

ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 2
Coded Character Sets
 Secretariat: **Japan (JISC)**

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April 3, 2006

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Dear Ms. Toshiko KIMURA and Mr. Ksar,

I wish to request category "C" liaison membership between SC 2/WG 2 and UC Berkeley.

UC Berkeley is a world-class public university with over 1900 faculty and 32,800 students. It offers a wide range of language courses and hosts a variety of electronic linguistic projects, including the Sino-Tibetan Etymological Dictionary and Thesaurus and the Turkish Electronic Living Lexicon. The campus library holds over 9 million books, which provide a valuable resource for research. Because of the campus' size and depth of offerings, Berkeley is able to provide expertise in a wide range of languages, as well as a vital link to minority and scholarly user communities, whose script(s) may not be represented currently in ISO/IEC 10646.

Berkeley also is home to the Script Encoding Initiative, a project within the Department of Linguistics that began in 2002 and has received funding from UNESCO and the U.S. National Endowment for the Humanities. The Script Encoding Initiative has worked with user communities from across the globe to ensure that minority scripts and historic scripts are included in Unicode. To date over nine scripts sponsored by SEI have been approved by the Unicode Technical Committee and are in line for balloting or are currently under ballot in WG2.

Statement of Benefits and Responsibilities

As ISO/IEC 10646 is being increasingly adopted by academic groups for the electronic representation of their text materials and in multilingual implementations (including new electronic publishing models and online course development), it is critical for the university and its faculty to keep apprised of new developments regarding ISO/IEC 10646. Berkeley can also profit from more actively participating in WG2, so as to understand the perspective of national bodies and prepare proposals accordingly. In turn, the university can provide expert input on the scripts not yet included in ISO/IEC 10646 and assist the Script Encoding Initiative in providing feedback on script proposals being written. Both organizations will be able to benefit from such a liaison relationship.

It is understood that development documents exchanged between UC Berkeley and ISO/IEC JTC1 SC2/WG2 will not go beyond these groups.

Sincerely,

Shelton Waggener
Associate Vice Chancellor & CIO
University of California, Berkeley