

PROPOSAL  
for an  
INTERNATIONAL COMPUTER SCIENCE INSTITUTE (ICSI)

This proposal represents a current effort by a National Research Organization of the Federal Republic of Germany to facilitate international collaboration in the field of fundamental Computer Science. Participation by other countries is expected in the future.

In brief, ways are being explored for the establishment of an International Computer Science Institute to be located in the United States. This center is to be staffed by American and foreign scientists. Initial financial support is to come from the GMD, a well established Computer Science research organization in Germany. The results from the US Institute are to be in the public domain, in the manner of unrestricted university research.

The objective, on the part of the German advocates of this effort, is to facilitate collaborative basic research between US and German scientists in a field in which the US has a commanding lead.

This German initiative is based upon these considerations:

1. As in the US, the German legal system does not allow for the type of centralized approach the Japanese have taken.
2. Financial resources available for this type of research are appreciably greater in the US than in any other country. This, on the one hand is due to the size of the markets available to US industry and on the other hand, US defense needs.
3. Because of the relative lead of US computer science, some of the brightest young European scientists have been attracted to major universities and industrial research laboratories in the US.

4. Available evidence suggests that the Federal Republic of Germany has been underrepresented in its participation in Computer Science related activities in the US academic world (relative to other countries).

5. Earlier in this century, US medical researchers spent a year or two at the then leading university-clinics of Germany. The International Computer Science Institute is to function in an analogous fashion: make it possible for German and other foreign scientists to participate in and contribute to leading edge research in the field of computer science.

The sponsoring organization in Germany, the GMD (Gesellschaft für Mathematik und Datenverarbeitung) which performs the function of a National Center for Computer Science, was established in 1968.

Prof. Dr. Norbert Szyperski, the individual who heads up the GMD, is an exceptionally dynamic and effective man, familiar with American institutions. A 1962 recipient of an Eisenhower fellowship, he is well known and respected in German government, business and academic circles. The 400 person research organization which he heads up, has made great strides under his leadership. A description of the activities of the GMD is attached.

Approval and funding has been obtained by the GMD from the appropriate agencies in Germany.

UC Berkeley has been selected for the site of the ICSI, and the Berkeley Computer Science faculty is conducting a search for the director of the Institute. The Director will be responsible to the trustees of a California Not-for-Profit Corporation which is in the process of incorporation.

Norbert Szyperski (GMD), Michael Rabin (Jerusalem & Harvard), Domenico Ferrari and Richard Karp (UC Berkeley) will be members of the initial Board of Trustees.

RHK  
FILE ID I-6.13a