

TO: Unicode Technical Committee  
FROM: Deborah Anderson  
DATE: 8 May 2006  
RE: Liaison report, Script Encoding Initiative, UC Berkeley Dept. of Linguistics

***Ongoing Work:***

*Lanna:* Groundwork on a proposal for Lanna was done in February 2006 by Michael Everson and Martin Hosken. A preliminary codechart has been prepared and work will continue during 2006 on the script proposal.

*Egyptian Hieroglyphs:* A meeting was held in Berkeley in early May 2006 to discuss how to move the current proposal forward. The goal is to have a proposal ready both for the August UTC and for a meeting of computer-literate Egyptologists in August (being held in Oxford).

*Hieroglyphic Luwian:* Michael Everson and Debbie Anderson met with Prof. Anna Morpurgo-Davies in Berkeley in early May, discussed overall encoding issues, and worked through most of the inventory of characters. A proposal for this script is envisioned as being completed later in the year.

*Maithili:* A graduate student from the University of Washington is working on a proposal for this script, hoping to complete it in 2006.

*Tangut:* Richard Cook will be traveling to Taiwan in June to work with experts at Academia Sinica on a Tangut proposal.

*Bamum:* Chuck Riley will be travelling to Cameroon in August to do field research on the Bamum script, with the eventual goal of developing a script proposal. This work will be conducted in tandem with a project sponsored by the Endangered Archives Archives program.

*Meitei:* We have received preliminary feedback from the user community on this proposal and will continue to get the remaining questions answered so this proposal can be completed.

*Medieval (European) texts:* A second proposal on punctuation needed for work by medievalists will be forthcoming.

*Byzantine Epigraphic symbols:* Maria Pantelia from UC Irvine's Thesaurus Linguae Graecae (TLG) will review the Byzantine symbols in their materials, and has agreed to work with Joel Kalvesmaki at Dumbarton Oaks in preparing a proposal on Byzantine epigraphic symbols.

***Follow-up Activities:***

UNESCO's Initiative B@bel has funded work on a N'ko font and for the collection of CLDR information, with work to be completed by June 2006. As part of the project, Michael Everson is creating a webpage that details how to create an N'Ko font (<http://everytype.com/fonts/nko/>). Debbie Anderson has written a short document also as part of the UNESCO project that outlines the entire process from encoding scripts to creating fonts and keyboards for minority users. This will be posted in May or June 2006 on the SEI website.

*Script Research:* A visiting doctoral student at UC Berkeley has done background research on the unencoded scripts for the SEI website--information on where a script is used, which languages use it, and links to any fonts that are available. It is now available on the SEI website at: <http://linguistics.berkeley.edu/sei/USR.html>.

*Meetings:* Michael Everson traveled to Geneva in May to give a talk to an ITU - UNESCO conference, "Global Symposium on Promoting the Multilingual Internet," on the N'Ko project, which was funded by UNESCO.

Debbie Anderson will speak at a number of meetings including:

- At a June workshop of E-MELD (Electronic Metastructure for Endangered Languages Data) on the steps involved in encoding scripts, creating keyboards, and submitting locale data to CLDR.
- At the Association for Literary and Linguistic Computing in Paris in July, discussing when it is appropriate to submit a character for encoding as opposed to markup. (This meeting draws many adherents of the Text Encoding Initiative or TEI.)
- Plans are in the works to give a presentation on Unicode both at the Linguistic Society of America annual conference in January 2007 and at the LSA summer institute, the latter of which will be held at Stanford in the summer of 2007.