



Internationalization & Unicode® Conference

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Speaker Biographies

Keynote Speaker:



Arika Okrent

Linguist and Author of In the Land of Invented Languages

Arika Okrent is a linguist and the author of *In the Land of Invented Languages*, a history of artificial languages that was named one of the best books of 2009 by The San Francisco Chronicle. She became fascinated with languages at an early age and on her way to a Ph.D. in Linguistics studied ASL and Hungarian among various other languages. In researching her book, she also gained a passive grasp of Esperanto and a first-level certification in Klingon. She is currently editor and language writer at Mental Floss and TheWeek.com.

Speakers:



Mr. Shervin Afshar

Localization Engineer, Netflix, Inc.

Shervin Afshar is an L10n/i18n practitioner currently working at Netflix as a Localization Engineer. He is currently working on various i18n-related projects including development contribution to CLDR and co-chairing a W3C task force for developing a document detailing layout requirements for text in Arabic script.



Ms. Deborah Anderson

Technical Director, Unicode Consortium

Dr. Deborah Anderson joined the Unicode Consortium as a technical director in 2007. Prior to that she was involved in the Unicode effort as an invited expert then as UC Berkeley's representative to the Unicode Consortium since 2005. Deborah is a researcher in the Department of Linguistics at the University of California at Berkeley and runs its Script Encoding Initiative (and ran its NEH-sponsored sibling, the Universal Scripts Project). She received her Ph.D. from UCLA in Indo-European Studies.



Ms. Liat Berdugo

Artist & Curator

Liat Berdugo is an artist, writer, and curator based in Oakland, CA. Her work strives to create an expanded, thoughtful consideration for digital culture. Berdugo has been exhibited in galleries and festivals internationally, and her new book, *The Everyday Maths*, was published by Anomalous Press in 2013. She curates video art for Print Screen, Israel's international festival of digital art, co-founded the Bay Area's Living Room Light Exchange, and collaborates widely with individuals and archives. Berdugo holds a B.A. in Mathematics and Philosophy from Brown University and an M.F.A. in Digital + Media art from the Rhode Island School of Design. This fall she will be joining the faculty of the Art and Architecture department at the University of San Francisco. More at <http://digikits.ch> and <http://liatberdugo.format.com/>.

Dr. Robert Cameron



Professor, Simon Fraser University

Dr. Rob Cameron is a Professor of Computing Science at Simon Fraser University. His research interests include high performance parsing and text processing, SIMD and multicore parallelism, programming languages and software systems as well as open software technology. His recent work has focused on the Parabix transform representation of text and its application to high-performance XML and Unicode processing.

Recent presentations:

- "Bitwise data parallelism in regular expression matching", Parallel Architectures and Compilation Technologies 2014, Edmonton, Canada, August 25-27, 2014.
- "icXML: Accelerating a Commercial XML Parser Using SIMD and Multicore Technologies." Balisage: The Markup Conference 2013, Montréal, Canada, August 6 - 9, 2013.
- "Parallel scanning with bitstream addition: An XML Case Study", Euro-Par 2011, Bordeaux, France, August 2011.



Ms. Yona Chen

Senior Project Manager, Huawei

Yona has been working as a translator & Interpreter for 3 years and then as a L10N & I18N project manager for over 8 years in Huawei. In these years, she has joined the I18N strategy decision making for a variety of products, including smart phones, PAD, home gateways, energy products, and video conference systems. She is also responsible for localizing these products into over 40 languages, including Arabic, Thai, Burmese etc.



Mr. Patrick Chew

Internationalization Manager, Change.org

Patrick Chew is the Internationalization/Localization Manager at Change.org, where he drives language-related globalization efforts by "evangelizing" best practices with in-house talks. In his free-time, he maintains his passion for languages, linguistics, and tech by being an independent researcher, working on language technology issues on a number of fronts. He is a UC Berkeley alumnus with degrees in Linguistics, East Asian Languages and Literatures, and Altaic Languages.

Mr. Ben Cornelius

Director, Globalization Production, PayPal Inc.

Ben Cornelius has worked within the localization industry for 20 years in a wide array of production and operations management roles. He has a broad working experience in government service as the language service provider, the language technology vendor and often on the buyer side, providing many viewpoints of the industry and its evolution.

Ben has been a regular speaker and panelist at LocWorld for the past decade.



