



Understanding and Sharing

Wikimedia Board Retreat 2007

August 1st – 2nd

Taipei, Taiwan



Programme

DAY 1 Starting time - 9h15

9:15 Welcome

Welcome addresses by
Florence and Manon
Self introduction of all
participants

10:30 – 10:45 Coffee break

**10:45 Plenary session: Setting
the scene**

Update on the WMF by
Florence
Reaction from participants
Recap by Manon

12:15 – 13:30: Lunch

13:15 – 13:45 *Recording of
podcasts*

13:45 Defining our values

Facilitator: Manon
Brainstorm and discuss
Identification of elements for a
statement

15:00 Coffee break

**15:15 Three-year goal
statements**

Facilitator: Manon

17:00 End of the session

19:00 – 21:00 **Dinner at Hai Pa
Wang restaurant** (ZhongShan N.
Rd. Sec. 3)

DAY 2 Starting time - 9h00

**9:00 Revisit and complete
three-year goal statements**

Facilitator: Manon

10:00 – 10:15 Coffee break

**10:15 SWOT Analysis
development**

Facilitator: Manon

12:15 – 13:30: Lunch

13:15 – 13:45 *Recording of
podcasts*

13:45: Recapping results

**14:00 Advisory board mission
and function**

Facilitator: Manon

15:30 – 15:45 Coffee break

**15:45 Plenary session:
strategic objectives and
priorities**

Facilitators: Manon and Sue

17:00 End of the day

Board members

Florence Nibart-Devouard
(Anthere)
Chair, Wikimedia Foundation

Jimmy “Jimbo” Wales
Founder of Wikipedia and Chairman
Emeritus of Wikimedia

Jan-Bart De Vreede
Vice-chair, Wikimedia Foundation

Erik Möller (Eloquence)
Executive Secretary, Wikimedia
Foundation

Kat Walsh (Mindspillage)
Board Member, Wikimedia
Foundation

Frieda Brioschi
Board Member, Wikimedia
Foundation

Advisory board members

Angela Beesley (chair)
Chair Advisory board Wikimedia
Foundation
Co-founder of Wikia Inc.

Heather Ford
Executive Director of iCommons

Melissa Hagermann
Manager of the Open Access
Initiative, Open Society Institute

Teemu Leinonen
Learning Environments research
group of the Media Lab,
University of Art and Design
Helsinki

Rebecca MacKinnon
Assistant Professor at the University
of Hong Kong's Journalism and
Media Studies Centre

Wayne Mackintosh
Education Specialist for eLearning
and ICT policy at the Commonwealth
of Learning

Benjamin Mako Hill
Computing Culture group of the MIT
Media Lab

Erin McKean
Chief Consulting Editor, American
Dictionaries, for Oxford University
Press

Achal Prabhala
Researcher and Writer in Bangalore,
India, on access to knowledge and
medicine

Raoul Weiler
Chair and founder of the Brussels-
EU Chapter of the Club of Rome

Joris Komen
SchoolNet Namibia's executive
director

Ward Cunningham
Director of Committer Community
Development of the Eclipse
Foundation

Staff and others

Sue Gardner
Consultant and Special Advisor,
Wikimedia Foundation

Manon Ress
Board retreat facilitator

Oscar van Dillen
Former Board Member, Wikimedia
Foundation

Biographies

Florence Devouard

Florence Nibart-Devouard serves as one of the elected representatives to the Board since June 2004, and is the current Chair of the Board.

Florence was born in Versailles (France). She grew up in Grenoble, and has been living since then in several French cities, as well as Antwerpen in Belgium and Tempe in Arizona. She is an engineer in Agronomy (ENSAIA) and also holds a DEA in Genetics and biotechnologies (INPL). She has been working in public research, first in flower plant genetic improvement, and second in microbiology to study the feasibility of polluted soil bioremediation. She was employed until recently in a French firm, to conceive decision-making tools in sustainable agriculture.

She joined the Wikipedia adventure in February 2002 and is known as a contributor under the pseudonym *Anthere*.

Florence is 38, and lives in Clermont Ferrand with her husband Bertrand and her three children, Anne-Gaëlle aged nine, William ten and Thomas one.



Jimmy “Jimbo” Wales

Jimmy Wales is an Internet entrepreneur and wiki enthusiast, and founder of the Wikipedia project.

