

## Binzhang Fu

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发件人: Li Hua <lihua@ict.ac.cn>  
发送时间: 2013年12月4日星期三 12:14  
收件人: Binzhang Fu  
抄送: Zhou Mengqi; Feng Jinjun; Frank Zhao  
主题: Re: Milestones in China - abacus

Dear Dr. Fu,

as we have discussed before, we fully support ICT's application of Abacus from China as IEEE milestone, and any further help you need in the process please feel free to let me know.

- Hua Li  
chair  
IEEE Beijing Section

----- Original Message -----

**From:** [Binzhang Fu](#)  
**To:** 'Li Hua'  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 04, 2013 11:49 AM  
**Subject:** 答复: Milestones in China - abacus

李老师, 您好:

IEEE要求section领导的支持, 所以需要您写一份英文的Email给我。

“Please attach a letter or email from the appropriate Section Chair supporting the Milestone application.”

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发件人: Li Hua [mailto:lihua@ict.ac.cn]  
发送时间: 2013年11月19日 9:14  
收件人: Binzhang Fu; 'Frank Zhao'; [yf@ict.ac.cn](mailto:yf@ict.ac.cn)  
主题: Re: Milestones in China - abacus

请所里出具一个说明, 70字的文字应当准备一个。

- 李华

----- Original Message -----

**From:** [Binzhang Fu](#)  
**To:** 'Frank Zhao'; 'Hua Li'; [yf@ict.ac.cn](mailto:yf@ict.ac.cn)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 19, 2013 1:27 AM  
**Subject:** 答复: Milestones in China - abacus

各位老师, 你们好:

周末我们找到了李约翰博士的《Science & Civilisation in China》第三卷的中文版, 根据该书对算盘历史的论述, 我们修改了申请书中的相应内容。

关于提交申请, 我已经注册账户, 但是我目前没有以下两个材料:

1) 计算所同意放置铜牌的书面文件 (英文); (杨老师: 这个材料您看应该怎么弄?)

2) citation(刻在铜牌上的文字, 不超过70个单词) (这个citation, 我们这次提交之后还可以修改吗? 如果可以修改, 那我就先提交一个版本。)

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发件人: Frank Zhao [<mailto:frank.zhao@vip.163.com>]  
发送时间: 2013年11月14日 16:19  
收件人: Hua Li; 付斌章; [yf@ict.ac.cn](mailto:yf@ict.ac.cn)  
主题: Re: Milestones in China - abacus

李老师, 付老师,  
刚才与华宁讨论这个事情, 他的意见是: 因时间关系, 最好能早些正式提交, 有问题提交后再议, 以加快进程。  
祝好!  
Frank

**From:** [Hua Li](#)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 12, 2013 12:06 AM  
**To:** [付斌章](#); [frank.zhao@vip.163.com](mailto:frank.zhao@vip.163.com); [yf@ict.ac.cn](mailto:yf@ict.ac.cn)  
**Subject:** Re: Re: Milestones in China - abacus

中国珠算协会可否提供支持?

----- Original Message -----

**From:** [付斌章](#)  
**To:** [frank.zhao@vip.163.com](mailto:frank.zhao@vip.163.com); [lihua@ict.ac.cn](mailto:lihua@ict.ac.cn); [yf@ict.ac.cn](mailto:yf@ict.ac.cn)  
**Sent:** Monday, November 11, 2013 10:52 PM  
**Subject:** Re: Re: Milestones in China - abacus

Robert提的这个问题正好打在我们的7寸上了, 关于算盘的真正起源我们确实没有找到有力的证据不知道几位老师是否认识研究这方面历史的专业人士? 我们可以去请教一下

-----原始邮件-----

发件人: "Robert Colburn" <[r.colburn@ieee.org](mailto:r.colburn@ieee.org)>  
发送时间: 2013年11月11日 星期一  
收件人: "Frank Zhao" <[frank.zhao@vip.163.com](mailto:frank.zhao@vip.163.com)>  
抄送: "Michael Geselowitz" <[m.geselowitz@ieee.org](mailto:m.geselowitz@ieee.org)>, "Ning Hua" <[n.hua@ieee.org](mailto:n.hua@ieee.org)>, "John Vardalas" <[j.vardalas@ieee.org](mailto:j.vardalas@ieee.org)>, "Nathan Brewer" <[n.w.brewer@ieee.org](mailto:n.w.brewer@ieee.org)>, "Li Hua" <[lihua@ict.ac.cn](mailto:lihua@ict.ac.cn)>, "Binzhang Fu" <[fubinzhang@ict.ac.cn](mailto:fubinzhang@ict.ac.cn)>  
主题: Re: Milestones in China - abacus

Dear Frank,

Many thanks for the draft of the proposal for the abacus milestone. It is a good beginning. Here are some suggestions for expanding it:

The first thing is that it needs to document clearly that it was indeed a Chinese invention (and not Sumerian, Babylonian or Ancient Egyptian). Herodotus refers to the Ancient Egyptians using something which might have been an abacus, and notes the differences between the way the Egyptians and the Greeks used it. Because Roman abacuses appear circa 300 BC, scholarly citations showing the use of an abacus prior to 1200 AD in China will need to be added to the proposal. (A web site is not a scholarly source.) There are several scholarly histories of mathematics which may provide the support needed.

Once the priority of the abacus in China is demonstrated, a brief history of how it spread to the rest of the world (e.g. via the Babylonians, Egyptians, Arabs, etc.) should be included in the proposal, which will show its world-wide importance.

best regards,  
Robert

On Mon, Nov 11, 2013 at 6:09 AM, Frank Zhao <[frank.zhao@vip.163.com](mailto:frank.zhao@vip.163.com)> wrote:

Dear Robert,

Attached is the initial proposal for abacus, prepared by IEEE Beijing Section volunteers, could you help take a look before they submit it online? Your comments and suggestions will be greatly appreciated.

thanks!

Frank

Frank Zhao, China Product Development Manager  
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