

Internationalization & Unicode Conference



SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

Keynote Speaker:

Thomas S. Mullaney - Associate Professor of Chinese History, Stanford University

Thomas S. Mullaney is Associate Professor of Chinese History at Stanford University, and Curator of the international exhibition, Radical Machines: Chinese in the Information Age.

He is the author of The Chinese Typewriter: A History (MIT Press 2017), Coming to Terms with the Nation: Ethnic Classification in Modern China (UC Press, 2010), and principal editor of Critical Han Studies: The History, Representation and Identity of China's Majority (UC Press, 2011). His writings have appeared in the Journal of Asian Studies, Technology & Culture, Aeon, Foreign Affairs, and Foreign Policy, and his work has been featured in the LA Times, The Atlantic, the BBC, and in invited lectures at Google, Microsoft, Adobe, and more. He holds a PhD from Columbia University.

His new book, The Chinese Typewriter, examines China's development of a modern, nonalphabetic information infrastructure encompassing telegraphy, typewriting, word processing, and computing. This project has received three major awards and fellowships, including the 2013 Usher Prize, a three-year National Science Foundation fellowship, and a Hellman Faculty Fellowship. The sequel to this work – The Chinese Computer: A Global History of the Information Age – will be released on MIT Press later, and will be featured in the Weatherhead Asian Series.

He also directs Digital Humanities Asia (DHAsia), a program at Stanford University focused on East, South, Southeast, and Inner/Central Asia. DHAsia was recently the recipient of the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Sawyer Seminar fellowship.

Speakers:

Dr. Adam Anderson - Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow in the Digital Humanities, UC Berkeley

Adam Anderson is a Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow in the Digital Humanities. His work brings together the fields of archaeology and computational linguistics to quantify the social and economic landscapes emerging during the late third to early second millennia in the ancient Near East. Collaborating with BPS @BerkeleyProsop to visualize early Assyrian and Sumerian social networks, Anderson's research focuses on tracking the flow people and the exchange of commodities in Bronze Age societies (2100-1800 B.C.). His dissertation, "The Old Assyrian Social Network," combines classical philological methods with natural language processing and social network analysis, to disambiguate the actors, cliques and groups found in a text corpus of 6,000 cuneiform tablets. His work shows how networks of internally related archives provide a means of mapping the overlapping data sets from ancient texts and modern archaeological records, to explain the hierarchical roles and positions of individuals and groups within a society.

Dr. Deborah Anderson - Technical Director, Unicode Consortium

Deborah Anderson heads the Script Encoding Initiative in the Department of Linguistics at UC Berkeley. She is the UC Berkeley representative to the Unicode Consortium and a liaison for Berkeley to ISO/IEC JTC1/SC2. Her work focuses on working to get eligible historic and modern minority scripts into Unicode. She spoke at IUC 40 and the Digital Humanities Conference in Krakow, Poland.

Past speaking engagements:

- Panel speaker, "How the Unicode Consortium Works (and How You Can Get Involved)," (with Lisa Moore, and John Emmons), Oct. 2015, IUC, Santa Clara
- "Character encoding in Unicode, transliteration, and the future of multilingual search", June 2015,
 American Library Association, San Francisco
- "Negotiating the issues of encoding and producing traditional scripts on computers: Working with Unicode" (with Stephen Morey), July 2015, DH2015, Sydney

Adam Asnes - CEO, Lingoport

Adam Asnes is CEO of Lingoport, developers of the Lingoport Suite, including Globalyzer internationalization software, and providing extensive internationalization implementation services. At Lingoport, he has worked with diverse technology companies, ranging from Global 1000 firms to globally ambitious startups. He is a frequent speaker and writer on globalization technology as it affects businesses expanding their worldwide reach.

Abdoulaye Barry - Co-Inventor of ADLaM, Winden Jangen

Abdoulaye Barry has a BS in Financial Management from the University of Conakry and MS in Financial Analysis from Portland State University. After 10 years in the private sector working in various accounting and finance positions, he currently works in the Finance Rates and Audit Division of the Public Utility Commission of Oregon. He is passionate about education and development issues in Guinea and how they relate to language. He is also doing research on the different Fulani dialects and has written or translated books on grammar, religion, short stories and current topics.