Jimmy was born in Huntsville, Alabama in 1966, and is a graduate of Auburn University and the University of Alabama. He worked as Research Director at Chicago Options Associates, a futures and options trading firm then located in Chicago. In the mid-1990s he started Bomis, a search portal focusing on aspects of pop culture, one of the first users of the freely licensed data of the Open Directory Project.

In 1999, Jimmy had the concept of a freely distributable encyclopedia and founded Nupedia, by hiring philosopher Larry Sanger as editor-in-chief and assigning 2 programmers to write software for it. Nupedia failed, perhaps due to being a top-down cathedral model, as opposed to Wikipedia, which is the ultimate bazaar. After 2 years of working with the Nupedia concept, that team opened Wikipedia to help channel content into Nupedia; Wikipedia became an instant success, but not in the envisioned way, and Nupedia was shut down. In 2003, Jimmy set up the Wikimedia Foundation, a Tampa-based non-profit organization, to support Wikipedia and its sister projects.

In 2004, Jimmy founded Wikia. He was appointed a fellow of Harvard Law School's Berkman Center for Internet and Society in mid-2005, and in



October of 2005 joined the Board of Directors of Socialtext, a provider of wiki technology to businesses. He lives in St. Petersburg, Florida.

Jan-Bart de Vreede

Jan-Bart de Vreede is the Vice-chair of Wikimedia Foundation since January 14, 2007. Jan-Bart joined Wikimedia Board in December 2006.

Working at the Kennisnet Ict op School Foundation allowed Jan-Bart to spend time on promoting the use of wiki software and Wikimedia projects in education, amongst other things. The Kennisnet Foundation is a publicly funded Dutch organisation. Within this organisation he is responsible for the educational portals and some content creation tools. Through his work at Kennisnet Ict op School, he has been involved with Wikimedia since 2004, and attended both Wikimania conferences as a speaker.

Jan-Bart de Vreede spent most of his childhood in the Netherlands, also living in Sri Lanka, the Maldives, Kenya and the United States. He studied Business Administration at the Rotterdam School of Management.



Erik Möller

Erik Möller is 28 years old and lives in Berlin, Germany. He has been an active editor of Wikipedia since 2001 and has also contributed to the underlying software, MediaWiki. Erik is a freelance journalist and author (*Die heimliche Medienrevolution: Wie Weblogs, Wikis und freie Software die Welt verändern*) and also manages wiki-related software development projects. He holds a degree in computer science. Beyond Wikimedia, he seeks to promote Free Content, Free Software, and balanced intellectual monopoly rights legislation.



Kat Walsh

Kat Walsh is a Wikimedian from Herndon, Virginia, just outside Washington, DC. She is currently studying technology and intellectual property law at George Mason University School of Law.

Kat worked for Wikia, Inc. as part of the Community Support team from February to August 2006. A member of Wikimedia's Communications Committee, she frequently talks with the media about Wikimedia's projects and answers mail sent to the Foundation. In October 2005 she was appointed to the Arbitration Committee on the English Wikipedia, which she



served on until joining the Board. Kat is also a classical bassoonist, holding a bachelor's degree in music from Stetson University.

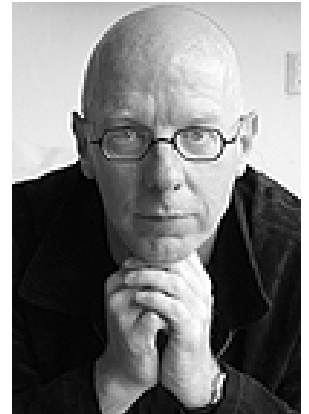
Frieda Brioschi

Frieda Brioschi (30, Italian) joined the Wikimedia Board in July 2007. She has been involved in Wikipedia and other WMF projects since May 2003. In June 2005 she helped found Wikimedia Italia, a local chapter organization associated with Wikimedia, and has been president of that organization since. She currently lives in Rome where she works as a programmer.

Oscar van Dillen

Oscar is an editor and bureaucrat for the Dutch-language Wikipedia and other Dutch Wikimedia projects. He also holds the role of steward since May 2005, helping and advising many projects in many languages. Van Dillen is a member of the Special Projects committee, which helps the Foundation pursue grants, oversee expansion efforts, and encourage partnerships between the Foundation and other organizations.

Professionally, Van Dillen is a musician and composer, teaching World music composition as well as music theory in the jazz, pop and world music department at the Conservatory of Rotterdam.



