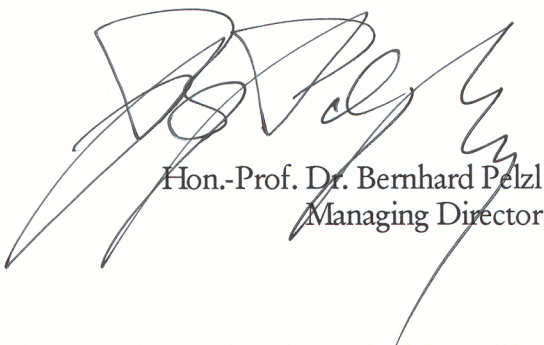


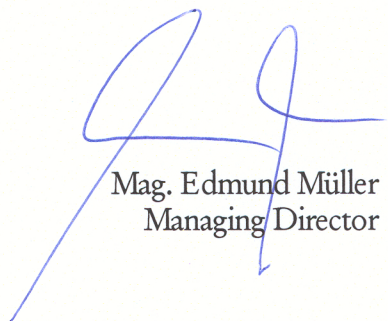
**The JOANNEUM RESEARCH Forschungsgesellschaft mbH
undersigns the "The European Charter for Researchers" and
"The Code of Conduct for the Recruitment of Researchers"**

Graz, 5th October 2006

The JOANNEUM RESEARCH Forschungsgesellschaft mbH has decided to undersign the "European Charter for Researchers" and "The Code of Conduct for the Recruitment of Researchers". The primary business objective of the JOANNEUM RESEARCH is to contribute to the development of the federal state Styria in the framework of the "European Union Region of Future" and to strengthen the location particularly through the creation of skilled employment opportunities. A principle of the JOANNEUM RESEARCH is the promotion of creativity, one's own initiative and entrepreneurial spirit and so the JOANNEUM RESEARCH declares its commitment to the principles and requirements as stated in the Charter and the Code and will implement this in favour of the improvement of the research conditions in Austria.



Hon.-Prof. Dr. Bernhard Pelzl
Managing Director



Mag. Edmund Müller
Managing Director