Wikimania

the international Wikimedia conference

August 3-5, 2007

Chien Tan Overseas Youth Activity Center, Taipei, Taiwan

Wikimania Overview

Wikimania is the Wikimedia Foundation's annual conference and will be held this year in Taipei, Taiwan from August 3 - 5. The event brings together international users from various Wikimedia projects, as well as individuals interested in learning about Wiki technology, free content and free knowledge, and educational and social trends in the internet culture. Both a scientific conference and community event, Wikimania provides attendees with the opportunity to exchange ideas, build relationships, and report on various research and project efforts in the Open Source community.

Media Coverage

Wikimania attracts journalists and renowned bloggers from around the world. The event receives media coverage worldwide. A sample of media present in Wikimedia 2005 and 2006 included: BBC, CBS, CNET, Computer World, Die Zeit, Network World, Chicago Sun Times, New York Times, Boston Globe, Chronicle of Higher Education, Cox Newspapers, Frankfurter Algemeine Zeitung, German News Radio, Global Vision, Guardian, Harvard Advocate, Popular Science, Spiegel online, Stern, Technology Media Group, The Guardian and ZDF, among others.

Technology Leaders

Wikimania is considered a premiere event in the open source community. As a result, the event draws such notable technology leaders as Ward Cunningham, inventor of the wiki, Mitch Kapor, founder of Lotus Development Co. and Mozilla Foundation. In addition, a three-day technology workshop, Hacking Days, is also held as part of the main conference. Hacking Days attract high profile developers interested in learning about important initiatives in the Mediawiki software and open source development.
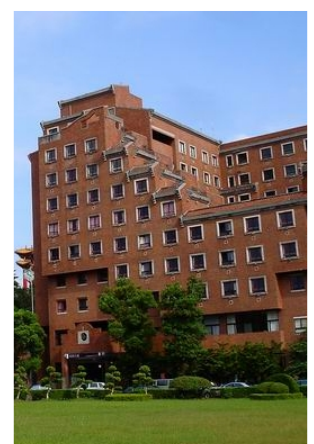
Hacking Days

A mini technical conference is held during Wikimania. "Hacking Days" attracts MediaWiki developers and Open Source techies. Through various presentations and workshops, attendees learn about MediaWiki and future releases, as well as about important initiatives in the Open Source movement. Additionally, developers have the opportunity to do some relaxed hacking, while catching up with their Open Source colleagues. The Citizen Journalism is mini unconference that brings together individuals from around the world to discuss the principles, techniques, tools and business models relating to citizen journalism. The event is considered an "unconference" because audience members are considered the experts, and only moderators are present to lead discussions.

Wikimania 2005 in Frankfurt, Germany

Wikimania 2005 in Harvard Law School, Cambridge, USA

Wikimania 2007 in Taipei, Taiwan

Wikimedia Foundation Overview

The Foundation

The Wikimedia Foundation is a non-profit charitable organization – 501(c)(3) – based in St. Petersburg, Florida, USA. It operates a number of collaborative projects, such as the popular website, Wikipedia.

The Wikimedia Foundation's mission is to empower every human being with the ability to share in the sum of all human knowledge. This is accomplished by encouraging the growth, development and distribution of free, multilingual content, organized and gathered through diverse wikis.

The Wikimedia Foundation is a champion of the Free Culture movement, and believes that educational tools should be free and available to everyone. As a result, the Foundation supports programs and organizations that align themselves with the philosophies of the Free Culture movement.

However, the primary role of the Foundation is to provide projects with technical and administrative support. Since each project is self-governing, the Foundation does not involve itself with the day to day editorial tasks, nor management of any one particular project. The organisation's assets include the servers, domain names and trademarks of the numerous Wikimedia projects and MediaWiki software.

The Wikimedia Foundation very largely relies on public donations and grants, and operates mostly with volunteer staff.

