

## **YOUNG SCIENTISTS, OUR FUTURE**

On behalf of Aalto University I have the pleasure to welcome you all to Finland and Otaniemi.

European Universities share a mission to work for a better future for mankind. Every year young students and scientists join universities to take this mission and the world forward. The European Union Contest for Young Scientists is one big step in this movement. Aalto University is proud to cooperate with you, and with the many organizations managing the Contest this year.

I was once myself a student and a young scientist, burning to better the world by developing environmentally friendly forms of energy and materials. I was proud to join the scientific community then, and still am. Science needs new talent constantly; the world's problems have not yet been solved. When working at the Royal Institute of Technology in Stockholm, I had the honor of chairing the National Steering Committee of this very contest for young scientists. Looking at the creativity and ideas behind that year's contributions was probably one of the most inspiring experiences of my entire career. I am convinced that your contest here in Finland will also be an unforgettable experience, not only for you but also the audience.

To engage young people in research and scientific work is important in order to secure a positive future development of the society at large. We at Aalto University have many projects engaging school children and young adults in our activities. The progress of science and the solving of our global problems also require an ability to make new ideas understandable by wider audiences. Participating in contests such as this one provide fine opportunities to learn different ways of presenting complex information in a clear and understandable way.

The goal of Aalto University is to become a world class university that can make significant contributions towards both economically and environmentally sustainable world. I want to take this opportunity to welcome you to join us in the future to realize this mission!

I wish you all the best of luck in this year's European Union Contest for Young Scientists!

Tuula Teeri, PhD

President, Aalto University

[www.aalto.fi](http://www.aalto.fi)