Ms. Sharon Correll

Software Engineer, SIL International

In her 25 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 and IUC28 and the Libre Graphics meetings in 2008.



Mr. Craig R. Cummings

Principal Software Engineer - Internationalization, Informatica

Craig Cummings has been working in the field of software globalization for over twenty years and is currently in a role responsible for forging internationalization strategy across all products and acting as a Standards representative for Informatica. Before his role at Informatica, Craig was 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 Applications globalization team 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.

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.



Mr. Rafael Xavier de Souza

Project Lead for Globalize, jQuery

Project Lead for Globalize at jQuery. Member of the ECMA-402 technical committee (browser standards for internationalization). Former IBM Lead Software Engineer (Linux Tech Center). B.S in Computer Science at USP (Brazil).

Rafael has led Globalize (the jQuery I18n project) switch to CLDR. He has created `cldr.js`, a JavaScript traverser for the CLDR JSON data, which serves as a low level utility for other projects to build on top of. Rafael also maintains `cldr-data` module for npm and bower (package managers).



Mr. 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:

- * IUC38-IUC31, plus some earlier IUCs
 - * VanDev and various Vancouver area developer meetings
 - * Founder, the Vancouver Globalization and Localization User Group (VanGLUG)
 - * LinuxFest Northwest, Bellingham WA (March 2011, March 2010)
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Mr. Nick Doiron

The Asia Foundation

Nick is a web developer and mapmaker based in San Francisco. He has worked in the open source community with Code for America and One Laptop per Child in Uganda, Uruguay, Haiti, Nepal, and the Marshall Islands.



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.

Ms. Sora Edwards-Thro

Student, William & Mary College

Sora Edwards-Thro is a first-year student at William and Mary College, studying linguistics and international relations. She has been volunteering in Haiti for five years and speaks Haitian Creole proficiently. As a coordinator for Unleash Kids, an educational technology group that uses the XO laptops in Haiti, she has experience in installing solar charging systems and Internet servers. Sora has spoken at OLPC-SF and student volunteer events at William and Mary.

**Mr. John Emmons**

Senior Software Engineer, IBM

Mr. Emmons is currently a senior software engineer for the IBM corporation and has been extensively involved in software internationalization for more than 25 years. He first served as the lead globalization architect for IBM's AIX operating system, and now contributes as a member of IBM's Globalization Foundation Technologies team, which has responsibility for development of the ICU project (International Components for Unicode), as well as the Unicode CLDR project. His major areas of expertise are in operating systems development and complex text layout technologies. Since 2005, John has been working extensively on Unicode's CLDR project, and is currently serving as the chairman of Unicode's CLDR technical committee.

**Mr. Behdad Esfahbod**

Internationalization Software Engineer, Google Inc.

Behdad Esfahbod dreams of shapers and shaders. Between HarfBuzz and GLyphy, Pango and Fontconfig, GNU FriBidi and other projects, he's responsible for most of the text rendering stack on Linux, as well as parts of Android, Chrome, and Firefox.

Currently Behdad is a Software Engineer on the Internationalization team at Google Mountain View. Previously he worked at Red Hat, and has been a long-time GNOME contributor. In 2013, he received the O'Reilly Open Source Award for his work on HarfBuzz.

**Ms. Lorna Priest Evans**

Script Technologist, SIL International

Lorna has been working for SIL International for almost 30 years. She was deeply involved in helping SIL convert to using Unicode in the early 2000s. She has written a number of Unicode proposals for Latin, Cyrillic, Tifinagh and Arabic script characters. 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 IUC31, IUC28, IUC26, and IUC20.

**Mr. Richard Geraghty**

International Engineering Lead, Adobe

Richard Geraghty is an International Engineering Lead at Adobe Systems, which he joined in 1998. He is currently leading the internationalization and localization effort of Adobe Experience Manager solution. In the past he led the localization of some of Adobe's top products such as Acrobat, Photoshop Elements, and Framemaker.

**Dr. Andrew Glass**

Program Manager, Microsoft

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

**Mr. Erwin Hom**

Internationalization Engineer, PayPal Inc.

As a member of the Globalization Technology Team, Erwin provides G11n Best Practices, training, development support to PayPal product teams. He also contributes to PayPal's Standards Committee in the area in Content and Design for Global-Readiness.

A native of the zh-yue-Hant-US-x-SF locale, Erwin's interest in i18n began many years ago when he was studying East Asian Languages and Linguistics at UC Berkeley.