Schedule

Wikimania 2007 will be held August 3-5 in Taipei, Taiwan at Chien Tan Overseas Youth Activity Center (CTOYAC).

3 August

Time	Hall (300 seats)	Room 325 (70 seats)	Room 328 (80 seats)	Room 332 (70 seats)	Room 334 (70 seats)	Wikimania Lounge at 319
9:00~10:15	Welcome Speeches: Florence Nibart-Devouard (Anthere)/Jimmy Wales (Jimbo)					
10:15~10:30	Break, open space introduction					
10:30~noon Session 1	session 101 Benjamin Mako Hill: Freedom's Standard Advanced Kat Walsh: The Conscientious Copyfighter	session 102 Panel Jakob Voss: The Semantic Web and why Wikipedia should bother Denny Vrandecic: Wikipedia 3.0: MediaWiki meets the Semantic Web	session 103 Enric Senabre Hidalgo: Meritocracy, vandalism and similarities with Open Source development Su-Chu Hsu, Ju-Chun Ko: Authorship and Liquidity in Wikiart Sylvain Zimmer: Building a sustainable economy around free music, the Jamendo way	session 104 Panel Anthony Mao, Thomas Tsai, Yu, Long-Shan: Library with Free Information and Free Software	session 105 Seth Anthony: Where Have All The Writers Gone: The Diversion, Distraction and Departure of Wiki "Content Creators"" Lawrence Liang - Debate on the Authority of Knowledge vis a vis Wikipedia	session 106
12:00~1:30pm	Lunch					
1:30~2:30pm Session 2	session 201 Erik Moeller: Wiki2-Wiki: Wikimedia and the new ecosystem of knowledge	session 202 Jack Herrick: Challenges in a growing wiki : The wikiHow case study	session 203 Revo Soekatno: Malay, Malaysian and Indonesian languages on Wikipedia Ravi Kant: The history and the current status of Hindi wikipedia and it's communities.	session 204 Panel Lawrence Liang - open content licensing Teresa Malango : Licensing Strategy and Business model for Open Content	session 205	session 206 BOF user:michele, Why is Media Wiki not (yet) the ideal Wiki-engine for (formal) educational settings? Naoko Kizu: Translation for Community Building
2:30~2:45pm	Break					
2:45~3:45pm Session 3	session 301 Samuel Klein: OLPC and addressing systemic bias	session 302 Guillaume Paumier, Elisabeth Bauer: Strengthening and unifying the visual identity of Wikimedia projects: a step towards maturity	session 303 Sabahat Ashraf: National and Community Information Databases —WikiPakista, WikiIndia and HumanRights.ProgressiveIslam.org David Beall: SFHOMELESS.NET and Wikia: Wiki technology expanding into government and social service resources	session 304 Harel Cain: Hebrew language Wikipedia: what makes it special and what other projects can learn from it Chia-Wei Chiu: The Study of Wiki Editing Behavior of China Wikipedian - A Case Study of Wikipedia	session 305	session 306 BoF Masayuki Hatta: The Issues on Wiki Licensing
3:45~4:00pm	Afternoon break					
4:00~5:00pm Session 4	session 401 Jimmy Wales	Session 402 Workshop Gerard Meijssen: languages, small projects, the language committee, fund raising, signwriting	session 403 Panel David Pendery: Wikipedia and Taiwanese Students--A Good Mix	session 404 LIN, Yu-Shyen: Evaluating the Effectiveness of TaiwanBaseballWiki Kwang-Tsao Shao: how to apply Wiki system on Taiwanese Encyclopedia of Life	session 405 Workshop Elizabeth Stark & Samuel Klein: Free Culture Spaces - Building a Network of Community Centers to Promote Free Content Development	session 406 Lightning talks #1
5:00~5:30pm	Wrap-up (summary of day's sessions); Poster Session					

Schedule (2)

