

FAX: 415-643-5264

To: Armen Der Kiureghian
From: Alexander Glockner
Date: 9 October 1991
Re: Email connection via Berkeley or UCSD

Armen,

Mihran has asked about the possibility of using the AT&T lines (coming soon) into AUA to dial the US directly and transmit/receive email over those lines.

I am reasonably sure that this is possible and that it would make a good primary email system, using ArmRCADe (the third-party system from which you received email from me on 7 October -- see below) and its Internet connection as a second path for redundancy or backup purposes. Mihran asked me to tell you what AUA needs to establish email over the AT&T lines; you may have to make "more than a few" phone calls to arrange it.

Many companies contract with a major Internet site to route email through that site. Rather than keep a constant connection to the Internet, these companies batch their outgoing email during a day, call the major site at night, ask the major site to send out the day's email, collect the incoming email from the major site, disconnect, and then locally distribute the email around the company.

We want to do this exactly, I believe, and the ideal "major site"s for us to consider are Berkeley and UC San Diego:

- 1) because they are UC and should do it cheap!
- 2) because they can give us the technical advice to select and install the proper modems and software,
- and 3) because both are Internet hubs -- for the Bay Area and Southern California, respectively. This makes fast, reliable delivery of email more likely.

Our email addresses would (I believe) look something like:

agbaban%aua@berkeley.edu

or
aua!agbaban@berkeley.edu

(if AUA chose to connect via Berkeley, that is).

I do not know who is the first person that you should call in order for AUA to get this connection. You will certainly have to talk to the head of the Berkeley (and UCSD if necessary) campus computing staff, but you may want to first talk to the UC offices in Oakland -- there must be a UC Head of Computing or someone such for Bill Frazer to introduce you to.

I am sure that if you tell them what I am writing here, they'll understand what we want, correct any of my misconceptions, and then tell us what they can do for us.

Alex

p.s. ArmRCADe is an Internet connection supported in part by the Armenian National Service for Seismic Protection ("the seismic institute") in Yerevan. There is no direct connection to Mihran (or anyone else) until the Berkeley (or UCSD) connection is established, at which time we can assign separate accounts.

p.p.s. "Numerical Recipes in FORTRAN" is OK with me, but we'll need another copy (or three) to give to the AUA library.

sh