



Mr. Josh Greenberg  
Sloan Foundation  
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To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing in strong support of the Software Carpentry proposal led by Dr. Greg Wilson.

To work with collected data sets of increasing size and diversity, contemporary scientists can benefit greatly from computational tools. However, such tools carry a high learning curve, requiring fluency with computer science concepts and best practices. The "boot camps" and tutorials planned by Dr. Wilson and his collaborators provide a valuable on-ramp for a variety of scientists to learn these essential skills, and in the process provide a foundation for continued learning.

Already, Software Carpentry efforts have enabled more (and more ambitious) science. Continued support will extend and magnify this success. Towards this aim, I have offered to serve in an advisory role around web-based programming and interactive visualization. I am excited to collaborate with Dr. Wilson and his team to ensure that better data analysis and visualization tools are accessible to scientists.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeffrey Heer".

Jeffrey Heer

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### *About Me*

I am an Assistant Professor of Computer Science at Stanford University, where I help lead both the Human-Computer Interaction (HCI) and Visualization research groups. My group's research investigates the design of interactive tools for analyzing large, complex data sets. Our work has been recognized in a number of best paper and honorable mention awards in the leading conferences in HCI and Visualization. In 2009 I was named to MIT Technology Review's TR35 and I am the recipient of a 2012 Sloan Foundation Research Fellowship.