Unisys Grant Funds Burroughs Digitization

The Unisys Corporation has awarded CBI a $24,000 grant to prepare photographs from the Burroughs Corporation Collection for digitizing and publication on the World Wide Web.

The collection of prints, negatives, and slides, donated by Unisys in 1991, is among CBI's richest and most voluminous holdings.

Although the photographic collection is organized and available to users, its depth is difficult to understand when actually visiting CBI's reading room. Since receiving the collection, CBI staff has wanted to make parts of it available on the Internet.

CBI has lacked the resources to select images from the large collection and describe each individual image sufficiently for making it available on the Web.

With the Unisys grant, a project archivist will be hired to target those images that will receive the most use, e.g. the pre-1920 images, a representation of each Burroughs' product, the ElectroData collection, and a sample from the main photo collection (which already has some descriptive data).

The images will then be digitized to archival specifications and published on the Web. CBI will be able to put fragile, original photographic images (such as the pre-1920 prints) in cold storage, which will considerably extend their life.

CBI is grateful to the Unisys Corporation for its continued support of CBI's archival collection.

Leslie Berlin Named 1989-99 Tomash Fellow

Leslie Berlin of Stanford University has been selected as the Erwin and Adelle Tomash Fellow of the Charles Babbage Institute for 1998-1999. Ms. Berlin is a Ph.D. candidate in History, where she is studying the history of Silicon Valley.

Her dissertation project is "Robert Noyce and the Making of Silicon Valley, 1956-1990." Noyce, co-inventor of the integrated circuit, founder of Fairchild Semiconductor and Intel, venture capitalist, and lobbyist for the electronics industry, exemplifies the critical roles of invention, business, capital, and government have played in the flourishing of the microelectronics industry in the Santa Clara Valley.

Leslie's dissertation advisors include David M. Kennedy, a leading historian of twentieth-century American politics and economics, and Timothy Lenoir in the history of technology. She is a former executive speechwriter and annual report editor for a Fortune-500 company. She has also written about technology for publications targeting the non-technical business executive. She lives in Palo Alto with her husband and son.

The Erwin and Adelle Tomash Fellowship is named in honor of the founders of the Charles Babbage Foundation and the Charles Babbage Institute. Fellowships carry a stipend of $1000 per month in addition to an allowance for research expenses.

Minnesota Library Access Center Seeks $12 Million Endowment

CBI's future home, the new state-of-the-art Minnesota Library Access Center under construction on the West Bank of the University of Minnesota's Twin Cities Campus, is seeking a $12 million endowment to preserve, maintain, and expand the research collections housed there, as well as to provide the specialized services for students and scholars.

The new library will make research materials highly visible and easily accessible. The building will contain three separate reading rooms, rooms for...
Europeans Fete Contributions to Computing

The International Charity Foundation for History and Development of Computer Science and Technique (ICF CST), has announced a symposium on "Computers in Europe: Past, Present, and Future," in Kiev, Ukraine, October 6-8, 1998.

This symposium will encompass the contribution of Europeans such as Charles Babbage, Konrad Zuse, Alan Turing, Maurice Wilkes, and Sergei Lebedev to computer technology, computing's impact on science and technology, medicine, business, education, artificial intelligence, games, and information retrieval, and the evolution of the computer industry in Europe.

For further information, contact Mrs. Malashok, Ukraine 252034 Kiev, Vladimirskaya Street 45a, House of Scientists, IFC CST. Tel: +380442255026, tel./fax: +380442255185. E-mail: icf cst@icf cst.freenet.kiev.ua

Recent Publications


CBI Seeks Associate Director

The Charles Babbage Institute seeks an Associate Director with a Ph.D. in the History of Science or Technology, or closely related fields (e.g. science and technology studies).

The associate director will share responsibility for the programmatic activities of the institute, e.g. historical research, dissemination of information pertaining to the field of history of computing, participating in related professional societies, budget preparation, research direction, and editing the CBI Newsletter.

Electronic publication and administrative experience is desirable. A demonstrated ability to work with academic and administrative colleagues, and a varied clientele efficiently, effectively, and cooperatively is required. The position is an annual, renewable academic administrative post.

Applications should be submitted by June 1, 1998 to:

Robert W. Seidel
Charles Babbage Institute
103 Walter Library
University of Minnesota
Minneapolis, MN 55455

The University of Minnesota is an equal opportunity educator and employer.
Thanks to
Friends of CBI

CBI acknowledges the following individuals and organizations for their support of CBI's programs through their membership in the 1998 CBI Friends Program.

We invite our readers to join them by becoming a "Friend of CBI." Information about the program can be found in the Fall Newsletter or by contacting the Institute.

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safes and secure repository for important collections the University will provide an important service to the citizens of Minnesota, and become a world center for research and study.

For additional information about the Library endowment campaign, please contact:

Gerald B. Fischer, President
University of Minnesota Foundation
1300 South Second Street, Suite 200
Minneapolis, MN 55455-1029
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Manchester Celebrates Birth of "Baby"

by Hilary Kahn
Department of Computer Science,
University of Manchester

In June 1998, the University of Manchester and the City of Manchester, UK, will celebrate the successful operation of the world's first stored-program electronic digital computer on June 21st, 1948.

The so-called “Baby” proved the effectiveness of the digital random-access storage system designed at the University of Manchester by Professor F.C. Williams and Tom Kilburn. It also showed that a computer program could be stored in the system.

From this small-scale Experimental Machine, the Manchester Mark I, which was being used for computation in scientific research in the University by 1949, was designed and built. The Mark I was in turn the basis of the Ferranti Mark I, an early general-purpose computer, with the first commercially available machine delivered in February 1951.

The University celebrations include a Launch Event to be held at Manchester’s prestigious Bridgewater Hall on June 17th 1998, eleven technical academic conferences, schools events and an open day. All these events take place in the week June 15th –21st. In addition, a rebuilt version of the Baby will be on display in action at the Museum of Science and Industry in Manchester.