Ibrahima Barry - Co-inventor of ADLaM, Winden Jangen

Ibrahima Barry holds BS in Civil Engineering and Mathematics from Portland State University and has worked as a teaching assistant for the University of Conakry and currently works for the United States Postal Service. He also works on the ADLaM alphabet, perfecting its style and design. He has written many books including a comprehensive grammar and orthography book for the Fulani language. This serves as a reference and a standard in unifying the different dialects of the Fulani language. He is also working on the first Fulani dictionary in the ADLaM alphabet.

Zibi Braniecki - Platform Engineer, Mozilla

Zibi Braniecki is a platform engineer at Mozilla working on internationalization and localization of Gecko and Firefox. Zibi is part of Mozilla's L10n Tech Team where he co-authors the new localization framework - Project Fluent. Zibi represents Mozilla at TC39 committee and is championing multiple ECMA402 proposals.

When not in front of the keyboard, he's playing competitive Ultimate Frisbee on the Polish National Team.

Daniel Bruhn - Software Engineer, i18n, PayPal

Daniel Bruhn is a software engineer in internationalization at PayPal, focused on i18n support in Java and JavaScript libraries. He is an escapee/deserter (depending on your perspective) from academia, having recently finished his doctoral dissertation on historical linguistic development in Nagaland.

Shane Carr - Software Engineer, Internationalization, Google, Inc.

Shane Carr is a software engineer at Google and a contributor to the International Components for Unicode (ICU) project. His work on ICU has focused on number formatting, spoof detection, and performance optimization. He led the effort to overhaul number formatting in ICU 60, improving performance and adding new features such as skeleton strings for decimal formatting.

Shane has previously presented at the 33rd International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML), the 2016 ArchHacks hackathon, and the 2015 Annual Meeting of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers (AIChE). He graduated in 2015 with an MS and BS in Computer Science and BS in Chemical Engineering summa cum laude from Washington University in St. Louis.

Pu Chen - Lead Engineer, Salesforce

Pu Chen is the lead globalization engineer working on Salesforce.com's next-gen tiered internationalization structure. Prior to joining Salesforce.com, Pu worked at the LG's Silicon Valley Lab, focusing on the WebOS Smart TV internationalization architecture, including font support and input methods. While at Oracle and Sun Microsystems, he worked on internationalization aspects of Solaris, JDK, and Java Enterprise Suite.

Last 3 speaking engagements:

- Intel SSG Insights: The Case for Internationalization
- March 2017 JavaOne Conference
- NetBeans January 2008

Lee Collins - Senior Internationalization Architect, Netflix, Inc.

Lee Collins is one of the Unicode founders and has worked in various areas of internationalization since 1984. He began his career as a software engineer at Xerox and continued as an engineer and manager at Apple for 23 years. He spent brief stints at Taligent and Ariba. He is currently a senior internationalization architect at Netflix.

Peter Constable - Senior Program Manager, Microsoft

Peter Constable is a Senior Program Manager in the Windows Graphics team at Microsoft, responsible for the DirectWrite text platform and the OpenType specification. In 14 years working at Microsoft, he has worked on various aspects of Windows internationalization. Peter serves as the Liaison officer between the Unicode Consortium and ISO committees for character coding (ISO 10646) and language coding (ISO 639).

Dr. Craig Cornelius - Engineer, Google, Inc.

Craig Cornelius, PhD, is part of Google's International Engineering team. He contributes to Google's language efforts and is especially interested in supporting communities of indigenous and endangered languages. Prior to joining Google, he did research on medical education at Stanford University, developed medical imaging applications in industry, and taught computer science and chemistry at the university level.

He also loves to bicycle.

Sharon Correll - Software Engineer, SIL International

In her 27 years with SIL International, Sharon implemented the core of the original Graphite system, a smart-font technology specifically intended to support at lesser-known languages. She has implemented Graphite support in fonts for a variety of scripts, including Devanagari, Arabic, Tai Viet, N'Ko and complex Roman and Cyrillic. Sharon has also worked as a member of the ScriptSource development team.

