Chairman's AGM Report - Fortran Specialist Group.

Information on current Fortran 90 compilers and those supporting HPF are handled exclusively through the internet. Thanks to Miles Ellis, David Muxworthy and Mike Metcalf and others for their contributions. The plan was to have a Fortran Forum for informing users of the status of the Fortran 95 standard and Fortran 2000, get their views so they can be incorporated in the BSI position which is transmitted to the ISO WG5 meetings. Unfortunately, this has not been accomplished.

In 1996 we have set up a World Wide Web home page under the BCS Fortran Specialist Group. This links to information maintained by Miles Ellis on WG5 and other Fortran standards activities. You can navigate and obtain the latest on Fortran on-line via BCS Web pages. This is replacing the written material which used to be circulated to our members in the past. An e-mail list has also been set up for members to share information. To get on the mailing list send email to: bcs-fsg-request@mailbase.ac.uk. Many thanks to Miles for maintaining the files and also does the tracking.

I have written several articles, historical sketches, on Fortran mostly for PRIMEUR the new on-line Magazine on High Performance Computing. PRIMEUR is supported by ESPRIT funds, see enclosed leaflet.

The AGM meeting is to be used as a brainstorming exercise where ideas are discussed and agreed so that a programme for future activities is developed. I hope that you will come to this important meeting and put forward your ideas. If you can not attend the AGM please communicate your ideas, (suggestions) to the Chairman or any committee officer. This would ensure the relevance and usefulness of the Fortran group.

As this is my last AGM as Chair of the group, I would like to thank you all for your support during my tenure in the last five years. Your support and loyalty to the Fortran Group in the forthcoming year is crucial if the group is to survive. Fortran has a future and practitioners inputs are essential in identifying practical needs and helping the future development of the Fortran language.

Christopher Lazou
7th March 1997.