
President's note

Jim Hefferon

Lots of things are happening in the T_EX world, some new and some older, some great to hear and some otherwise.

Elections

This is an election year for TUG. There are ten seats up for a vote this year, including mine as President.

We invite nominations for these openings. I hope that you will consider serving if you are able. It is a truism but it is nonetheless true that the work doesn't get done unless somebody does it.

The page tug.org/election/ has the full information. If you have any questions, please contact the election committee, whose address is on that page. The submission deadline, which will be strictly kept, is February 1.

Conferences

Next year's TUG conference will take place in conjunction with the yearly BachoT_EX conference. We are excited to be joining the Polish group GUST to celebrate their 25th birthday. A big thank you to them for agreeing to host!

The dates are April 29–May 3, 2017 (note that this differs from the midsummer time we have often used in the past). The monthly online TUG newsletter and the web page tug.org/tug2017/ will have more information as it becomes available.

I've also just heard the dates and location for the 11th International ConT_EXt meeting have been set: September 11–17, 2017 in Butzbach-Maibach, Germany. More information on this will be at meeting.contextgarden.net/2017/.

New projects

We have activated two working groups.

The PDF accessibility group addresses the very important work of implementing accessibility standards in T_EX. It has a web page tug.org/twg/accessibility/ and mailing list lists.tug.org/accessibility. You can direct a portion of your TUG donations, which are tax deductible in the US, to this group.

The education working group is aimed at helping to teach and promote T_EX in schools and universities. The mailing is list lists.tug.org/edutex and the freshly minted web site at tug.org/twg/edutex/.

This second group is near to my heart. I would dearly like to see more undergraduates using T_EX and friends. I'm a mathematics professor and I teach an introduction to proofs class. As part of

the class I require students to learn enough L^AT_EX to do their homework. It is a professional standard in mathematics and I think it is to their benefit to know it.

If you are interested in these issues, please join!

Membership drive continues

We are continuing our campaign *Members Bring Members*. We ask all TUG members to help spread the word about our community by inviting new individuals and organizations to join.

If you know someone who uses T_EX and friends, someone who is interested in high quality electronic documents, then please urge them to consider joining TUG.

On the TUG signup form at tug.org/forms/current/memberapp.html, the first question is for new members: "Who invited you to join TUG?" We acknowledge each such sponsor with a small gift, a postcard made by long-time TUG member Peter Wilson on his letterpress specially for this campaign (or, if preferred, any physical item from TUG store). Moreover, we will recognize participants in the campaign at the TUG meeting, in *TUGboat*, and on the web site. At the end of 2016, we will also hold a drawing and the person selected will receive a copy of the limited edition book *Manuale Zapficum: Typographic arrangements of the words by and about the work of Hermann Zapf & Gudrun Zapf von Hesse* (2009).

Helping

We all benefit from the work of others, and that includes those of us in the T_EX world. If you are able to give back a bit but are not sure how, you could consider running for the TUG Board; see above. Alternatively, the technical committee maintain a list of project ideas for anyone interested to tackle, at tug.org/help.html. Have a look; they are all worthwhile.

Kristoffer Rose

We learned with sadness that Kris Rose has passed away in September. He is one of those people whose work has helped me personally. He was the author of the widely used X_Y-pic package. And, he was a member of the TUG Board from 1997–2003, as well as Vice President from 1997–2001. He was also a contributor to Debian. Barbara will say more elsewhere in this issue but we were sorry to hear the news and our thoughts go out to his loved ones.

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