Previous speaking engagements have included presentations at IUC26, IUC28, and IUC39 and the Libre Graphics meetings in 2008.

Craig R. Cummings - Staff Consultant/Evangelist, Vmware

Craig Cummings has been working in the field of software globalization for over 25 years. Before his recent role at VMware, Craig worked with Informatica on big data internationalization and also worked at Zynga making games in a variety of languages including Arabic. Before that, at Yahoo! Inc., he helped drive corporate technical strategy for internationalization with a particular focus on Middle Eastern markets. Prior to that, Craig was with Oracle's Tools and Applications globalization teams where he worked closely with Sun's internationalization team to shape some of the pluggable locale, resource bundle, font, and supplementary character support in Java. Craig is in his second elected term as Vice-Chair of the Unicode Technical Committee (UTC) and ANSI INCITS L2 Committee Chair. The L2 committee primarily works to keep Unicode and corresponding International Standards Organization (ISO) standards synchronized.

Dr. Mark Davis - Chief Internationalization Architect, Google Inc.

Dr. Mark Davis co-founded the Unicode project and has been the president of the Unicode Consortium since its incorporation in 1991. He is one of the key technical contributors to the Unicode specifications.

Mark founded and was responsible for the overall architecture of ICU (the premier Unicode software internationalization library), and architected the core of the Java internationalization classes. He also founded and is the chair of the Unicode CLDR project, and is a co-author of BCP 47 "Tags for Identifying Languages" (RFC 4646 and RFC 4646), used for identifying languages in all XML and HTML documents.

Since the start of 2006, Mark has been working on software internationalization at Google, focusing on effective and secure use of Unicode (especially in the index and search pipeline), the software internationalization libraries (including ICU), stable international identifiers, Google+ internationalization, and extending Google's language support.

Jim DeLaHunt - Principal, Jim DeLaHunt & Associates

Jim DeLaHunt is a Vancouver, Canada-based software engineer and consultant in multilingual websites, and a seasoned software developer and manager. He is a founder of VanGLUG, the Vancouver Globalization and Localization User Group. He also contributes to numerous free software projects, including Joomla and Drupal. He is a regular Unicode conference participant. Earlier, he worked 16 years in Silicon Valley for Adobe Systems. Jim is a licensed paraglider and airplane pilot, and sings tenor with an opera company and a chorus in Vancouver. Before, he sang with Opera San José. You can contact Jim at http://jdlh.com/.

Past speaking engagements:

- IUC40-IUC31, plus some earlier IUCs
- VanDev and various Vancouver area developer meetings
- Founder, the Vancouver Globalization and Localization User Group (VanGLUG)

Nicholas Doiron - Consultant, GeoReactor

Nick is a full-stack web developer and mapmaker. In the past he has worked at One Laptop per Child, Code for America, the Museum of Modern Art, and the Asia Foundation.

Previously spoke about: OLPC+eBooks at Unicode Conference 2015, Arabic support at LibrePlanet, HTTPS+LetsEncrypt at PyCaribbean.

Dr. Martin Dürst - Professor, Aoyama Gakuin University

Dr. Martin J. Dürst is a Professor in the Department of Integrated Information Technology at Aoyama Gakuin University in Japan. Martin has been one of the main drivers of internationalization and the use of Unicode on the Web and on the Internet. He published the first proposals for domain name Internationalization and composite character normalization, and is the main author of the W3C Character Model and the IRI (Internationalized Resource Identifier) specification.

He has also been contributing to the implementation of the Ruby scripting language, mostly in the area of internationalization, since 2007. Martin teaches in Japanese and English, speaks fluent German, can get around in French, and studied Italian, Spanish, Russian, and Latin.

Daan van Esch - Technical Program Manager, Google, Inc.

Daan van Esch is a Technical Program Manager in the Speech & Keyboard group at Google in Mountain View, California. He's worked on internationalization in this group for about five years now, and his work has been focused around building data-driven machine-learning pipelines to bring the magic of language technology to users everywhere.