Manon Ress

Dr. Ress is currently focusing on intellectual property issues, building public awareness on the debate over the value of public interest in intellectual property rights. She is an active participant at the World Intellectual Property Organization's meetings of the Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights and in other multilateral fora where access to knowledge issues intersect with intellectual property laws. Dr. Ress works on promoting fair use rights, open standards, open access publishing and other e-commerce and internet-related consumer protection issues such as the definition of unfair contracts and tort liabilities. From 2000 to 2004, she was a consumer representative on the U.S. Delegation to the Proposed Hague Convention on Jurisdiction and Foreign Judgments in Civil and Commercial Matters.

Prior to her present position, she was the Director of the Debs-Jones-Douglass Institute and Manager of Education and Technology for JTG Associates, an international team that developed the Universiti Tun Abdul Razak in Malaysia. She has held teaching and research positions at Princeton University and Temple University, where she was selected as a Lilly Fellow to study the use of technology in teaching. From 1995 to 1996

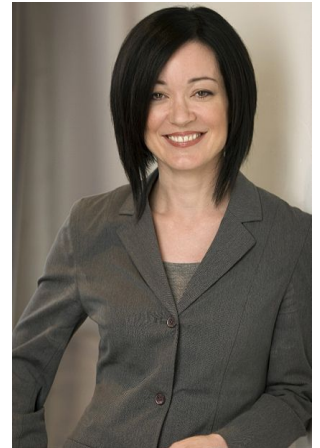


she was a research and workshop coordinator for Essential Information, and prior to that held several posts as a consultant, lecturer, writer, and editor.

Dr. Ress holds a B.A. and a Master's Degree from the Université de Nice, France as well as a Master's and a Ph.D. from Princeton University. Recently, she became the managing editor for the new open journal "Knowledge Ecology Studies".

Sue Gardner

Sue Gardner is a consultant and special advisor to the Wikimedia Foundation, as of June 2007. Gardner is a nonprofit internet executive who was most recently head of CBC.CA, the website of Canada's national public broadcaster, and that country's largest and most popular news site. Under her leadership, CBC.CA more than doubled its audience, and won dozens of international awards. Prior to running CBC.CA, Gardner was a journalist for 10 years, producing documentaries and talk programming primarily for the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, and also for media organizations such as the British Broadcasting Corporation and National Public Radio.



Angela Beesley

Angela Beesley, chair of Wikimedia's Advisory Board, is a co-founder of Wikia and a former member of Wikimedia's Board of Trustees. Angela has been involved with Wikipedia since February 2003. Angela has contributed a chapter on managing wikis to the book *Wikis: Tools for information Work and Collaboration*. Angela was formerly an educational researcher. Angela is originally from Norfolk and has lived in England, Germany, and Australia.



Heather Ford

Heather Ford is the Executive Director of iCommons and is based in Johannesburg.

iCommons is a relatively new organisation, incubated by Creative Commons, with the goal of bringing together the various 'streams' of the global commons movement. Once a year, iCommons hosts the iCommons Summit (last year in Rio <http://www.icommons.org/isummit/>, this year in Dubrovnik) where we bring together people who practice commons-based peer production in the areas of free software, open access, Creative Commons, access to knowledge and free culture communities around the world. We're also continuing to



broaden the communities who are involved in the debates around how best to grow the commons of knowledge and culture to include those who are discussing the role of 'piracy' in Asia, for example, decentralized distribution of local films in Nigeria and local music in Brazil called 'Tecno Brega' which has been distributed without the need for copyright controls. Above all, iCommons is determined to introduce a new diversity to debates around the commons, requiring a new focus on countries of the South in our work. This is hopefully where I can provide the most input to Wikimedia - and hopefully develop some partnerships as well.

Melissa Hagermann

Melissa manages the Open Access Initiative within the Information Program of the Open Society Institute (OSI)/Soros foundations. Since convening the meeting in December 2001 which led to the development of the Budapest Open Access Initiative, she has been active within the Open Access movement which advocates for the free online availability of peer-reviewed literature.

Melissa also works with the eIFL (electronic Information for Libraries) network to manage the eIFL Open Access Program that aims to spread the benefits of Open Access among eIFL's members in 50 developing and transition countries. She has held several positions within OSI including managing OSI's Regional Library Program from 1995-1997 based in Budapest as well as the Science Journals Donation Program from 1998-2001.

She was profiled as a SPARC Innovator in December 2006 for her work within the Open Access movement. Melissa has served on the Member of Experts' Group of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation's Global Library Initiative.



