

TUG 2006

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Conference information

The T_EX Users Group's twenty-seventh annual meeting and conference is organized in collaboration with the Computer Science Department of the Faculty of Sciences Semlalia, Cadi Ayyad University, located in Marrakesh, Morocco. About thirty talks are expected to be held over three days, starting on November 9th, 2006. More than forty people are expected to attend the conference, coming from diverse places: Algeria, Canada, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Egypt, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Lithuania, Morocco, the Netherlands, Poland, Switzerland, Syria, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

Topics

After TUG 2003 in USA (Hawaii), TUG 2004 in Europe (Xanthi, Greece), TUG 2005 in Asia (Wuhan, China), TUG 2006 is, for the first time, held in North Africa (Marrakesh, Morocco). The theme of the meeting is **Digital Typography & Electronic Publishing: Localization & Internationalization**.

Our goal is to focus on the new challenges presented by the rapidly growing desire for best localization. Indeed, processing of multilingual e-documents is now needed beyond the limits of traditional cultural areas. The T_EX environment's localization of languages using an Arabic-alphabet based script are examples of such concerns. Of course, a wealth of material on various other topics and projects will also be presented. This theme gave us the opportunity to welcome contributions outside the strict scope of T_EX.

Talks and proceedings

We tried to organize the sessions by gathering talks in similar areas of interest. Day one will focus on aspects of the T_EX overall environment, discussing various distributions, important programs, and applications. For the second day, we concentrate on the topic of Arabic typography and typesetting. The final day brings together topics from the web, fonts, and L^AT_EX.

Preprints will be available at the meeting. The final proceedings will be an issue of TUGboat, as usual, and will be published shortly after the conference.

The drawing

Duane Bibby's T_EX lion and its small computer companion help set the context of the conference. The Lion is dressed as an Arab Calligrapher entering a dome in the island of Africa from a large Andalusian gate. The word T_EX is mirrored and some Arabic Indic numbers are there to remind that the conference is held in a country which writes in Arabic.

We can also notice the Koutoubia tower (1184–1199). The minaret (tower) is the most famous monument of Marrakesh. It was used as the architectural model for the famous Giralda tower of Sevilla (Spain) and for the Hassan tower of Rabat also. The tower's name is derived from the Arabic al-Koutoubiyyin (librarians), since it was surrounded by sellers of manuscripts and calligraphers.

Of course, the palm tree adds a final grace note.

Thanks

First, we must thank all the members of the organizing and programme committees for their kind and helpful discussions and encouragement. We also thank Karl Berry for his work preparing the conference (he was unfortunately unable to attend, and sends his regrets). We also owe thanks to Barbara Beeton — despite not being listed on the formal committees, she was always present and always helpful. Finally, we thank Khalid Sami for his invaluable help.

Best regards,

Azzeddine Lazrek
Conference chair