



20th February 2013

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

**Re: Merger of the Department of Medical Instrument Technology-TIO and the
Department of Electronics at the TEI of Athens**

I write this letter with some concern. I have been informed that there are proposals to absorb the Department of Medical Instrument Technology-TIO and the Department of Electronics at the TEI of Athens.

I have had a long and very fruitful association with the Department of Medical Instrument Technology both in the area of research and teaching. I have had several of their students join me at UCL to study for PhDs and I have met many students from TIO whilst I have been teaching on the MSc in Medical Physics at the University of Patras. In my experience these students have unique skills. Skills that are a combination of good understanding of the theory with real practical experience. These skills are brought about by the close association the students get with their teachers, something which comes from the environment that has been carefully fostered in the TIO. From my experience, merger of such specialized units with larger more, general units is unlikely to enhance the student experience and I would urge you to reconsider the proposed merger.

Please let me know if I can provide you with any further information.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Robert Speller', with a large circular flourish at the beginning.

Robert Speller

Joel Professor of Physics Applied to Medicine, UCL.