Teemu Leinonen

Teemu Leinonen leads the Learning Environments research group of the Media Lab, University of Art and Design Helsinki.

The group is involved in research, design and development of New Media tools, as well as their use and application, in the field of learning.

The research group has coordinated research and development projects funded by The European Commission (IST), National Technology Agency of Finland (TEKES), the Nordic Council of Ministers and the UNESCO. The group is internationally recognized from its open source virtual learning environment called Fle3, MobilED audio wiki



platform, and LeMill web community for finding, authoring and sharing learning resources.

Teemu holds over a decade of experience in the field of research and development of web-based learning, computer supported collaborative learning (CSCL), online cooperation, educational planning and educational politics. With his family Teemu has lived in Tanzania, Afghanistan and Kenya. At least once a year he visits his "compañera's" family in Colombia.

Rebecca MacKinnon

Rebecca MacKinnon is currently an Assistant Professor at the University of Hong Kong's Journalism and Media Studies Centre, where she teaches "new media", examining the intersection between the Internet and journalism. At the Berkman Center, MacKinnon and her colleague Ethan Zuckerman co-founded Global Voices Online, an award-winning international citizen media community, with which she remains involved in management.

Starting at the bottom of CNN's Beijing bureau, she became a correspondent for the news channel, and Bureau Chief from 1998-2001. She served as the Tokyo Bureau Chief from 2001-03.

MacKinnon started a fellowship at the Shorenstein Center on the Press, Politics and Public Policy at Harvard's Kennedy School of Government in January 2004. Her research focus was on blogs and participatory online media, especially as relates to international news. Three months in, she resigned from CNN, and was invited to stay at Harvard as a Research Fellow at Harvard Law School's Berkman Center for Internet and Society. This enabled her to re-direct her career from TV news to online media.

Her ongoing research interests are the future of media in the Internet age, freedom of speech online, and the Internet in China.

She serves on the Board of Directors for Tor, which aims to improve safety and security on the Internet, and the US Advisory Board for FON, for most of 2006.



Wayne Mackintosh

I'm currently the Education Specialist for eLearning and ICT policy at the Commonwealth of Learning based in Vancouver (www.col.org). We're an international agency working in 53 countries of the Commonwealth promoting learning for development. Free content is a priority for our work.

I'm an unashamed advocate of free software <smile> and had the privilege of leading a Government funded project called the eLearning XHTML

editor (eXe) when still living in New Zealand - This is a small OSS project working on a simple authoring tool for web content for teachers. (<http://exelearning.org>)

Prior to joining COL, I was the founding Director of the Centre for Flexible and Distance Learning at the University of Auckland and before working in New Zealand worked for the University of South Africa - one of the mega distance-teaching university's of the world.

COL has initiated a small wiki called WikiEducator - (using Mediawiki software of course) and we are committed to helping educators in the developing world to participate as equal contributors in the development of free content.

Benjamin Mako Hill

Benjamin Mako Hill is a Debian hacker and author of the Debian GNU/Linux 3.1 Bible and "The Official Ubuntu Book".

He works in the Computing Culture group of the MIT Media Lab, and is on the boards of Software Freedom International (the organization that organizes Software Freedom Day) and the Ubuntu Foundation. Hill was on the board of Software in the Public Interest from March 2003 until July 2006, serving as the organisation's vice-president from August 2004.



Erin McKean

Erin McKean likes to call herself a "Dictionary Evangelist". As Chief Consulting Editor, American Dictionaries, for Oxford University Press, and the editor of VERBATIM: The Language Quarterly. She was the editor in chief of the *The New Oxford American Dictionary, 2e*. Her other books about words include *Weird and Wonderful Words*, *More Weird and Wonderful Words*, *Totally Weird and Wonderful Words*, and *That's Amore*.

Previously, she was the editorial manager for the Thorndike-Barnhart Dictionaries at ScottForesman, a Pearson company. She has served on the board of the Dictionary Society of North America and on the editorial board for its journal, *Dictionaries*, as well as on the editorial board for the journal of the American Dialect Society, *American Speech*.

McKean lives in Chicago, maintains a blog about dresses, and describes herself as being "really bad at Scrabble", despite credentials to suggest otherwise.



