

Welcome to the TUG 2002 Proceedings!

In early September 2002, at the southwest tip of the Indian subcontinent overlooking the Arabian Sea, a multinational gathering of delegates¹ met at the 23rd annual conference of the T_EX Users Group. We were in Thiruvananthapuram (or Trivandrum), the capital of the stunning state of Kerala. Many had arrived already on September 1st, to participate in excellent tutorials and workshops by C.V. Radhakrishnan (India), Hans Hagen (Netherlands) and Lou Burnard and Sebastian Rahtz (Oxford).

On the official opening day of September 4th the delegates were greeted by a small, but very real, elephant, and traditional music. The conference was launched and the work could begin. A great success! Inspiring presentations and flawless organisation, combined with the kindness of our Indian friends and the beauty of the surroundings made it an unforgettable experience.

For an overview of the meeting and the presentations in particular, see:

- *Report of the 23rd Annual Meeting and Conference* at <http://www.tug.org.in/tug2002>
- *Report and Travelogue* by Ross Moore (in this issue).

Those who could not attend TUG 2002 will, I hope, find this issue interesting and very much worth reading. Those of you who were there will enjoy the walk through the proceedings and look back at TUG 2002 as an inspiring and rewarding conference.

Producing the proceedings

In the midsummer of 2002, Sebastian Rahtz asked whether I would like to work on the conference proceedings; I gladly accepted, seeing it as a privilege and a challenge. The actual work started shortly after that: many evenings of this Danish summer were spent typing away...

We received 25 submissions. One in plain T_EX, one to be run with Omega and the rest in L^AT_EX. The articles were processed with the post-T_EX Live 7 setup. In August 2002, and with the printing house deadline over my head, I transferred the camera-ready PDF files for preprints to C.V. Radhakrishnan at Focal Image (India).

The work on conference proceedings started in the late fall of 2002 and continued during the winter holidays. A few of the papers were resubmitted (the last one as late as November); all needed to be edited/reviewed and there was an ongoing

¹ Attendees came from Australia, Canada, Czech Republic, China, Denmark, France, Germany, India, Iran, Netherlands, Poland, Switzerland, UK and USA.

correspondence between the authors and Karl Berry and me on the suggested changes.

In January 2003, the T_EX Live 7 setup, tailored for the 2002 proceedings, was made at CSIT at Florida State University where all papers were uploaded for the final production of this issue.

TUG 2002 on the Web

After the printed copy of *TUGboat* is distributed, the conference proceedings will be available online in the *TUGboat* area of the TUG web site:

<http://tug.org/tugboat>

Also, make sure to visit the TUGIndia site at:

<http://www.tug.in.org/tug2002>

for the post-conference bulletin with report, slides, newspaper clippings and photo gallery.

Acknowledgments

Many thanks to Sebastian Rahtz for tirelessly answering my questions; to Barbara Beeton, Mimi Burbank, Robin Fairbairns, Christina Thiele and Dominik Wujastyk for reviewing the papers; and to Karl Berry, for his support and encouragement.

Finally, I give my thanks to the Computer Science Department and the BRICS Research Centre, University of Aarhus, for making my attendance at TUG 2002 possible. This was a unique experience, both professionally and personally.

◇ Kaja Christiansen

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Note from the Editor

This issue of *TUGboat*, containing the proceedings of TUG 2002, will reach you before the last issue of the 2001 volume. There are a couple of reasons for this: *TUGboat* in general has suffered delays, as mentioned in the “Editorial Comments” column of Vol. 22, Nos. 1/2, and the editorial group working on the TUG 2002 proceedings has been particularly effective in carrying out the tasks associated with the issue’s production.

For these reasons, we are releasing the completed proceedings issue as soon as it is ready, rather than delaying it artificially to follow the nominal sequence.

The next issue to appear *will* be Vol. 22, No. 4 (December 2001); production is underway in parallel with this issue. We ask for your understanding in this matter.

◇ Barbara Beeton