

TUG Business

Meet the Board, Part II

In the last issue, the biographies and personal statements of seven members of the Board appeared; these were originally intended for presentation with the ballot, but the shortfall of candidates rendered that inoperative. Below is the corresponding information for the rest of the Board.

The statements appear in alphabetical order by name of the Board member, with the ending year of that person's term of office in parentheses after the name. Terms of office end with the annual meeting of the year shown.

Barbara Beeton
For the Elections Committee

Michael J. Ferguson (1996)

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Biography:

For over ten years now, I have been using, adapting, and promoting T_EX for use in multilingual environments. I introduced T_EX-78 at INRS-Télécommunications, a graduate research institute of the University of Québec, in 1980, with an early version of the INRS T_EX document preparation package. The greatly enhanced features of T_EX-82 allowed me to enhance INRS T_EX to have full document preparation facilities, eventually including graphics. However there was much student dismay at the fact that this new wonderful system kept leaving the ends of words, punctuated by little black rectangles, in the margin of their theses. It became apparent that something had to be done to make T_EX viable in our bilingual environment. With this incentive, I produced Multilingual T_EX, a modification to T_EX, the program, that allowed beautiful, and semantically consistent, documents in any language. Virtually all of the features of M L T_EX, except for the ability to work multilingually with the cm fonts, have been incorporated in T_EX-3. Most recently, I coordinated the activity that led to the new T_EX Extended font standard.

Personal statement:

T_EX is one of the few systems that has the capability of document preparation and production in any alphabet-based language. I feel strongly that its premier position should be protected and enhanced in this area. T_EX, although powerful, is not without its deficiencies. It is vitally important that we search and find a path that allows us, and T_EX to exploit the new and powerful computing facilities that are becoming available, while maintaining enough stability for confident use. I hope to work towards such a goal.

Peter Flynn (1996)

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Biography:

Peter Flynn was born in 1953 and educated in England. He built his first computer (analog!) at high school in 1969, and also resurrected and ran the school press for four years. He spent a year studying languages and working as a printer in Europe before moving to the London College of Printing, where he took his first degree in 1976. In 1978 he took his MA in management and computerised planning systems at the Central London Polytechnic. He worked in technology training and research for the Printing and Publishing Industry Training Board until 1982, when he joined the London office of United Telecom (Kansas) as a technical consultant, advising on database, communications and text systems in the UK and USA. In 1984 he moved to his present position as Manager of the Academic Computing Service at University College Cork, Ireland, providing student, graduate and faculty network and computing facilities on VM, VMS, MS-DOS, Mac and UNIX platforms.

Peter started using T_EX in the early 1980s. He has written several public domain add-ons, including PC-WriT_EX and SGML2T_EX, and ran the 5th European T_EX conference in Cork in 1990, where he also helped start the Irish T_EX and L^AT_EX Interest Community (ITALIC). He is involved as a consultant in several EU and academic research projects (AIM, COSINE/RARE, FRAMEWORK, CURIA) and has published articles on networking, T_EX, statistics and programming. He is deputy director of EARN Ireland, a member of the Advisors Group of the Irish academic network, and secretary of the local branch of the Irish Computer Society. Among

his other interests are typography, surfing, reading, cyberspace and early music.

Personal statement:

I would like to help TUG build on the changes which have taken place in the last few years by developing its resources in training, publicity and advice/information about \TeX and its family of products. I want to increase the membership, and the activity rate of members, by making the use of \TeX ware more attractive, and by helping to develop the additions to the system to keep pace with changes in DTP elsewhere. I would like to continue to improve communications with users (members and non-members alike) especially by electronic means, and to build a community where \TeX 's advantages can be seen more clearly.

George D. Greenwade (1997)

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Personal statement:

My interest in serving of the TUG Board of Directors lies in my representing the “naive” end user of \TeX . My personal usage focuses on \LaTeX and is primarily aimed at documents associated with my teaching and research. While I have authored a limited number of style options to achieve certain layout designs, the bottom line is that I believe that it is incumbent upon TUG to recognize the end-level users and to provide as much assistance as possible to them in getting, installing, learning, and using \TeX . This in no way implies that the naive end user has failed to have representation on the TUG Board previously; instead, my explicit goal, if elected, is to serve as a representative of this group, focusing on effectively bridging the gap between high-level \TeX users and developers and general end users with less expertise.

