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**Prof. Narcís Cardona Marcet** Director of iTEAM Universitat Politècnica de València

## Dear reader,

I am proud to write these words for the very first time as Director of the iTEAM research institute. 2017 has been a year full of success, truly one of the best in the history of iTEAM. We are involved in more European projects than ever, leading some of them, with an international and local recognition that grows every day. Our PhD students succeed in their investigations, and publish in prestigious journals thanks to the effort that the senior researchers of iTEAM constantly do in search for new opportunities for them, and this requires more and more dedication and imagination these days. We are, I think I can truly say it, becoming a reference inside and outside the University. All this, however, is not coincidental, neither arises spontaneously in a single year, but is the result of a previous trajectory in which iTEAM groups have maintained their philosophy of integrating their efforts in a brand that is recognized internally and abroad as a seal of quality, of excellence. Let me in this point acknowledge the former Director of iTEAM, Prof. Jose Capmany, for his many years of dedication to this task. I hope that in these times of atomization and precariousness of the scientific policies, iTEAM continues growing in quality and keeps committed to excellence.