

INTERDEPARTMENTAL

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY CAMBRIDGE, MASS. 02139

from the office of

To: M. Dertouzos
J. Moses

From: J. Saltzer

Date: May 29, 1975

Subject: Proposed name for Project MAC

1. I like the idea of a name change for the reasons you suggested, and because the name "MAC" is inseparably connected in some minds with CTSS and Multics. (Like PRIME at Berkeley, STAR at UCLA, and ALOHA at Hawaii, the name MAC induces an obsolete image.) Code words need frequent change.
2. I would therefore go one step further and propose specifically that the name "MAC" not be part of a new name. For a while, stationary can say "Formerly Project MAC", or something.
3. Any name should be chosen both to stand by itself and to be concatenated with the name of M.I.T., as in "M.I.T. Project MAC", or "The M.I.T. Center for Space Research", for outside identification.
4. The abbreviation should be given some consideration as
 - a. non-obscene
 - b. distinct from the abbreviation of other, possibly similar labs.
 - c. interesting
5. With respect to considerations two and three, your two prime candidates appear less desirable. Similarly, the first alternate suggestion (MAC Laboratory) would seem less desirable.
6. After permuting the words "Research", "Laboratory" (or "Center"), "Computer Science", "and Engineering", for a while, I conclude that my favorite is
"Computer Science Research Center"

MASSACHUSETTS
INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY



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MAY 29 1975

J. H. SALTZER

PROJECT MAC
M.L. Dertouzos, Director
J. Moses, Associate Director

Telephone: (617) 253-2145

May 20, 1975

MEMORANDUM

TO: Project MAC Members

FROM: M. L. Dertouzos *MLD*
J. Moses *JM*

SUBJECT: Proposed Name Change for the Project

It has recently been suggested that Project MAC consider changing its name. Some feel that the name is misleading since

1. We are no longer a monolithic project, but are doing computer science research in a wide variety of areas.
2. The word "project" conveys the notion of a temporary ad hoc effort whereas it appears that we have been and will be around for a while.

On the basis of discussions held so far, the prime candidates for the new name are:

MAC Laboratory for Computer Science
MAC Center for Computer Science

Other names have been suggested as well. Some of these are:

MAC Laboratory
Center for Computer Science Research
Research Laboratory for Computer Science

Please indicate your choice for a new name for MAC on the enclosed ballot.

MLD:JM:cpf

SURVEY OF MAC MEMBERS REGARDING NAME CHANGE
FOR PROJECT MAC

I favor

MAC Laboratory for Computer Science

MAC Center for Computer Science

I am in favor of the following alternate name:

I am opposed to a name change because:

Date _____ Name _____

NOTE: Fold ballot, staple and drop in interdepartmental mailbox.