My involvement with TUG includes serving as Chair of the TUG Technical Working Group on \TeX Archive Guidelines (WG 92-04) which has led to the successful Comprehensive \TeX Archive Network (CTAN), where I also serve as Coordinator of the CTAN host `ftp.SHSU.edu`. In addition to my official involvement with TUG, I am also manager of three

network-based mail lists dealing with \TeX -related topics — `INFO-TeX`, `TeX-Pubs`, and `ctt-Digest`.

Yannis Haralambous (1997)

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Biography:

Born in Athens (Greece) in 1962, I came to Lille (France) in 1979. I received all my higher education there, including the Ph.D. in Pure Mathematics which I obtained in 1990. Since 1987 I've been teaching mathematics at the University of Lille. I speak Greek, French, German, English fluently and can get by in Spanish and Russian.

I became involved with \TeX and METAFONT in 1987, when I met Klaus Thull in Berlin. Since volume 10(3) of the *TUGboat*, my submissions have appeared in almost every issue, with articles on Greek, Latin alphabet diacritical marks, Old German alphabets, Ottoman-Arabic-Persian, Scholar \TeX , etc.

My \TeX activity includes giving lectures and/or tutorials in the TUG meetings in Cork and Dedham, the DANTE meetings in Göttingen, Vienna and Dresden, and the European \TeX Conference in Paris.

My working fields are primarily the creation of fonts and macro packages for typesetting in various languages, starting from Latin alphabet languages (West or ex-East) and going all the way to Greek, Middle East and Slavic languages — extant or historical, for scholarly use.

I believe that POSTSCRIPT should become a standard part of \TeX , and that METAFONT could be used to obtain “meta”-families of POSTSCRIPT fonts — whether pre-existing or new; I'm planning to work on these issues.

Finally I have to say that what I like the most about \TeX are the people which I am privileged to have met through it and because of it.

Personal statement:

\TeX is one of the big ideas of the century. It means “intrusion of Art into Science and vice-versa”. The software is free and accessible to everyone. In few words: \TeX is an important cultural vehicle. TUG has to make \TeX widespread while keeping its ideology and standards; to encourage and coordinate new developments; and, finally, to support newborn and pre-existing national User Groups — *no \TeX user should ever be isolated*.

My personal modest contribution to TUG would be primarily on the level of European T_EX-related activities: my geographical position allows easier travel and information exchange within the Old Continent.

Nico Poppelier (1996)

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Biography:

While doing research for my Ph.D. in theoretical nuclear physics, between 1984 and 1989, I became familiar with T_EX and L^AT_EX. During that time I also collaborated with Elsevier in one of their R&D projects; my job was to create document styles for two physics journals. In early 1990, after I had received my Ph.D. degree, I joined Elsevier in a permanent capacity as R&D Assistant in the R&D Department of the Academic Publishing Division.

One part of my work there is the implementation of procedures for the handling of author-prepared T_EX files (compuscripts) for scientific journals and book series in the fields of physics, materials science, mathematics, computer science, engineering and technology.

Another important part of my work is research into the applications of SGML in scientific publishing.

Being a member of the T_EX Users Group has helped me form the contacts needed for my work. I have attended the TUG conferences for two years and have found that these conferences are a unique opportunity to meet people, to exchange ideas and to discuss various developments. As a member of TUG's Board of Directors I bring knowledge of T_EX and L^AT_EX, ideas about the future of T_EX and L^AT_EX, ideas about the relation between T_EX and SGML, and knowledge of four foreign languages, English, French, German and Japanese, beside my native language Dutch. Knowledge of more than one language could be useful, since TUG has become a truly international users group.

Personal statement:

I think that the best platform for the exchange of ideas, questions, answers and discoveries concerning the T_EX system should be TUG. In my opinion

- (1) TUG should inform users of T_EX and related software all over the world, in particular the

members of TUG, of changes and directions, and allow the opinion of the users to be heard.

- (2) TUG should take the role of standardizing body, and see to it that T_EX and related software remain standard, despite the growing number of applications based on or derived from the T_EX system.
- (3) TUG should sponsor and supervise the on-going development of the T_EX system.
- (4) TUG should sponsor and supervise research into computer programs for high-quality typesetting and font design.
- (5) TUG should encourage new memberships and the active relation between T_EX and participation of new members.

Jon Radel (1997)

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Biography:

I was born in Minnesota in 1961, where I was also introduced to computers. While my love affair with computers is not matched in intensity by my interest in traditional printing, I have long been interested in the technology of the printed word. This, not surprisingly, led to an interest in using computers for printing, which first saw expression when I was an undergraduate and had access to an IBM mainframe running SCRIPT. The limitations of SCRIPT soon became apparent.