His continual interest in East Asian Languages in Computing turned into an opportunity years later as he landed a job developing Asian Language Support for the FileMaker Products at FileMaker (an Apple subsidiary).

Outside of G11n, Erwin plays a bit of backgammon and is a member of PayPal's Toastmasters Club.

Mr. Martin Hosken

Script Research and Engineering, SIL International

Martin has worked with SIL International for 20 years concentrating on the script needs of Southeast Asia. He is the project lead for the Graphite project and the primary developer of the current Graphite engine. He has helped get a number of scripts added to Unicode including: Tai Tham, Myanmar minority extensions, Mro, Lisu, Chakma, Tai Lue, Ahom. He is the author of UTN#11 on the Myanmar script. His particular concern is minority languages and their



support and as a font engineer has been involved in the development of numerous fonts for minority language groups in the region.



Mr. John Hudson

Co-Founder, Tiro Typeworks Ltd.

John Hudson designs typefaces and makes fonts. As co-founder of Tiro Typeworks Ltd., a digital foundry specialising in custom font solutions for multilingual publishing and computing, he has been responsible for or has collaborated on type designs for Arabic, Bengali, Cyrillic, Devanagari, Ethiopic, Greek, Gurmukhi, Hebrew, Latin, Odia, Sinhala, Telugu, Thai, and other scripts. Tiro's clients include software companies such as Adobe and Microsoft, and scholarly publishers such as Brill and Harvard University Press.



Mr. Michael Kuperstein

Localization Engineer, Intel

Michael Kuperstein is a twenty year veteran of software engineering, localization, and internationalization at Intel. While enthusiastically promoting world-readiness best practices to developers across Intel, Michael is working on the next generation of enterprise localization capabilities. Michael has been a speaker at: IUC 2014, IUC 2013, LocWorld 2013.



Mr. Raph Levien

Software Engineer, Google, Inc.

Raph Levien is a software engineer and tech lead of Android Text on the Android UI Toolkit team at Google. He has a lifelong interest in digital typography, including a PhD in spiral-based tools for interactive font design, as well as being the designer of Inconsolata, a monospace font designed for beautiful code listings. Raph's previous work includes Google Fonts and the open source Ghostscript PostScript/PDF engine.



Mr. Norbert Lindenberg

Founder, Lindenberg Software LLC

Norbert Lindenberg, founder of Lindenberg Software LLC, develops software internationalization solutions. He 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.



Mr. 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.



Dr. Ken Lunde

Senior Computer Scientist 2, CJKV Type Development, Adobe

Ken has worked at Adobe Systems for over twenty-four years, and is a Senior Computer Scientist 2 specializing in CJKV Type Development, meaning that he develops East Asian fonts, along with the specifications on which they are based. He is also the author of "CJKV Information Processing" Second Edition, which was published by O'Reilly Media at the end of 2008.



Mr. Rick McGowan

Technical Vice President & IUC Conference Chair, Unicode Consortium

Mr. Rick McGowan was appointed Technical Director of Unicode, Inc. in July 1992, then Vice President in 1998. He became Technical Vice President in 2011. In 2001, he joined Unicode as a Sr. software engineer and a member of its

staff. Prior to that Rick was employed by NeXT Software, Inc. and subsequently Apple Computer, Inc. He joined Unicode, Inc. to provide dedicated technical expertise. Mr. McGowan has long been an active participant in the Unicode Technical Committee, and participated in the working group prior to the formation of the Consortium. He is now active in the development of proposals for the standardization of Scripts not currently included in the Standard. He is also Chair of the Internationalization and Unicode Conference Program Committee.



Mr. Mike McKenna

Globalization Engineering Leader, PayPal, Inc.

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.

Mr. Mohamed Mohie

Globalization Manager (PMP®), IBM Focal Point for Arabic Support in all IBM products, Manager of Arabic GCoC IBM Worldwide

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.

Mr. Katsuhiko Momoi

Staff Test Engineer, Google, Inc.

Kat is currently 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, 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 recent accomplishments include the Emoji proposal for Unicode 6 (with Google and Apple colleagues), for which he received the Bulldog Award from the Unicode Consortium.



Ms. Lisa Moore

Vice President, Chief Financial Officer, & UTC Chair, Unicode Consortium

Lisa Moore, Senior Manager, works for IBM where she manages the globalization of IBM's Analytics Platform products. Her organization leads the globalization and translation efforts at the Silicon Valley Lab (SVL) in San Jose, California, and she manages the adoption of new globalization features for the total portfolio of products.