4 August

Time	Lecture Room (170 seats)	Room 325 (70 seats)	Room 328 (80 seats)	Room 332 (70 seats)	Room 334 (70 seats)	Lounge & Open Space at 319
9:00~9:15	Welcome, daily announcements and overview					
9:15~9:30	Break					
9:30~10:30 Session 5	session 501 Achal Prabhala: Wiki-media in the offline world Joris Komen: Are FLOSS, Open Content and Open Access solutions practicable and scaleable in remote, underserved African schools?	session 502 Haidong Pan Democracy and business model: wikipedia and wiki ecosystem in China Mathias Schindler:The economics of writing and publishing an encyclopedia	session 503 Teemu Leinonen: Vision for Wikiversity: academy, popular education/folk high school and free school Cormac Lawler: Learning and learning about learning in Wikiversity	session 504 Brian Mingus: Using Natural Language Processing to determine the quality of Wikipedia articles Luca De Alfaro: A Content-Driven Reputation System for the Wikipedia	session 505 Panel Craig Spurrier: Grass Root media and CJU review	session 506
10:30~10:45	Break					
10:45~11:45 Session 6	session 601 Panel Ward Cunningham, Valentin Jijkoun (TBC), James Forrester, Dirk Riehle: The future of wikis	session 602 Gerard Meijssen: OmegaWiki, Wiki for Professional, the launch of semantic support for Wikipedia and the use of OmegaWiki in education and publications Chao-Kuei Hung: Free Culture Advocacy: A General Strategy and Some Examples Involving Social Movement Groups and Community Universities	session 603 Isaac Mao: Knowledge Forming, Heredity, and Variation	session 604 David Pendery: Bright Air, Brilliant Fire: The Mind of Wikipedia KaKan Lo: Another role of Wikipedians: Guiding machines to do intelligent tasks	session 605	session 706 BOF Li-Hua Wu: The Accumulation of Local Knowledge and Public Participation:A case study of Chu-Tien, Liu-Dui Jun-Fa Wong: How to gathering local knowledge?—Public Participation mechanism of 2007 localacy GIS project.
11:45~1:15pm	Lunch					
1:15~2:15pm Session 7	session 701 Raoul Weiler: Compilation of Ethnographic Objects from Museums Reserves	session 702 Renaud Gaudin: moulin - offline wikipedia for the developing world Kim Tucker: Libre Knowledge and Another World is Possible	session 703 Ida Suandi: Wikipedia: A Powerful Tool of Knowledge or an Internet Phenomena? A Survey Study of Singapore Language Teachers' Perspectives on the Use of Wikipedia in Teaching. Jan-bart De Vreede : Wiki's in Dutch Education	session 704 Michael Dale: Metavid Wiki - Real Time Collaborative Semantic Audio/Video Metadata in MediaWiki. Ping Yeh: Embeddable Wiki Engine: proof of concept and application ideas	session 705 SJ, Summer of Content 2007 & Curriculum Jam	session 706
2:15~2:30	Break					
2:30~3:30pm Session 8	session 801 Melissa Hagemann: Open Access movement Erin McKean: What Does Reference Look Like? (And Why Looks Don't Matter Much)	session 802 Kate (Aude): Free, open source geospatial mapping tools and use in Wikimedia projects Evan Prodromou: Extending wikis with social networking tools	session 803 Workshop Cormac Lawler: Understanding, defining, and developing Wikiversity	session 804 Workshop Alexis Rondeau, Hector Rinaldi, Stan Wiechers: Distribute knowledge using cell-phone readable physical hyperlinks	session 805 Panel Election Panel (briefing and accept questions from the audience) Jon Harald Søby Tim Starling Kizu Naoko Benjamin Mako Hill Cary Bass Jan-Bart de Vreede	session 806
3:30~3:45pm	Break					
3:45~4:45pm Session 9	session 901 Mike Godwin, Kat Walsh, Andrew Lih: shifting nature of the community	session 902 'Workshop Yuri Astrakhan: Direct data access with MediaWiki API	session 903 'Workshop Kim Tucker: WikiMedia and Education: extending Wikimedia tools for Collaborative Learning	session 904 Workshop Dirk Riehle: Bringing Wikipedia to Work: Open Collaboration within Corporations	session 905 Workshop Adam Hyde: Free Manuals for free software	session 906 Lightning talks #2
4:45~5:00pm	Afternoon break					
5:00~5:10pm	Daily wrapup, session summary					
6:30-9:50pm	Wikimania Party and Film Festival					