Behnam Esfahbod - Founder, Virgule Typeworks

Behnam Esfahbod is a software engineer in internationalization and founder of Virgule Typeworks, a firm focused on design and development of non-Latin fonts and text rendering. Behnam started his career as a

member of the FarsiWeb project in 2002, co-founded Sharif FarsiWeb, Inc. in 2003, lead a localization team with Mozilla project from 2002 to 2009,, and contributed to localization and internationalization of various open-source projects over the years. From 2006 to 2013, he was focused on development and deployment of Internationalized Domain Names, working with IRNIC ccTLD, ICANN IDN working groups, and the IETF. And from 2013 to 2017, Behnam co-lead the Unicode group at the Infrastructure team at Facebook, Inc.

Lorna Evans - Script Technologist, SIL International

Lorna Evans works for SIL International. She leads the Arabic script font development team. She has written a number of Unicode proposals for Latin, Cyrillic, Tifinagh and Arabic script characters. Lorna is also the Ethnologue scripts research editor. Lorna has a deep desire to enable smaller language communities to be able to write their language on computers and the web.

Lorna has previously spoken at IUC39, IUC31, IUC28, IUC26, and IUC20.

Claudia Galvan - Early Stage Innovation, Technical Advisor

Claudia Galvan has led software product development at Oracle, Adobe and Microsoft reaching billions of people around the world. In the last few years she has focused on helping startups in Silicon Valley launch products internationally. Claudia expertise expands from developing international business strategy to technical implementation.

Dr. Andrew Glass - Senior Program Manager, Microsoft

Andrew Glass is a program manager in the Windows and Devices Group at Microsoft. He has worked on text input and font shaping (Uniscribe) since 2008. He holds M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Washington, Department of Asian Languages and Literature. He authored the Unicode proposals for complex Kharosthi and Brahmi scripts together with Stefan Baums and has contributed numerous other proposals to improve support for other complex scripts. Prior to joining Microsoft in 2008 he taught at the University of Washington, University of Leiden, and Bukkyo University in Japan.

Herman Lookout - Elder Master Speaker of the Osage Language

Herman "Mogri" Lookout was Director of the Osage Nation Language Department since its inception by the Osage Tribal Council in 2004 until 2016. He has studied the language for over 40 years and works tirelessly toward preservation and revitalization of the language – teaching, mentoring and encouraging all who have a desire to learn. Since the creation of the Osage Nation Language Department he has developed the Osage Orthography with plans for Unicode inclusion. His goals for the language program include a book about the Osage language. Mr. Lookout, the son of full blood Osage parents whose first language was Osage, is regarded as an authority on Osage culture and traditions. He was Roadman of the Lookout Church and is currently Advisor on the Ilonshka. He and his wife Judi have been married 52 years.

Manikandan Ramalingam Kandaswamy - Senior Software Engineer, PayPal

Manikandan Ramalingam Kandaswamy is a senior software engineer at PayPal in the internationalization team, with many years of experience in developing i18n libraries for C++, Java, and JavaScript. He is extremely passionate about building products for different cultures and regions. He has deep experience with ICU, and most recently has been contributing to Globalize.

Norbert Lindenberg - Internationalization Solutions Developer and C*O, Lindenberg Software LLC

Norbert Lindenberg develops software internationalization solutions, currently focusing on fonts and keyboards for iOS. As an internationalization consultant, member of Ecma TC39, and contractor for Mozilla, he previously co-authored and edited the ECMAScript Internationalization API Specification, implemented the API in Firefox, and designed support for Unicode supplementary characters in JavaScript. Before that, he led internationalization projects at Yahoo!, Sun Microsystems, General Magic, and Apple Computer.

Steven Loomis - Software Engineer, IBM

Steven R. Loomis, a member of IBM's Global Foundations Technology Team for nearly 20 years, is the Technical Lead for the International Components for Unicode for C/C++ (ICU4C), IBM's primary representative to Unicode-TC and chair of the ULI-TC. He was a cofounder of the Unicode Common Locale Data Repository (CLDR) project, and develops and maintains its Survey Tool data collection application. Past speaking engagements include NodeSummit, JavaOne, the IUC conferences, the International Mac Users (IMUG), the Localization Certification Program of CSU Chico, as well as internal IBM events. His hobbies include Maltese language advocacy.

