Special Recognition
for a Vancouver \TeX{}nician

by Michael J. Downes
On Tuesday afternoon, August 17, 1999, there was a pause in the afternoon program of regular presentations to extend special recognition to Donald Arseneau. The recognition took the form of a framed Duane Bibby original drawing that had been commissioned by the \TeX Users Group. The drawing was presented by Michael Downes with some brief remarks, reproduced here in an extremely free paraphrase.

Over the years many people have made substantial contributions to the community of \TeX users without receiving any financial compensation in return. Donald Knuth himself, of course, to kick it all off by giving \TeX into the public domain, but \TeX users around the world have also benefited greatly from the efforts of people such as Tomas Rokicki (dvips), Eberhard Mattes (em\TeX), Thomas Esser (te\TeX), the members of the \LaTeX team, and many others too numerous to name. The occasion of holding a TUG meeting here at UBC, however, seemed a propitious opportunity for extending some small recognition to someone who lives right here in Vancouver who has helped many \TeX users over the years. He has not had any advance warning that we were planning to do this, but we would like to present something to Donald Arseneau.

Donald’s contributions to the \TeX community fall into two categories:

1. He has answered countless questions over many years from all manner of users on the newsgroup comp.text.tex, and his answers have a reputation for highest quality.

2. He has contributed dozens of packages to CTAN for both \LaTeX and plain \TeX users, including, but not limited to, the following:

   - \texttt{braket}: Dirac bra-ket and set notation
   - \texttt{cases}: Multi-case equations with big brace, and a number for each case
   - \texttt{chapterbib}: Separate bibliography for each \texttt{include} file
   - \texttt{cite}: Supports compressed, sorted lists of numerical citations
   - \texttt{drftcite}: Print the tags instead of the numbers for \texttt{cite}
   - \texttt{magaz}: Special formatting for the first line of text in a paragraph
   - \texttt{optional}: Facilitate optional printing of parts of a document
   - \texttt{overcite}: Compressed lists of superscript numerical citations
   - \texttt{random.tex}: Generate random numbers
   - \texttt{selectp}: Allows selection of individual pages to be output by \LaTeX or plain \TeX by specifying, for example, \texttt{\outputonly1,3,7-12}
   - \texttt{shapepar}: Provides \texttt{\shapepar} command to typeset paragraphs in specific shapes
   - \texttt{tabs}: Modifies \LaTeX’s array and tabular environments to keep text from touching other text or hlines above or below
Donald Arseneau <asnd@triiumfcl.bitnet> kindly forwarded me four style updates recently. The affected files are cite.sty, overcite.sty, tabls.sty, and ulem.sty. Briefly:

CITE -- Compress ranges of citation numbers; adjust spacing; allow spaces in input; \citen gives just number(s).
OVERCITE -- Like cite.sty, but superscripts; handles punctuation.
TABLS -- Keep text in \{tabular\} \& \{array\} from touching vertically
ULEM -- Underlining for emphasis (\em). Define \ULine{..} also.

In [over]cite, he added
% Version 1992: Use \citepunct for commas so it is easier to change.
Now, where commas are used as delimiters (i.e., [4-7,9,8,Einstein,6]), you
have control over whether or not a space exists.

Also, in overcite (only), he added \ to allow hyphenation of the previous
word -- looks better in italics.

In tabls, the version is raised to 3.1 from 3.0. 3.1 adds some braces to
match some updates to LaTeX.

In ulem, the most work appears -- now it is acceptable as a plain TeX macro!
% Version 1992: make " \{ \} " give two spaces, as it should; support \newline
% and \, \nolinebreak and \linebreak; add definitions necessary for
% plain TeX use. Support various types of ‘underline’.
Quite a few options are now available.

To retrieve these files via e-mail, include:
SENDME STY.CITE
SENDME STY.OVERCITE
SENDME STY.TABLS
SENDME STY.ULEM
in the body of a mail message to FILESERV@SHSU.BITNET (FILESERV@SHSU.edu).
For anonymous ftp retrieval, the files are in the syntax associated with
the SENDME commands above in the [.STY] directory on Niord.SHSU.edu
(192.92.115.8).

The TeX community ought to extend its thanks to Donald for his continuing
efforts on these useful and popular files, as well as the others he is
responsible for creating.

Regards, George

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THANK YOU DONALD!

from the TeX Community
The TUG '99 Bulletin
September 1999
tug99-bulletin@tug.org

TUG’99
The 20th Annual Meeting
of the TeX Users Group

TeX Online: Untangling the Web and TeX

University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC, Canada
August 15–19, 1999

http://www.tug.org/tug99/
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