5 August

Time	Hall (300 seats)	Auditorium (800 seats)	Room 325 (70 seats) tech 2	Room 328 (80 seats) admins	Room 332 (70 seats)	Room 334 (70 seats)	Lounge & Open Space at 319
9:00~9:15	Welcome, daily announcements and overview						
9:15~9:30	Break						
9:30~10:30 Session 10	session 1001 Wayne Mackintosh: Sustainable innovation in mega-projects Delphine Ménard: Virtual and national cultures: Wikimedia, projects and organisation	session 1002	session 1003 Brion Vibber: Hacking Days Review Brian Behlendorf: What Open Source and Wiki Communities Can Teach Businesses About Innovation and Collaboration	session 1004 Brianna Laugher: Special:Contributions/newbies: a study of newly-registered user behaviour James Hare: How to Effectively Deal with Disputes	session 1005 Workshop Dominick Chen Remix with wikipedia, remix on wikipedia	session 1006 Rebecca MacKinnon: Citizen media: Why Global Voices isn't trying to be a news agency. Craig Spurrier: Wikinews: How it is unique, and what the future holds	session 1007 Lightning talks #3
10:30~10:45	Break						
10:45~11:45 Session 11	Plenary - Joi ito: the Sharing Economy						session 1107
11:45~1:15pm	Lunch						
1:15~2:15pm Session 12	session 1201 Benjamin Mako Hill: Supporting Collaboration in Branched Articles Alain Desilets: Making WikiMedia resources more useful for translators	session 1202	session 1203 Christoph Sauer, Chuck Smith: WikiCreole and its practical applications - the future of wiki interaction Jon Phillips: SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT - Wikibiblio: A Community-based Bibliographic System	session 1204 Workshop Heather Ford, Elizabeth Stark, Sylvain Zimmer: iCommons, Creative Commons and a new global movement around Free Culture	session 1205 Panel Digital Art, Open source and open content.	session 1206 Greg Stein: Google and wiki	session 1207 BOF Lodewijk Gelauff: Wikimedia conferences - Local opportunities Guillaume Paumier : Wikimedia Meta-Wiki as a thematic coordination platform for WikiProjects
2:15~2:30	Break						
2:30~3:50pm Session 13	Plenary: Wikimedia Foundation Board Panel						session 1307
3:50~4:00pm	Break						
4:00~4:30pm Session 14	Closing Speech-Jimmy Wales						session 1407
4:30~4:40pm	Afternoon break						
4:40~5:10pm	Awards session						
5:10~5:30pm	Wrap-up, closing gala & ceremony						

Venue

Chien Tan Overseas Youth Activity Center is a comprehensive convention center in a large and quiet landscape garden by Keelung River and Chien Tan Peak in a scenic and busy area of central north Taipei.

CTOYAC is 400 meters from the Jiantan subway/metro station. It is also easily reached from Sun Yat-sen Freeway, which leads straightly to Taipei CKS International Airport in Taoyuan, Taiwan.

Key Speakers

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

Benjamin Mako Hill is a Debian hacker and author of the Debian GNU/Linux 3.1 Bible and "The Official Ubuntu Book", working in the Computing Culture group of the MIT Media Lab.

Brian Behlendorf is an technologist, computer programmer, and an important figure in the open-source software movement. He was a primary developer of the Apache Web server.

