

From: Jeffrey Epstein <jeevacation@gmail.com>
To: Lesley Groff <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Fwd: video chat?
Date: Tue, 19 Nov 2013 16:33:03 +0000

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Ben Goertzel
Date: Tuesday, November 19, 2013
Subject: video chat?
To: Jeffrey Epstein <jeevacation@gmail.com>

Hi,

Great! It will be good to chat; it's been a while ;) ...

If you're on the US East Coast, then given the time zone difference, some convenient times would be: 7PM US Eastern time (= 8AM Hong Kong time) or 10AM US Eastern time (=11PM Hong Kong time)... I can do those times basically any day, just let me know what day/time works for you... (Or feel free to posit some other time, those are just suggestions...)

I'm [REDACTED] on Skype, or [REDACTED] on Google Hangouts... or I can call a US number easily, of course...

Yours,
Ben

On Tue, Nov 19, 2013 at 6:18 PM, Jeffrey Epstein <jeevacation@gmail.com> wrote:
> great idea

>
>
> On Tue, Nov 19, 2013 at 5:35 AM, Ben Goertzel <[REDACTED]> wrote:

>>
>> Hi,
>>
>> One more small thing..
>>
>> Joscha mentioned he talked to you via video-chat, by the way....
>>
>> We've never tried that, but now that I'm in Hong Kong most of the
>> time, it might be a good idea, since a F2F meeting may be difficult to
>> coordinate...

>>
>> Let me know if you have time -- certainly it's "higher bandwidth" in
>> some ways than email.
>>
>> Yours

>> Ben

>>

>>

>>

>> On Sun, Nov 17, 2013 at 2:12 PM, Ben Goertzel <[REDACTED]> wrote:

>>> Hi Jeffrey,

>>>

>>> [Sorry for the semi-long email but there's lots to cover; I know
>>> you're busy and your time is appreciated... ;) ...]

>>>

>>> Firstly -- Wow, it seems your publicity folks have been quite
>>> impactful lately! Since your team has issued a number of press
>>> releases mentioning me lately, I keep getting emails from people
>>> congratulating me on my new AGI funding windfall from the Jeffrey
>>> Epstein IV Foundation. (Though of course, I have to disappoint them
>>> by telling them that, while you've been consistently and wonderfully
>>> helpful to my work over the years, there has been no big-time
>>> Epstein/OpenCog AGI funding event... yet ...)

>>>

>>> Anyway -- on to immediate practical matters -- the time of year has
>>> come for me to email you and inquire about the possibility of ongoing
>>> research funding...

>>>

>>> You may recall that my Hong Kong government research grant requires
>>> private donations amounting to 10% of the \$\$, and then the government
>>> will put up 90%.

>>>

>>> Last year you donated \$20K toward this grant, which was very much
>>> appreciated.

>>>

>>> This year I have gotten approval for an increase in the Hong Kong
>>> government funding (technically: a separate grant running 2014-2015,
>>> overlapping with the current grant which runs 2013-2014). With the
>>> increased funding, next year we will have 10 programmers working on
>>> OpenCog here in Hong Kong, which will be quite exciting.

>>>

>>> The 10% payment for the two grants will be \$45K in total, due by the
>>> end of 2013. If you could help with this, as you did last year, that
>>> would be fantastic. (Elsewise, to be quite frank, I have no ready way
>>> to come up with that amount of money except to liquidate my minimal
>>> pension fund from my university days ;p)

>>>

>>> The new grant (2014-2015) is specifically for natural language
>>> dialogue, whereas the previous one (2013-2014) was aimed at robotics,
>>> and the earlier one (2012-2013) was aimed at game characters. As you
>>> see, what they like to fund is something that sounds "applied", rather
>>> than core AGI research. However, the bulk of the \$\$ has always
>>> actually been spent on core AGI research. [The funding agency is
>>> ultimately fine with whatever you do, so long as it's in the vicinity
>>> of the proposal and you publish some papers.]

>>>

>>> This brief wiki page

>>>

>>> http://wiki.opencog.org/w/OpenCog_HK_2014_High_Level_Goals

>>>
>>> summarizes what we've done in the last year (2013 so far), and what is
>>> planned for this fall and the next year. I'm happy to elaborate more
>>> details for you if you wish. It's exciting stuff... with this
>>> increased grant funding, we should be able to finally make an honest
>>> effort at implementing a non-trivial subset of OpenCog... [I can also
>>> send you the full grant proposals i

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