Benjamin Mackley - Brigham Young University

Ben Mackley is a developer by trade and an adventurer at heart. The mobile career allows him to travel and experience different cultures while working on projects like tabletninjas.com. Along with being co-creator at tabletninjas.com, he works with another crowdsourcing startup called Prendus that facilitates the creation, review, and distribution of online assessments. While product management is more of his forte, he keeps things simple by using full-stack Javascript when working as a developer.

Kamal Mansour - Linguistic Typographer, Monotype

Kamal's early education served to stimulate his interest in languages and alphabets, and later on, calligraphy and typography. His higher studies have included Computer Science, Linguistics, and Product Design. In his 21 years at Monotype, Kamal has been involved in the many challenges of typography and font development for many languages. During that time, he has also participated actively in various activities related to the Unicode Standard. His work has included OpenType implementations for Arabic, Latin, Thai, Khmer, Mongolian, Myanmar, Japanese, as well various Indian minority scripts. Recently, Kamal has contributed to the discussion of future changes for the OpenType Standard. Since 2006, he has served on the Board of Advisers of the Script Encoding Initiative of UC Berkeley. He has twice taught a linguistics course at Stanford University entitled "Writing Systems in the Digital Age". Since 2012, he has been a prime contributor to the Google Noto Font project which produces fonts for the many scripts of the world.

Mike McKenna - Globalization Strategist

Mike is the Internationalization Technology Product Owner at PayPal and is responsible for the next generation Globalization Framework for PayPal built on Node.js, as well as evangelizing Globalization First culture across PayPal, and providing G11n training and support to PayPal product teams.

Mike is a specialist and leader in globalization of software ranging from small systems to whole architectures with over two decades of internationalization experience. He is a licensed professional engineer with extensive experience consulting or leading globalization projects for a number Fortune 500 companies and has a background in global web design, e-commerce, application design, social games, database internals, distributed bibliographic systems, test engineering, global product management, and ethnographic research.

Mohamed Mohie - Advisory Software Engineer, Cairo Technology Development Center - IBM Egypt Mohamed graduated on 1999 from Faculty of Engineering, Cairo University, he also carries an IT Diploma form ITI, in addition to MSc. in biomedical Engineering from Cairo University. Mohamed have more than 15 years of experience working in the IT Field in requirements, design, development, and leading the Arabic support for IBM products and delivering services in the Enterprise modernization.

Katsuhiko Momoi - Staff Test Engineer, Google, Inc.

Kat is a Staff Test Engineer at Google. He joined Netscape in 1996, where he initially worked as I18n Evangelist, then as Principal I18n Software QA Engineer and as Mozilla Technology Evangelist. Since joining Google in 2005, he has been working as an I18n Consultant and a Test Engineer for a variety of web applications and platforms like Gmail, Google+, Calendar, Photos, Document, Android OS and apps, etc. He has presented papers at W3C and Unicode Conferences as well as other Industry conferences in Japan and the US. His other accomplishments include the Emoji proposal for Unicode 6 (with Google and Apple colleagues), for which he received the Bulldog Award from the Unicode Consortium. Kat is continuing to stay involved in emoji matters.

Muthu Nedumaran - Founder & CEO, Murasu Systems Sdn Bhd

Muthu Nedumaran, from Malaysia, has been working on input methods and fonts for over thirty years. He built the Sangam family of Indic and Indo-Chinese fonts, which are now part of iOS, Mac OS, and HTC's Android devices. His keyboards for Tamil text input were included in Mac OS 10.4. HTC's Sense UI for Android includes his input methods for all Indic and some Indo-Chinese languages. Muthu wrote his first transliterated input method in 1993 for Tamil as a keyboard hook for Windows called Murasu Anjal. Prior to this, people where just using the Latin script to exchanges email messages in Tamil. Since then, many others have also implemented Anjal in various operating systems. It has become the most widely used method for Tamil input across computers and mobile devices today.

Mihai Nita - I18n Sr. Software Engineer, Google, Inc.

Mihai Nita has been working in the localization/internationalization field for 19 years now, and still learning. He covers "everything internationalization related", from C/C++ to Java to web technologies, from desktop and client/server to mobile, the life, the universe and everything.