By the time Princeton University granted me my degree in Computer Science in 1985, I had heard of a new formatter that the Mathematics Department had — on a machine I couldn't touch. Shortly thereafter I noticed ads in *Byte* and realized that, if I purchased a copy of pcT_EX, I could do what the Mathematics Department had been doing. I was fascinated by T_EX because it used the terminology of traditional printing, and I quickly began to collect material about it.

By 1986 I had joined TUG, and I have attended all the North American meetings since 1988. *TUGboat*, and discussions at meetings, made me realize that there was a wealth of T_EX material available only via the academic computer networks. I still had access to these networks, but the accounts I had were insecure enough that I could understand the problems of using T_EX on isolated machines. For these isolated users I started my service of distributing T_EX material on floppies in 1988. Starting slowly, I eventually developed enough of a reputation that I was sending disks all over the world, and

the TUG staff started referring people to me. Unfortunately, a lack of time necessitated my stopping the service, and I never found the time to properly transfer the service to the TUG office.

I currently serve as the Internet Systems Administrator for the U.S. National Archives and maintain a keen interest in electronic publishing, both where the final product is paper and where it is images on a screen.

Personal statement:

Given my professional involvement with microcomputers, and my former floppy distribution, I view microcomputer users, particularly those not in academia, as my constituency. I would like to ensure continued commitment for TUG serving you as a source of information and support. I also think it important that TUG take a greater role in influencing and supporting the future of \TeX and related software, particularly now that Donald Knuth is no longer developing \TeX .

Sebastian Rahtz (1997)

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Biography:

I have been a \TeX enthusiast from minutes after seeing the output from a copy of Micro \TeX in 1986. I am a classicist and archaeologist by training, but have worked in humanities computing since 1984. After five years as a computer science lecturer at the University of Southampton, I left to become an independent consultant — supposedly to specialize in archaeological computing, but never failing to be sidetracked by \TeX ery. I now live in York, but work regularly on text-processing support for CERN in Geneva. I have a beautiful partner and a beautiful baby daughter.

I have been a PostScript fan for almost as long as a \TeX fan, and have spent much time and effort on helping with the integration of PS fonts in \LaTeX , graphics inclusion, and colour. As well as being a founding, and current, committee member of the UK \TeX Users Group (and editor of its newsletter *Baskerville*), I have been closely associated with the UK \TeX Archive since its inception, and am one of the three principal architects of the Comprehensive \TeX Archive Network. Archives have caused me more work and grief than any reader can imagine...

My TUG mission is to promote archives and the cause of $\LaTeX 2\epsilon$.

Production Notes

Barbara Beeton

Input and input processing

Electronic input for articles in this issue was received by e-mail, and was also retrieved from remote sites by anonymous ftp.

In addition to text and various coded files processable directly by \TeX , the input to this issue includes a `.tfm` file created from the `.afm` file for a PostScript font. For this PostScript font it was necessary also to create a number of `.pk` files in various resolutions, using `ps2pk` after converting the `.pfa` form to `.pfb` with `tibinary`. More than 45 files were required to generate the final copy; over 70 more contain earlier versions of articles, auxiliary information, and records of correspondence with authors and referees. These numbers represent input files only; `.dvi` files, device-specific translations, and fonts (`.tfm` files and rasters) are excluded from the total.

Most articles as received were fully tagged for *TUGboat*, using either the plain-based or \LaTeX conventions described in the Authors' Guide (see *TUGboat* 10, no. 3, pages 378–385). The macros are available from CTAN (the Comprehensive \TeX Archive Network); see *TUGboat* 14, no. 2, p. 100. The TUG office will provide copies of the macros on diskette to authors who have no electronic access.

By number, 62% of the articles, and 70% of the pages in this issue are in \LaTeX . Owing to technical problems in running multiple articles together under $\LaTeX 2\epsilon$, production was accomplished using version 2.09, except for the article by Downes, which required features of $\LaTeX 2\epsilon$ that were not available in earlier versions. Philip Taylor's report on the meeting of the NTS group, tagged for the plain-based `tugboat.sty`, had to be processed by itself because it redefined some essential elements of the *TUGboat* style that affected anything run after it, even escaping a `\begingroup... \endgroup` quarantine.

Font work was required for the article by Ramasubramanian, Nickalls and Reed, "ASCII.sty". Unlike most font work done for *TUGboat*, this was not METAFONT; instead, following the instructions in the article, the program `ps2pk` was used to create bitmap fonts at typesetter resolution. My compliments to the authors for making the instructions so clear and easy to follow.

Test runs of articles were made separately and in groups to determine the arrangement and page numbers (to satisfy any possible cross references). A file containing all starting page numbers, needed