Erin McKean is Chief Consulting Editor, American Dictionaries, for Oxford University Press, and the editor of VERBATIM: The Language Quarterly.

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

Heather Ford is the Executive Director of iCommons, an organisation with the goal of bringing together the various 'streams' of the global commons movement.

Isaac Mao is a venture capitalist, blogger, software architect, entrepreneur, researcher in learning and social technology, and Director to Social Brain Foundation.

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

Joichi Ito is a co-founder and board member of Digital Garage, the CEO of Neoteny, and the Chairman of Creative Commons

Lawrence Liang is a legal researcher and an Indian lawyer of Chinese descent, known for his legal campaigns on issues of public concern.

Melissa Hagemann manages the Open Access Initiative, which advocates for the free online availability of peer-reviewed literature.

Raoul Weiler primarily focuses on sustainability issues as a planetary challenge and the use of low-cost ICT in schools and communities as a contribution to the eradication of illiteracy.

Rebecca MacKinnon is currently an Assistant Professor at the University of Hong Kong's Journalism and Media Studies Centre, where she examines the intersection between the Internet and journalism.

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

Wayne Mackintosh is the Education Specialist for eLearning and ICT policy at the Commonwealth of Learning based in Vancouver.

Joris Komen was curator of birds at the National Museum of Namibia, who has been promoting the relevance of the Internet and other technologies to African museums and schools within and around Namibia.

Angela Beesley, chair of Wikimedia's Advisory Board, is a co-founder of Wikia and a former member of Wikimedia's Board of Trustees.

Ward Cunningham is the Director of Committer Community Development of the Eclipse Foundation, an innovative open source collaboration focused specifically on software development.
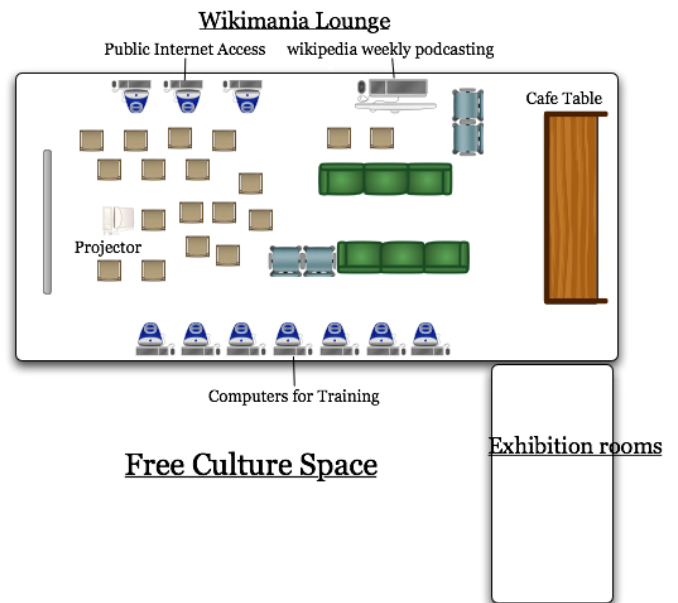
Ravikant is a historian, writer and translator, working with Sarai programme of the CSDS, Delhi on issues such as Language, Technology and popular culture.

Side Events

Free Culture Space

The Free Culture Space at Wikimania 2007 will be a remix of multiple open culture essences. There will be topics ranging from open source to open content, both practically and theoretically, in the form of recording tools for capturing audio and video (interviews and art and more), Demos of open platforms and projects, BOFs and lightning talks around related topics, hands-on training in using tools (writing code, making podcasts, developing for OLPCs and OpenMokos), a digital artworks exhibition (including material made at Wikimania)... We would like to invite all participants and groups working on art, music, articles, textbooks, and programming to join, share, learn and enjoy.

All participants are encouraged to suggest topics for our Free Culture Space, which will be an ad-hoc opportunity to create and share new work, and discuss and present ideas, without a fixed schedule. This will also be a good place to record your observations at the conference and build discussion of your work on the conference wiki.

