Dear X,

I am passing your letter about the China project on to Dr. E.H. Shortliffe (Dept. of Medicine), my co-Principal Investigator on the SUMEX grant. He can make the final decision on this.

My own reaction is that with all the activities SUMEX has going, it will be difficult to generate much enthusiasm and energy for this new and worthy one. But I will let Shortliffe decide.

Sincerely yours,
Edward Fligner

cc: E.H. Shortliffe
September 10, 1981

Prof. Edward A. Feigenbaum
Chairman, Department of Computer Science
Margaret Jacks Hall, Room 216
Stanford University

Dear Professor Feigenbaum:

I am currently exploring the possibility of establishing computer communication between the medical research facilities in the People's Republic of China and Stanford Medical Center (or other medical centers in the United States). As I understand you are the Principal Investigator of the SUMEX-AIM project and have special interests in computer-aided clinical decision making, resource sharing and computer communication networks, I wonder if you or your colleagues would be interested in such an undertaking, or, if possible, advise me as to whom I should contact.

My fact-finding task will be part of a proposed project of Professor John Lewis, Director of the Northeast Asia-United States Forum on International Policy, and a group of scientists, such as Paul Basch, Carl Djerassi, Henry Kaplan and others, who are interested in establishing joint research ties with China in research on cancer, schistosomiasis and birth control. The establishment of computer communication and shared database resources between the medical research centers of the two nations will not only greatly facilitate research in those areas, but also pave the way for greater joint research undertakings between the scientists of both countries.

I would be most thankful if you could advise me as to whether there are any existing application projects in the SUMEX resource facility here at Stanford which could form the basis of the above proposal, and, if so, who can provide me with more specific information with regard to policy matter and technical requirements.

Thank you.

Cordially yours,

Roy Cheng Tsung