



CENTER FOR DIGITAL INNOVATION  
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Sun Microsystems, Inc.  
Attn: Jerry Neece

As a result of our discussions with Sun Microsystems, the UCLA Center for Digital Innovation (CDI), with the support of the Dean of Physical Sciences and the UCLA Program in Computing, wishes to apply for the AAJC program. Our application form is attached. We believe that the program we outline more than meets the goals of Sun's AAJC program, while providing Sun an increased visibility at one of the highest-ranking U.S. research universities.

The principal way in which our situation differs from non-research institutions is that the UCLA faculty has been delegated the responsibility for the content and conduct of courses, as well as a primary role in the selection and evaluation of instructors. Therefore as an institution we would not find it appropriate to grant Sun contractual involvement in such matters. Nevertheless, we are pleased to describe our present accomplishments and our future plans with respect to Java.

A second way in which we differ from many universities is that computer programming is taught in more than one venue. The majority of UCLA students in programming classes receive instruction from the Program in Computing (PIC), housed in the Department of Mathematics. PIC has an existing strong instructional program in the Java language, to be complemented by proposed advanced offerings and internships through the CDI. PIC is separate from the UCLA Computer Science Department (CSD), which teaches programming to its own majors and some other Engineering students. The CSD does not presently teach Java but is considering doing so; no doubt the presence of the proposed AAJC at UCLA and the opportunities it represents will have an influence.

The Program in Computing (PIC) teaches a variety of courses in computing, including an introduction to Java (PIC 20), taken by 262 students this past year, a group of exceptional quality. For the 1999-2000 academic year, we are adding a second course in Java as a continuation. As the students completing this second course create demand, a third course is contemplated, in conjunction with the CDI, and more as needed. Advanced students will have an opportunity to work with Java experts in the CDI on actual projects. The CDI will serve as an internship center itself and its industrial contacts will enhance opportunities for UCLA students to find outside internships. Moreover, the CDI already has the entrepreneurial approach contemplated by the AAJC program. It should be noted that PIC programming courses are 5-unit quarter courses (10 weeks plus exams), each with an expectation of 165 hours of student work, including 50 class hours (30 with the instructor and 20 with a graduate teaching Assistant). It should also be noted that in all these endeavors we teach only pure, platform-independent Java.

For supporting hardware, the Program in Computing has a teaching laboratory of 100 PC's, but in addition all students have access to Sun servers via X-windows terminal emulation. (The Program in Computing has five Sun servers for students and teaching faculty. Incidentally, the Department of Mathematics also has many Sun servers and workstations used for research and graduate teaching.)

In addition, the CDI will establish an additional, smaller, advanced teaching laboratory of Sun equipment specifically for the AAJC program. The contribution by Sun of equipment for this laboratory will presumably be an item for discussion. We believe the relative amounts of use of the two laboratories for Java purposes will meet the 50% criterion.

With regard to the qualification of instructors, as mentioned above we would not make this part of a contract, but we do vouch for our outstanding teaching staff. As it happens, at least one PIC Java instructor and three CDI staff are interested in completing the certification.

The choice of instructional materials is in the province of the CDI, Program in Computing, and the instructors, rather than being part of a

contract with Sun Microsystems. Our instructors hope to learn more about the content of the materials available from Sun Microsystems, so that they can make an informed choice.

We assume that any press releases and other publicity will contain only language mutually agreed to by Sun and UCLA/CDI. As in the Kent press release, to us the word “Center” appears more appropriate than “Campus”, because the CDI is already a center and because we should not seem by default to imply the participation of the Computer Science Department until such time as they choose to participate in the AAJC.

We understand that there are additional contractual conditions regarding the use of the AAJC logo and similar matters; these should present no problem.

We look forward to Sun’s acceptance of this application and to further convergence on details, as appropriate. Final approval by UCLA of course rests with the UCLA Administration.

Sincerely,

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