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Rutherford Appleton Laboratory

IPSE 2.5 May Report - C.P. Wadsworth, 4th June 1986

1. Overview

Technical work during May has been dominated by revision of the
Formal Reasoning concepts paper (FRcp) and further discussions
with project staff at MU. Recruitment of two RAs to the project
at RAL is proceeding. Offers of appointment and signature of the
Collaboration Agreement cannot be done until RAL grant is offi-
cially announced.

2. Staffing

Chris Wadsworth is the one person on the project at RAL to date,
approximately 80% during May. Start date for Brian Ritchie is
confirmed as 1/8/86. Advertisements for two RAs appeared in the
press during May. Closing date for applications is 6/6/86. In-
terviews will be held after CPW returns from leave.

N.B. CPW will be on leave from end 19/6/86, returning 7/7/86.

3. CPW Activities

WP2.3.1: Further iteration of FRcp with MU (CBJ, PAL)
                - 2 visits (3 days, 1 day) to MU during May

WP2.3.2, 2.3.3:
            Continuing discussions with ipse staff at MU
              - all day meeting held 8/5, partic discussions about
                variable binding mechanisms [cf. draft by Jen Cheng]

Praxis work (M Ould, C Roberts):
            Two meetings (1/2 day at MU with CBJ+others, 3/4 day at RAL)
            re- formal reasoning and process model

Management:
    - Refinement of joint plans with MU, input to MKT for Project Plan
    - Informed SERC admin to expect Collaboration Agreement for signature
      shortly, confirmed who will actually sign for RAL

Meetings, Conferences:
    - IPSE 2.5 ORB, PRB, and TRB (1 day each)
    - Course on Domain Theory by G Plotkin & C Stirling, Edinburgh (2 days)
            (Tutor for course, joint with Stirling and Plotkin)

Visitors to RAL:
   - M van Harmalen (MU): MMI discussions with Tony Williams, RAL (1 day)
   - M Ould, C Roberts (Praxis): see above (3/4 day)

Documents issued:
   - draft 1.3 of FRcp (with CBJ)

4. Exceptions

Project documents, EMail:
   - still appear not to receive some notices, lists, docs
     mentioned as circulated to all in PRB/ORB/TRB minutes
   - problem appears to be EMail address for RAL missing or wrong
     in project database, asked Alan Spreadbury (by EMail) to check
   - reliability of X25 much improved during May

Announcement of RAL grant:
   - still not through yet
   - may delay offers of appointment for RAs if not received
     by time interviews held (likely to be early July)
   - SERC admin cannot sign Collaboration Agreement until clearance
     is given (by SERC IT Directorate) for grant to be announced

Now 7 months since the RG2 left my desk!