

246-7501

April 20, 1976

Dr. Robert Noyce
Chairman
Intel Corporation
3065 Bowers Avenue
Santa Clara, California 95051

Dear Bob,

I called you just now to see if it would be convenient to make an appointment to see you. Since I understand you will be away until next month, I thought I might just as well drop you a brief line in anticipation.

The main thing I would like to have an opportunity to discuss with you is how to get some forward motion on the development of the next generation of computer technology: the very highly parallel machines with 10^4 to 10^6 or more processors, which I believe we agree are necessary to begin to emulate some of the more sophisticated analytical functions exhibited by animal and human brains. I am hardly the one to try to lay out a detailed architecture, but I believe that our work on DENDRAL furnishes us with some very specific and important requirements for such systems.

Some time ago we had some discussion about the possibility of my joining the board of Intel. As you know, I had to decline: in some conflict about such an interesting and attractive proposition. I told you then that there was a problem of available time and that a year or two hence that might be not quite so pressing. Partly on account of some amelioration along those lines, and partly on account of the sense of urgency that I now feel about the multi-processors project, it might now be somewhat more propitious as far as I am concerned than it was previously. However, I can well understand that many circumstances may have changed and I certainly do not want to press you on this issues if it is no longer of current interest to you or the board.

In any event, I hope we might be able to get together to discuss at least item one of this agenda and I hope we might be able to get together on the phone early in May to try to see if we can find some mutually convenient time.

Sincerely yours,

Joshua Lederberg
Professor of Genetics

JL/rr

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proposals by
AI ...*