



Dr. Ken Kennedy
John Doerr Professor-Computational Engineering
Director, Center for High Performance Software Research
Rice University

8/31/01

Dear Professor Kennedy,

Sun Microsystems is very excited to express our support for your project to create a Center for Grid Application Development Software (CGrADS). As you know, Sun is very interested in distributed resource management via grids, and has invested heavily in middleware such as Sun Grid Engine. Sun fully expects that grid technologies will rapidly change the way that IT is managed and delivered over the "advanced web." Sun's strategy is to contribute to the grid development community with open technologies and standards such as Grid Engine, JINI, and JXTA, and are continuously examining ways to provide richer products and solutions to our customers. To facilitate this we are actively seeking partners who will advance the state of the art in grids using open software and standards through our Centers of Excellence program.

One huge gap that I see in the current grid environments are lack of tools for effectively programming applications to make efficient use of grid resources. Your effort to create development tools for programming in the grid environment will fill a very important need in the community. As you may know, we currently have a Center of Excellence agreement in place with the San Diego Supercomputer Center to help develop integrated grid portals. Your project would complement their efforts, and I hope to see a proposal from Rice for a Sun Center of Excellence if your project is funded. Sun heartily endorses your efforts and I look forward to seeing this project and collaboration underway.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Brian".

Brian Hammond, Ph.D.
Business Development Manager for Grid Computing
Global Education and Research LOB
Sun Microsystems, Inc.