

MAX-PLANCK-INSTITUT FÜR GRAVITATIONSPHYSIK
(ALBERT-EINSTEIN-INSTITUT)

Teilinstitut Hannover

Callinstraße 38, 30167 Hannover



Prof. Takaaki Kajita
Director,
Institute for Cosmic Ray Research
University of Tokyo

Name: Prof. Dr. Karsten Danzmann
Tel.: +49 511 - 762 - 2229
Fax: +49 511 - 762 - 5861
E-Mail: danzmann@aei.mpg.de
<http://www.aei-hannover.de>

Hannover, 10.1.2012

Dear Prof. Kajita,

as German Principal Investigator of GEO600 I would like to congratulate you for the start of construction of the LCGT observatory in Kamioka.

After more than 40 years of development, the next generation of gravitational wave observatories will open a new chapter in Astronomy and start the age of Gravitational Wave Astronomy. The advanced network of LIGO, Virgo and GEO600 will become fully operational after 2014 and will with little doubt make the first detections. But without an additional detector in Japan, this network is really incomplete.

It is a well deserved reward for the excellent Japanese groups that, after so many years of work at the international forefront, their important role has now been recognized and the construction of LCGT can finally commence. This will be the center of gravitational physics in Asia for many years to come.

With my best regards,

Prof. Dr. Karsten Danzmann
Director, Max Planck Institute for Gravitational Physics
Director, Institute for Gravitational Physics of the Leibniz Universität Hannover