



November 1, 2002

Professor Charles F. Zukoski
Vice Chancellor for Research
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
420 Swanlund Administration Building, MC-304
601 East John Street
Champaign, Illinois 61820

Dear Professor Zukoski:

As Vice President of Technology for All Media Guide (AMG), I am pleased to support Professor S. Downie in the creation of a test-bed database to be used in the testing of Music Information Retrieval systems. As a gesture of our support, we are interested in working towards an agreement whereby we will provide AMG metadata for research purposes to supplement the albums available in the database he is proposing.

Music analysis and information retrieval systems are currently in an embryonic state of development. Many researchers around the world are working independently on similar problems. The ability to compare research results against benchmark data from a standardized collection of real-world data will do much to speed the evolution of this fledgling industry. As both creators and users of information retrieval technologies, we see only benefits from competitive testing against such a collection.

Sincerely,

David Datta
Vice President of Technology
All Media Guide
www.allmediaguide.com

P.S.

See <http://www.allmediaguide.com/presskit.html> to see our company information