
From: [REDACTED] on behalf of Ben Goertzel [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, May 20, 2011 10:36 AM
To: Jeffrey Epstein
Cc: Ben Goertzel
Subject: Re: OpenCog Hong Kong project: next installment of funding needed ;p

240 505 6518

Ben

On Friday, May 20, 2011, Jeffrey Epstein <jeevacation@gmail.com> wrote:

> number to call??

>

> On Thu, May 19, 2011 at 9:10 PM, Ben Goertzel <[REDACTED]> wrote:

>

> Hi Jeffrey,

>

> The OpenCog Hong Kong project that you funded with \$20K last year is
> progressing well, and is now in need of another \$10K of funding to
> keep it going. (Recall that the Hong Kong government funds 90% of the
> project, and Novamente LLC's contribution is 10% -- some excellent
> leverage.)

>

> I had originally thought that the next funding for the project would
> not be needed till August 2011, but it turns out I was misinformed,
> and it's actually needed by the end of May!

>

> So, please read this email & the attached insofar as you have time,
> and let me know if you're game to donate the additional \$10K. If not,
> I will explore other options (like my personal credit cards, most
> probably). I really can't afford \$10K personally right now, and yet
> it would be really stupid to let the project die partway through due
> to lack of \$10K, so....

>

> Progress on the project has been great, and Dr. Joel Pitt (a colleague
> of mine from New Zealand) has relocated to Hong Kong to lead the
> project. I'm currently earning a living on a consulting contract for
> a US government agency, which pays me enough to live and requires very
> little work, enabling me to spend a lot of time collaborating with the
> Hong Kong guys. I can't move to HK and keep this US gov't contract,
> but I can visit frequently. I was there for 5 weeks in April/May, and
> will be there again for all of July.

>

> I have attached to this email some information on the project

>

> -- An overview and summary document, describing what the project goals
> are and what we've done so far

>
> -- A 2 year roadmap for OpenCog, summarizing what we intend to achieve
> in the project by the end of 2012 (largely due to the Hong Kong
> project, but also including some other stuff)
>
> -- A long-term roadmap for OpenCog, which is much more speculative but
> will remind you of my overall thinking on how this near-term work fits
> into the path toward human-level (and beyond) AGI
>
> -- a description of a demo we intend to build over the next few
> months, as part of the Hong Kong project, to illustrate some of the AI
> functionality achieved
>
> If you have any questions about any of this (or anything else related)
> I'm of course happy to talk, my cell is [REDACTED], my Google Talk
> is [REDACTED], my Skype is [REDACTED] and you know my email
> [REDACTED].
>
> In other notes...
>
> -- I recently finished a draft of "Building Better Minds" (my 900 page
> book on how to build AGI) and it's under consideration by World
> Scientific Press. Cassio (my Brazilian collaborator, whom you met)
> is currently carefully editing the draft. I suppose it make most
> sense for you to put in the time to read it after it's fully edited
> and ready to be published, but I can send you the current draft if
> you're interested. The references and figures are still messed up in
> the current draft, and it needs more editing (which Cassio is doing)
> but the contents are now fully in place ;-) ...
>
> -- My Hong Kong collaborator Gino Yu and I are planning to put
> together a proposal for an "AGI Research Center" at his university in
> Hong Kong, with a cost of perhaps US \$3M per year. The goal would be
> to fund OpenCog and 2 other AGI projects there at a moderate level,
> initially with a 4 year commitment. If time permits we'll put that
> proposal together in June, and I can send it your way then if you're
> curious.
>
> -- You may be curious to know that I have a couple students in
> Xiamen, China working on integrating some of Itamar Arel's DeSTIN
> computer vision software (remember you met Itamar in Florida, with me
> and Cassio) with OpenCog. Currently they're porting it to CUDA so it
> can run on GPU supercomputers, which is needed to make it operate
> scalably as is needed e.g. for robot vision.
>
> I guess that's all for now.
>
> If you ever get the urge to discuss AGI in person, let me know and we
> can get together at your convenience ;)
>
> Also, remember the AGI-11 conference is at the start of August on
> Google's campus in Mountain View, if you feel like spending a couple

> days hearing weird AGI ideas ;) ... <http://agi-conf.org/2011>

>

> Thanks a lot,

> Ben

>

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>

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> --

> Ben Goertzel, PhD--

> *****

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Ben Goertzel, PhD

CEO, Novamente LLC and Biomind LLC

CTO, Genescent Corp

Chairman, Humanity+

Adjunct Professor of Cognitive Science, Xiamen University, China Advisor, Singularity University and Singularity Institute

"My humanity is a constant self-overcoming" -- Friedrich Nietzsche <?xml version=.0" encoding=TF-8"?> <!DOCTYPE plist PUBLIC "-//Apple//DTD PLIST 1.0//EN" "http://www.apple.com/DTDs/PropertyList-1.0.dtd"> <plist version=.0">

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