In the IT industry, Lisa has contributed actively to the ongoing development of the Unicode Standard since 1993. She has been an editor of the Unicode Standard since Version 2. She was appointed a Vice President of the Unicode Consortium in 1996 and has been chair of the Unicode Technical Committee, and vice-chair of the INCITS L2 Committee (US National Standards Body Character Encoding Committee) since May, 1999, in which capacity she manages the technical agenda of the Unicode Standard decision-making body. She chaired or co-chaired International Unicode Conferences from 1995 through 2005, running the conference program committee. She has been an invited keynote speaker or panelist at groups as diverse as the LRC 2006, GK3 2007, and the International Telugu Internet Conference 2011. She has also participated on the program committee of the Conference on Human Language Technology for Development 2011 (HLTD2011), and is on the editorial board of Localization Focus. In February, 2012 she became Chief Financial Officer of the Consortium.



Mr. Muthu Nedumaran

Founder & CEO, Murasu Systems Sdn Bhd

Muthu Nedumaran, from Malaysia, has been working on input-methods and fonts for 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 were just using latin scripts 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.

Mr. Michael Ow

Staff Software Engineer, IBM

Michael Ow has been a member of the Globalization Center of Competency at IBM San Jose since early 2006, where he is a staff software engineer working on the International Components for Unicode for C/C++ (ICU4C) and for Java (ICU4J).

Mr. Anshuman Pandey

Department of Linguistics, University of California, Berkeley

Anshuman Pandey is a Post Doctoral Researcher in the Department of Linguistics at the University of California, Berkeley. He conducts research on the historical, cultural, and technology aspects of writing systems of South Asia, Southeast Asia, and Central Asia. He has developed Unicode encodings for numerous scripts and individual characters over the past decade.



Nova Patch

Lead Engineer, International Search, Shutterstock

Nova Patch is the lead engineer on the International Search team at Shutterstock, specializing in internationalization, localization, and multilingual information retrieval; and focusing on developing a search and discovery experience that supports the world's languages, writing systems, and cultures.



Reza Payami

Internationalization Engineer, PayPal, Inc.

Reza is a valued developer on the PayPal I18n Technology team, metadata guru, and developer of the Griffin I18n Reference App. Reza has a recent Masters from Stanford and has experience designing and implementing enterprise software and web-based multi-tier applications using JavaScript, Java EE technologies and the frameworks and solutions.



Mr. 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.



Mr. 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.

Mr. Leandro Reis

Globalization Architect, Adobe

Leandro Reis is a Globalization Architect at Adobe Systems (which he joined in 1996) and a member of the W3C Internationalization Working Group. Currently he divides his time between internationalization of the Adobe Experience Manager solution, and evangelizing the importance of internationalization to all Adobe product teams through an assessment and knowledge base tool (Globalization Report Card) that he developed.

Past talks:

- IUC35: Internationalization Assessments: Merging the Best of Three Approaches
 - 2012 Internationalization and Localization Conference - Internationalization Scorecard
 - Worldware 2011 - "Internationalization assessments" panel
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Ms. Maggie Ronan

Release Manager, Indiegogo

Maggie Ronan is a community-enthralled technologist and passionate emoji user based in San Francisco, CA. Throughout her career she has sought opportunities to create internationalized software for massive, diverse audiences, from digital dragon eggs and armor (yes really) at the online gaming company Kabam to the empowering fundraising tools she has helped nurture for the past 2.5 years on the engineering team at Indiegogo, the world's



largest global crowdfunding platform. She holds a B.A. in Digital/Electronic Media Studies from Pomona College in Claremont, CA.



Mr. Hohyon Ryu

Senior Software Engineer, Twitter Inc.

Hohyon is a senior software engineer specializing in natural language processing at Twitter. He is the author of twitter-korean-text, an open-source library that provides comprehensive Korean text processing features.

Mr. Pichai Saengboon

Lanna Font Developer, Center for the Promotion of Arts and Culture, Chiang Mai University

Pichai Saengboon works at the Center for the Promotion of Arts and Culture at Chiang Mai University in Thailand as a Lanna font developer (since 2004) and is an independent researcher for the preservation of Akkhara Thamma Lanna. In 2006, he designed the LN font series using OpenType technology to create the "eXtra" input method to support the digitization of the traditional language of the Lanna Kingdom (1292-1558). These fonts are OpenSource and free for download and he is in process of converting the fonts to Unicode encoding.