He started at a small localization company in Silicon Valley, where he completed projects large and small, for well-known or less-known companies. As I18N architect at Adobe he had a hand (and code) in Acrobat, Creative Suite, and Flash Player. He then helped Netflix move from an English-only company to Canada, Latin America, and part of Europe. For his community contributions he was awarded as Microsoft I18N MVP for 6 years in a raw.

Since 2013 Mihai has been working on internationalization at Google, focusing on the internationalization of JavaScript libraries, best internationalization practices, and added multilingual support to Android N.

Seigo Nonaka, Software Engineer, Google, Inc.

Seigo Nonaka is a software engineer at Google since 2011. He worked on Chrome and Chrome OS text input framework. He is currently working on improving the performance of Android TextView.

Nova Patch - Principal Engineer, Shutterstock

Nova Patch is a principal engineer on the UX Platform team at Shutterstock, specializing in internationalization, multilingual search, and building products that support the world's languages, writing systems, and cultures. Speaking experience includes the Internationalization & Unicode Conference, Open Source Bridge, AWS Loft, and OSCON.

Mark Pearson - Web Specialist, Osage Nation Language Department

Mark Pearson is a web specialist for the Osage Nation in Oklahoma, USA. He supports and develops tools for language education and is responsible for the implementation of Osage Unicode in technologies for the Osage Nation.

Addison Phillips - Globalization Architect, Amazon

Addison Phillips is the globalization architect for Amazon Lab126. He is currently the chair of the W3C Internationalization Working Group.

Roozbeh Pournader - Internationalization Engineer, Google, Inc.

Roozbeh Pournader has been working on internationalization since 1996, when he was in high school. He has contributed to various internationalization standards, is a member of the Unicode Technical and Editorial Committees and has received the Unicode Bulldog Award in 2009. He founded the Persian Wikipedia in 2003.

Since 2011, Roozbeh has worked as an Internationalization Engineer at Google, focusing on text encoding and rendering, fonts, and bidirectional text. He joined the Android Text team in late 2014.

Suresh Prasad - Senior Engineer, Uber Technologies

Suresh Prasad is currently a Senior Engineer at Uber. He has more than 11 years of experience building large scale distributed systems. At Uber, he has been working to build a scaleable localization and internationalization platform. Before Uber, he worked as a Senior Engineer at PayPal on foundation services for their mobile applications and at Yahoo on their data driving platforms.

Rohit Puri - Manager, Netflix, Inc.

Dr. Rohit Puri joined Netflix in January 2013. He is currently Engineering Manager, Cloud Media Systems at Netflix. The Cloud Media Systems team develops cloud-scalable systems and tools for ingestion and streaming of various audio, video and timed text media formats including IMF, QuickTime, MP4/DASH and W3C-TTML. The team builds and supports web-based micro-services that expose in-depth technical metadata associated with media assets in the Netflix catalog. Dr. Puri received the B.Tech. degree from the Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay, the M.S. degree from the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign, Urbana, and the Ph.D. degree from the University of California, Berkeley, all in electrical engineering. Prior to joining Netflix he worked at semiconductor companies PortalPlayer, Inc. and Nvidia, Inc., web-service companies RhythmNew Media, Inc., and TenHands, Inc., as well as systems companies Sony Electronics, Inc., and Cisco Systems Inc. in various software development and architecture roles for video-based products and systems.

Ramy Said - IT Specialist, IBM Egypt

Ramy Said is an Advisory Software Engineer at Cairo Technology Development Center (CTDC) - IBM Egypt. He holds a BSc. degree in Computer Science & Automatic Control Engineering from Alexandria University. He's been working at the Arabic Competence and Globalization Center of the CTDC since 2006, introducing and supporting bidirectional scripts in different IBM products such as RDz, HATS, Personal Communications, Host

On-Demand and Webfacing. He is now a member of Globalization Center of Competency (GCoC) team since June 2011, he provides advice and guidance to different customers and IBM labs regarding Arabic support in different products and technologies and contributes to many open source technologies implementing Arabic related features.

Elnaz Sarbar - Program Manager, Google, Inc.

