



September 14, 2003

Dr. Brian M. Slator
Computer Science Department
North Dakota State University
Fargo, ND 58105

Dear Dr. Slator

As you know, the Department of Technology Education and Digital Systems at the University of Piraeus employs several faculty whose research interests are complementary to yours, and of particular note in this regard is our existing degree program and the Technical Learning and Teaching specialization which aims at preparing leaders for technical positions who are knowledgeable and skilled about the design, implementation, management and evaluation of technical instruction and instructional technology.

The University of Piraeus has more than 200 staff members, 10,000 undergraduate students and 1,000 postgraduate students. Postgraduate students pursue M.Sc., MBA and Ph.D. degrees, thus providing the necessary research infrastructure.

The faculty here are very interested in immersive virtual environments for education and their potential in technical teaching. The investigations involving scenario-based assessment and simulated worlds where students "learn by doing" also seem to show high promise.

The faculty and staff in the Department of Technology Education and Digital Systems at The University of Piraeus look forward to collaborating with you and developing projects with your Science Learning Center for Immersive Virtual Environments in Education at North Dakota State University in Fargo, North Dakota. We are also looking forward to implementing the three-part plan you have described: 1) field studies of your immersive virtual environments, particularly the Virtual Archaeologist which is of high interest to us in Greece; 2) the faculty/student summer/semester exchange program you describe; and 3) developing immersive virtual environments at the Department of Technology Education and Digital Systems at the University of Piraeus.

We look forward to collaborating on these projects with your Science Learning Center.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. Vasilacopoulos', written over a horizontal line.

Prof. George Vasilacopoulos
Head of the Department