

To: Jeffrey Epstein[jeevacation@gmail.com]
From: bengoertzel [REDACTED] on behalf of Ben Goertzel [REDACTED]
Sent: Wed 1/20/2010 6:01:17 AM
Subject: Re: Happy Birthday!! .. etc. ;)

One more thing .. your "high school teacher recommendation letter" analogy is not apropos. Those guys would write me **great** job recommendation letters if I asked them. That's a different issue.
They think I'm a brilliant guy, but they aren't going to endorse somebody *else's* AGI project as being the secret sauce, since they of course are wedded to the (rather different) ideas underlying their own work...

On Wed, Jan 20, 2010 at 1:38 PM, Ben Goertzel [REDACTED] wrote:
> Maybe I should wait till after your birthday to pursue the AI
> discussion, but it's fresh in my mind now so I'll send this email now
> ... if you don't feel like reading it on your birthday you'll wait ;-)
> ...
>
> ...
>
> Seriously, my view is
>
> -- those letters show that, in the view of some prestigious and rather
> conservative AI profs, this is not a bogus project. It's a real,
> solid research project ... it's good AI research
>
> -- whether the project will lay the golden egg, those profs did not
> have the info to judge. And unless someone pays them a bunch of \$\$ to
> study my project carefully, they are not going to pay enough attention
> to gather enough info to judge
>
> How **I** think you should look at this is: "if Ben has even a 5%
> chance of success, it's worth the \$\$, because the upside potential is
> TREMENDOUS"
>
> And I think you SHOULD consider it to have a 5% chance of success ...
greater...
>
> The fact that these AI profs think it's interesting but aren't
> convinced of its transformative potential, doesn't mean anything
> bad... if you think so, you don't understand academics ;-p
>
> If the \$\$ is an issue for you, I can do this for \$500K/year here in
> China, using some of my Brazilian team as well.
>
> \$1.5M for the first true breakthrough in AI history, and a big step
> toward the Singularity ;-) ... it's a lot of \$\$ to most people, but
> not much to you. What else are you donating to that has the same
> potential? The labs you've funded at Harvard and MIT and Stanford are
> good labs, but they're not going to change the world.... My project
> will, if someone with \$\$ and vision will fund it...
>
> But, you already know what I think and feel.... I'm not a salesman;
> and I don't really know how else to convince you, except to somehow
> build the damn thing on somebody else's dollar, and then along with
> everyone else you'll see in retrospect that I actually wasn't full of
> shit ;p ...
>
>
>

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>
> On Wed, Jan 20, 2010 at 1:30 PM, Ben Goertzel [REDACTED] wrote:
> Oh, by the way, I was so concerned about my AI project I didn't notice
> you mentioned your birthday in the chat...
>
>> Happy birthday!! ;-)
>
>> Now if you want to have 100000 more birthdays you should fund my AI
> project so we can create a thinking machine that will solve the
> problem of mortality!!! ;-D
>
>> ben
>>
>>
>>
>>
>> --
>> Ben Goertzel, PhD
>> CEO, Novamente LLC and Biomind LLC
>> Director of Research, Singularity Institute for AI
>> External Research Professor, Xiamen University, China
>> [REDACTED]
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>> "I have a deep nostalgia for the future." -- Max More
>>
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> --
> Ben Goertzel, PhD
> CEO, Novamente LLC and Biomind LLC
> Director of Research, Singularity Institute for AI
> External Research Professor, Xiamen University, China
> [REDACTED]
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Ben Goertzel, PhD
CEO, Novamente LLC and Biomind LLC
Director of Research, Singularity Institute for AI
External Research Professor, Xiamen University, China
[REDACTED]

"I have a deep nostalgia for the future." -- Max More