Elnaz Sarbar is a Program Manager in the Speech & Keyboard group at Google in Mountain View, California. She's worked for a number of localization companies in the Bay Area and is now focusing on bringing smart keyboards to more users.

Markus Scherer - Software Engineer, Google, Inc.

Markus Scherer is a member of the Google software internationalization team, focusing on the effective use of Unicode and on the development and deployment of cross-product internationalization libraries. Previously, he was manager, tech lead and software engineer at IBM. He has been a major contributor to ICU since 1999 and designed and developed significant portions of the character conversion, bidi, normalization, Unicode properties, and collation functionality. Markus is an alumnus of the University of Kaiserslautern, Germany.

Moriel Schottlender - Software Engineer, WikiMedia Foundation

Moriel is a physicist-turned Software Engineer who speaks and thinks right-to-left. In 2013, she joined the Wikimedia Foundation as a Google Summer of Code intern, focusing on developing tools that enable right-to-left language support in their visual editor. She stayed, and is currently working in Wikimedia's Collaboration team, creating great Web interfaces that make right-to-left speakers happy.

Moriel has been speaking about right to left and open source since 2013. She has most recently given a lecture "Wait, ?tahW: The Twisted Road to Right-to-Left Language Support" at Linux.conf.au as well as a similar Tech Talk at the Wikimedia Foundation and a talk about Open Source initiatives and the Wikimedia Foundation projects at "She Codes" in Google Campus, Tel Aviv.

Daniela Semeco - President, Polyglotte Inc.

Daniela Semeco is a polyglot and an inventor born in Venezuela, who acquired her language skills during time spent in France, Germany, USA and Venezuela. Polyglotte Inc. is a benefit corporation facilitating the use of language through the PolyKeyboard.

Alolita Sharma - Principal Technologist, Amazon Web Services

Alolita wants to see core non-Latin languages fully represented on the Web. She believes the way forward depends on the adoption of open source and open standards like Unicode. Alolita is a board director of the Unicode Consortium which serves a vital role in language standardization and bridging the digital divide. She is also principal technologist enabling open source at Amazon Web Services. Previously, she headed internationalization, localization and NLP engineering teams at PayPal, Twitter, Wikipedia. She holds multiple degrees in Computer Science and mentors women engineers and advises startups.

Alolita's talks can be found at http://opensourcebuzz.technetra.com/my-talks-and-presentations/

Kaitlin "Ducky" Sherwood - Artist

Kaitlin Duck Sherwood is an artist who created _Rugzetta_, a mashup of Persian rugs and the Unicode standard. This is her latest in a series of artworks around writing systems, including other paintings and clothing decorated with glyphs. This led to research on the history of essentially all known writing systems. Stories from this research became 100 postings on the blog _Glyph of the Day_. When not doing glyph artwork, Sherwood is a software developer based in Vancouver BC, with particular interests in personal productivity. Sherwood has given numerous presentations on improving email productivity to corporate clients, a talk on map mashups for Web Directions North, an introduction to the film _Sita Sings the Blues_ for the VanCity Theatre, and a talk on programmer productivity for the Vancouver Software Developers' Meetup. (NB: _Rugzetta_ was mentioned in a lightning talk at IUC40. Sherwood's glyph shirts have also been seen at many Unicode conferences modeled by the beautiful and talented Jim DeLaHunt.)

Siyamed Sinir - Software Engineer, Google, Google Android Text Team

Technical lead at Android Text. Experience in Java, Android, Search, Online Shopping. Adore philosophy, drawing and nowadays particle physics. Sometimes a learning Padawan, sometimes a wandering Ronin.

Prof. Edward Stratford, Ph.D. - Brigham Young University

Edward Stratford is an Assistant Professor at BYU and a historian of the 19th century (BC!) Assyrian trade between northern Iraq and central Turkey. His work revolves around reconstructing the historical economy. He is director of the Old Assyrian Research Environment Project, and co-creator of tabeltninjas.com, a website to crowdsource the indexing of cuneiform tablet photos. His forthcoming book: A Year of Vengeance: Time, Narrative, and the Assyrian Trans-Taurus Trade in 1891 BC, deals with the discovery of Old Assyrian commercial time through narrative reconstruction. He is interested in critical Digital Humanities and rendering epistemologically consistent data models.