Achal Prabhala

Achal Prabhala is a researcher and writer based in Bangalore, India, whose research work concerns access to knowledge and



to medicine. Recent projects include an initiative to collect and publicly archive literary journals from Kenya, Nigeria, India, South Africa, the Middle East and the US; a report to the Indian Government for an overhaul of country's copyright act; essays on piracy and the legal commons; a commission to evaluate Botswana's patent law and medicines registration system; and an evaluatory framework for assessing copyright law and access to knowledge.

From 2004 to 2005, he coordinated a project on access to learning materials in Southern Africa, where (as part of a coalition of diverse groups), they advocated for legal/policy change to make learning materials affordable. He co-authored a report on the state of IP and learning materials in Southern Africa, and made submissions to a number of governmental bodies in the region. Prior to that, he worked on cases around access to medicines in Guyana, South Africa, India. Previous to beginning IP research work, he worked as a journalist.

Raoul Weiler

I am located in Belgium in Antwerp. During the last years my activities focus primarily on sustainability issues as a planetary challenge, the use of low-cost ICT in schools and communities as a contribution to the eradication of illiteracy and bridging the digital gap, and facilitating the access of all to the oncoming worldwide information and knowledge societies, as well as on sustainable economy questions. At present, I chair and founded the Brussels-EU Chapter of the Club of Rome (CoR-EU) and am a member of the Executive Committee of the International Club of Rome (CoR). I am a Fellow of the World Academy of Art and Science (WAAS), member of Scientific Advisory Board of European Papers in the New Welfare, a member of the Board of Greenfacts and the president of the new created DigitalWorld. I participated as a NGO participant at the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg (WSSD, 2002) and the World Summit on the Information Society in Geneva and Tunis (WSIS, 2003 & 2005) as well as at the World Social Forum in Porto Alegre (WSF, 2005). My academic background is engineering with a degree of engineering and Ph. D. in chemistry both at the University of Leuven (KUL), Belgium and spent several years as Post-doc in the US and France. My industrial career started in a chemical multinational in the Department of Applied Physics and ended, until retirement (1996), as manager of the ICT department. I have held teaching positions at different universities, in particular at the University of Leuven in the Faculty of Bio-engineering Sciences (KUL), and gave lectures about the relationship between technology and society, especially about the problem of sustainability and ethics. I am the co-author and editor of four books on sustainability, global change and philosophy and ethics of technology. Recent publications: Ethic Aspects of the Convention on Climate Change (2005) and the Proceedings of the joint



World Conference of the Club of Rome and UNESCO on ICTs for Capacity-Building: Critical Success Factors (2005).

Ward Cunningham

Ward Cunningham is the Director of Committer Community Development of the Eclipse Foundation, an innovative open source collaboration among large and small commercial interests focused specifically on software development. Ward co-founded the consultancy, Cunningham & Cunningham, Inc., has served as an Architect in Microsoft's Patterns & Practices Group, the Director of R&D at Wyatt Software and as Principle Engineer in the Tektronix Computer Research Laboratory. Ward is well known for his contributions to the developing practice of object-oriented programming, the variation called Extreme Programming, and the communities supported by his WikiWikiWeb. Ward hosts the AgileManifesto.org. He is a founder of the Hillside Group and there created the Pattern Languages of Programs conferences, which continue to be held all over the world.



Joris Komen

Joris Komen says he was lured into the information and communication technologies by the computerisation of museum collections, while the curator of birds at the National Museum of Namibia. He has spent considerable time and energy promoting the relevance of the Internet and other technologies to African museums and schools within and around Namibia. He is a champion of incentive-reward mechanisms to provide ICTs to schools in Namibia by way of a biodiversity-oriented school competition called Insect@thon.

Komen played a critical role in launching and driving SchoolNet Namibia, a civil society organisation which is committed to providing sustainable internet access, free/libre and open source software, and open educational content to all schools in Namibia. I am presently SchoolNet Namibia's executive director. The organization has proved to be a model for the sustainable introduction of ICTs across the education sector, and has been recognised by the Namibian government's National Development Plans as a key actor.

Born in the Congo, Komen was raised and variously educated in Burundi, Holland, Nigeria and South Africa.



Organisational team for the meeting

Florence Nibart-Devouard
fdevouard@wikimedia.org

Achal Prabhala
a_prabhala@yahoo.co.uk

Sue Gardner
sgardner@wikimedia.org

Angela Beesley
angela@wikimedia.org

Manon Ress
manon.ress@keionline.org

Meeting will occur at CTOYAC, Room 323 (at the second floor of Education Building). Free wireless internet access will be provided.