



January 12, 2001

To Whom It May Concern:

I am delighted to endorse this proposal to create, disseminate, and evaluate a multi-user virtual environment for introductory computer science education, with semi-automated assessment.

Valley City State University provides notebook computers to all faculty and students, with extensive classroom renovations and equipment. Faculty and students use computers any time, any where. This is an ideal environment for the development of technology-based teaching, learning, and assessment. Our partners at United Tribes Technical College do not have as much access to technology, but they and nearly all colleges share our need for assistance in extending the reach of the limited number of computer science professors available to us.

This program has the potential to engage learners of almost any age at home, at work, or in a school setting, with less faculty monitoring than usual. It may thereby increase the number of people qualified to pursue either entry-level programming positions or full-scale computer science degrees. As a university that endorses both customized learning and careers in information technology, we are proud to support this proposal and urge your favorable consideration.

Sincerely yours,

  
Ellen-Earle Chaffee  
President

101 College Street SW

Valley City, ND 58072

(701) 845-7100

FAX: (701) 845-7110

Toll Free: 1-800-532-8641

E-Mail: [Ellen\\_Chaffee@mail.vcsu.nodak.edu](mailto:Ellen_Chaffee@mail.vcsu.nodak.edu)

[www.vcsu.nodak.edu](http://www.vcsu.nodak.edu)