Conference on Axiom

The City College of New York, Convent Avenue at 138th Street, New York

There will be a conference on Axiom on April 22, 2005 at the City College of New York. The main focus of the conference will be to demonstrate the power and scope of Axiom to a general scientific audience. The conference is being hosted by CAISS, the Center for Algorithms and Interactive Scientific Software. CAISS has been active in group-theoretical research, seminars in group theory, the development of software for infinite groups, statistics and the possible use of finitely presented groups in secure electronic communication, storage, universal passwords and for preventing identity theft. Timothy Daly, a Senior Research Scientist at CAISS and the Computer Science Department of CCNY, has been heavily involved in the development of AXIOM over many years.

Axiom, developed by IBM and released as open source software by NAG, has now been rebuilt by many developers into its original form together with a new version for Windows. Preceding the conference, on April 21st, there will be a "sprint" day devoted to defining future directions and a marathon programming session in the CAISS Open Source Software Lab. Everyone is encouraged to participate. Help will be available for new developers.

The Acting Dean of Engineering, Joe Barba, the Dean of Science, Maria Tamargo, the Provost of City College, Zeev Dagan and the Chancellor of the City University of New York, Dr. Matthew Goldstein are sponsoring the conference. Additional funds have been provided by the National Science Foundation. We hope to get further funding from the NSA in which case we will be able to provide support for a number of graduate and postdoctoral students as well as other suitably qualified undergraduates.

Details of the talks on April 22nd and the get-together on April 21 will be posted on the CAISS web-site, `www.caissny.org`, in the next few weeks. We expect that there will be 5 main talks on April 22, designed in part for a general audience and that the conference will be of great general interest that goes beyond Axiom itself.

Anyone interested in attending should email Bernice Ravitz: `bernice@rio.sci.ccny.cuny.edu`.

Organizers; Baumslag, Daly, Ostheimer, Ravitz, Sit, Troeger.