

**From:** "jeffrey E." <jeevacation@gmail.com>  
**To:** Joscha Bach <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Re: current options?  
**Date:** Sat, 18 Jun 2016 23:27:57 +0000

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we will find a way for you to stay , i have many solutions no worry,

On Sat, Jun 18, 2016 at 7:28 PM, Joscha Bach <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Dear Jeffrey,

here is what I currently believe about visa:

- H1B does not allow spouses to work for now, but that might change; can be extended for up to 6 years without fuss, and is extended beyond that if the employer files for permanent residency; there is no cap for big universities (but for all private companies), once I have an H1B, a new employer can apply for a new one but is exempt from the cap. Since we have German passports, we have no problems with traveling anywhere, regardless of H1B (as long as the visa is valid, of course).
- O is slightly harder to get than H1B, it will take longer now to get one than to get an H1B for a different employer, it can be extended beyond 6 years without filing for a green card, the sponsor does not have to be a university
- Joi mentioned that it might be an option to spinoff a startup from MIT using my current visa. The startup could for instance be a non-profit research group, or an AI company, with a small office next to PED or Kendall. Joi has a lawyer that specializes in handling such things. I could probably keep my PED affiliation for academic purposes.

Of course it would be the very best solution if I could stay at Media Lab, because what I do fits in perfectly with Joi's antidisiplinary perspective, and the students were great. Harvard would be a wonderful plan B. Moshe has offered to switch affiliations, if that would help in any way (he does a lot of things at the Media Lab, too).

Staying in Cambridge would be great, because I would like to continue working with Adam Marblestone, Katherine Gallagher and Manushaque Muco (they both want to do their thesis on my current ideas), and possibly two other candidates.

I could also ask friends at IBM and perhaps Google if they could set me up with a position at Kendall Square, but that might mean less freedom to work on the current project.

If the visa situation cannot be resolved, Zurich (ETH or Max Planck) might currently be the best place to work for general AI outside of the US.

Thank you for all your support!

Joscha

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please note

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