Andy Swan - Senior IU Engineer, Netflix Inc.

Andy Swan has over 20 years of experience in software development. His main focus has been on client side tool development. He has worked with Unicode since v2.0 of the standard, on projects for companies in US, Europe and Asia. At Netflix he works on tools for Localization and Quality Control where his main focus is on subtitles. This involves creating tools to display and edit text in the 20 languages Netflix supports for subtitles.

Luke Swartz, Product Manager, Google, Inc.

Originally from San Francisco, CA, Luke Swartz has a BS in Symbolic Systems and MS in Computer Science from Stanford University. After graduation, he served as a nuclear submariner in the US Navy. Since 2010, he has been a Product Manager at Google. His projects with the Internationalization group included launching the Google+ social network in 60 languages, unifying Google language settings, and improving Right-to-Left language support on Android. He also worked in Search Advertising, and currently works on making Google products work better for multilingual users.

Steven Tamm - CTO, Salesforce

Salesforce CTO, directing technical product strategy across all clouds and divisions and managing the Salesforce's underlying multi-tenant kernel. Previously he has been the CTO for CRM Applications and the Technical Architect for Force.com Checkout at Salesforce. Prior to Salesforce, he worked at Open Text, SAP Markets, and Calico Commerce. He has a B.S and M.Eng in Computer Science and Electrical Engineering from MIT.

Tex Texin - Chief Globalization Architect, Xencraft

Tex Texin has been providing globalization services including architecture, strategy, training, and implementation to the software industry for many years. Tex has created numerous global products, built internationalization development teams, designed best practices, and guided companies in taking business to new regional markets. Tex is also an advocate for internationalization standards in software and on the Web. He is a representative to the Unicode Consortium and on steering committees for open source software.

Tex is the owner/author of the popular www.l18nGuy.com.

Igor Viarheichyk - Software Engineer, Google, Inc.

Igor Viarheichyk is working on tools and libraries that help software developers use i18n best practices in their everyday workflow. Prior to that he worked on software stacks of network appliances and embedded systems. Focusing on interoperability of open-source and proprietary components, he enhanced Unicode support and character encodings conversion in Samba and Netatalk to allow seamless support of multilingual file names in heterogeneous networks.

Shawn (Xiang) Xu - Internationalization Engineer, Netflix, Inc.

Shawn works at Netflix as an I18N Engineer. She spearheaded and coordinated several G11N projects for Netflix's global launch in January 2016, adding CJK and Arabic languages. Previously she worked at PayPal and Informatica. Shawn enjoys developing creative solutions for challenging G11N issues.

Bo Yang - Senior Manager, Salesforce

Bo Yang, Senior Manager at Salesforce, globalization and simplified development. Before joining Salesforce in 2016, Bo held a wide range of software development positions in companies including IBM and CA Technologies for over 15 years, specialized in database lifecycle management software development and globalization support.

Isabelle Zaugg - Mellon-Sawyer Seminar Postdoctoral Fellow in "Global Language Justice," Institute for Comparative Literature & Society, Columbia University

Isabelle Zaugg's research interests revolve around culture, media, and digital technologies in the global public sphere. Her dissertation entitled "Digitizing Ethiopic: Coding for Linguistic Continuity in the Face of Digital Extinction" included a history of Unicode's inclusion of the Ethiopic script based on interviews, institutional observation, and Unicode's archival material. Zaugg earned her PhD in Communication from American University in Washington, D.C. in 2017. She earned her MA in Film & Video from American University in 2013 and her BA in Art Semiotics from Brown University in 2006. She was a Fulbright-Hays DDRA Fellow to Ethiopia in 2016-2017, a Fulbright Student Fellow to Ethiopia in 2012-2013, and began her scholarly engagement with Ethiopia as a study-abroad student at Addis Ababa University in 2004-2005. She is currently a Mellon-Sawyer Seminar Postdoctoral Fellow in "Global Language Justice" at the Institute for Comparative Literature and Society at Columbia University.