Mr. Joel Sahleen

Sr. Globalization Engineer, Adobe

Joel Sahleen is a senior globalization engineer at Adobe where he is responsible for the internationalization and localization of three solutions in the Adobe Marketing Cloud: Adobe Analytics, Adobe Social and Marketing Cloud Core Services. He also works on developing Adobe's globalization infrastructure and educating core developers about globalization best practices. His previous presentations at IUC include "Enterprise PHP Internationalization and Localization," "The Theory and Practice of Multilingual Hypertext" and last year's "CLDR User Panel."



Mr. Ramy Said

Advisory IT Specialist, Globalization Center of Competency - Arabic Focal Arabic Competence and Globalization Center (ACGC) Cairo Technology Development Center (CTDC) - 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 Rational Developer for zSeries "RDz", Host Access Transformation Services "HATS", Personal Communications and Host On-Demand (Host Access Client Package "HACP") 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 contribute to many open source technologies implementing Arabic related features.



Mr. Markus Scherer

Unicode 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.



Ms. Alolita Sharma

Senior Engineering Manager, Twitter

Alolita Sharma is senior engineering manager at Twitter heading its internationalization, localization and NLP language engineering. Previously she was Director of Engineering at Wikipedia heading internationalization and localization engineering.

She holds Bachelors and Masters degrees in Computer Science and speaks internationally on multilingual web, language technologies and standards, open source trends, women in technology and building successful developer communities. She is on the board of the Software Freedom Law Center and a passionate advocate of open source and the open web.



Mr. Shawn Steele

Senior Software Engineer, Microsoft

Shawn has worked in the globalization area for Microsoft for over a decade, helping with products like Windows, mobile, Xbox, .Net, and Office. He writes an occasional blog on MSDN, contributes to various globalization-related standards groups, co-authored RFC 6532, Internationalized Email Headers, and has been known to play with Lego in his free time. Currently, Shawn is helping to integrate CLDR data into Microsoft's existing locale data.



Mr. 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.118nGuy.com.



Santhosh Thottingal

Senior Software Engineer, Language Engineering, Wikimedia Foundation

Santhosh Thottingal is senior software engineer at Wikimedia Foundation's language engineering team. He was in lead role in designing and implementing massively multilingual internationalization tooling for Wikipedia. Santhosh is passionate about Indic language computing and has developed many essential language tools that many people use now to read and write in their mother tongue. He is also a typeface designer and had designed and engineered popular fonts for Malayalam script.



Mr. Loïc Dufresne de Virel

Localization Strategist, Intel

Loïc Dufresne de Virel, a twenty year industry veteran, is currently the localization strategist with Intel's in-house localization team. On top of managing advanced localization projects involving language models and multilingual speech recognition engines, Loïc also has direct ownership for functional areas such as Innovation and Business Operations. In particular, he is the sponsor of a recent initiative to deploy a localization-focused enterprise service bus, making it easy and efficient for customers across the corporation to access localization capabilities provided by his team, today and in the future. Loïc has been a speaker at: IUC 2013, LocWorld 2013, TAUS 2014.

Mr. Richard Wordingham

Lanna Enthusiast

Richard Wordingham is a systems engineer and maths modeller by day and a Lanna enthusiast by night (since his wife hails from Chiang Mai, Thailand). As part of his hobby, he attempts to encourage and assist the enabling of Tai Tham support, even though this requires the debugging of Graphite, HarfBuzz and m17n. He is a graduate of Cambridge and holds degrees in Mathematics.



Ms. Shawn (Xiang) Xu

Internationalization Engineer, Netflix

As an Internationalization Engineer at Netflix, Shawn works closely with various teams for the global expansion effort, developing best user experience for global audience. She's actively involved in all things i18n, for example, the NF118N library improvement, NFLocale and Language Selection Service, as well as other high profile projects. Before Netflix, Shawn worked at PayPal, developed the pseudo localization tool and spearheaded the I18N static code analysis project. Prior to PayPal, she worked on ICU and I18N libraries at Informatica. Shawn enjoys developing creative solutions for challenging G11N issues. She holds a Master's degree in Computer and Information Science from University of Alabama at Birmingham.