> You may find more background information about the wikimania lounge here:
> http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:WikiProject_WikipediaWeekly/Wikimania_2007

The Free Culture Space consists of 3 parts: the Wikimania Lounge, Posters and Exhibitions

Citizen Journalism Unconference

The event brings together individuals with the purpose of brainstorming and discussing key aspects of citizen journalism, including principles, techniques, tools, business models, and more. It follows an "unconference" format, in that the audience are the experts.

Hacking Days

Hacking Days will be held from 1-2 August. It will be a chance to meet the MediaWiki developers, hear technical presentations, and work on projects. Hacking Days is highly participatory and is geared towards active developers.

Hacking Days Extra

The event is an offshoot of Hacking Days, the mini-technical conference held during Wikimania. During this event, sponsors and interested parties have the opportunity to talk to the high-profile developers, who work extensively on MediaWiki.

Facts & stats

Quick facts

- The Wikimedia Foundation (http://wikimediafoundation.org) supports 9 free information projects, including the ever popular Wikipedia.

- Wikipedia is a multilingual, web-based, free content encyclopedia project. Wikipedia is written collaboratively by volunteers; the vast majority of its articles can be edited by anyone with access to the Internet.

- All content is licensed under GNU Free Documentation License (GFDL). This means individuals can copy, distribute and modify each other's work, as long as it maintains these freedoms.

- Wikipedia is the world's fastest growing, most current, and largest encyclopedia. Currently, it is one of top ten most visited websites in the world. In october 2006, the sites had 154 million unique visitors per month.

- The French, English, and German language versions of Wikipedia are the largest. The French language Wikipedia contains 500 000 articles in june 2007. In january 2007, Wikipedia received 8 million unique visitors per month in France.

- The entirety of the content can be freely downloaded by anyone in the world through http://download.wikimedia.org.

- The key to our projects is the innovative and relatively new type of technology, known as Wiki. Invented by Ward Cunningham in 1995, a wiki allows users to make edits to a website using a web browser. The name is derived from the Hawaiian word "wiki", meaning quick.

- MediaWiki, the free software wiki package developped by our dedicated core of volunteers, has been deployed as a collaborative knowledge management tool by international cooperations, organizations, and universities. See http://www.mediawiki.org.

- The Wikimedia projects run on a cluster of around 350 Linux servers located in Florida, Amsterdam, and Seoul. During peak times, the servers handle 33,000 requests per second, the average is 21,000 req/s.

- Ward Cunningham, the inventor of the wiki, is on the Advisory Board to the Board of Trustees, as well as Mitch Kapor, founder of the Mozilla Foundation.

Wikimedia projects

Wikipedia
The multilingual, free-content encyclopedia
http://www.wikipedia.org
7 million articles, in over 250 languages
Edited 275 million times
6.8 million subscribed users

Wikimedia Commons
A repository for pictures and other media files under free licenses
1.4 million media files

Wikisource
A repository of primary and secondary source texts
200,000 articles in 52 languages

Wikibooks
Open content textbooks
66,000 articles in over 120 languages

Wiktionary
Free dictionary and thesaurus
2.1 million articles, in over 172 languages

Wikinews
Collaboratively written news
34,000 articles in 22 languages

Wikiquote
A free compendium of quotations
60,500 articles in 87 languages

Wikiversity
Free learning materials and activities

- March 2007

Contacts & Materials

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Press Materials

Wikimania 2007

Official website

http://wikimania2007.wikimedia.org

(full schedule, abstracts, speakers, accomodation...)

Wikimania press room

http://wikimania2007.wikimedia.org/wiki/Press

(includes guidelines for journalists, and an interview schedule)

Wikimedia Foundation

Official website

http://wikimediafoundation.org

High-resolution logos and photos about Wikimedia

http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Commons:Press

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Association of Digital Culture of Taiwan

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