Wendell Piez

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Summary

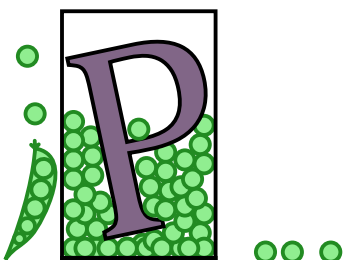*Designer and builder of electronic publishing systems, available for contract work.*

Principles

- Aim for the *simplest* and *most elegant* solution possible to fit the problem or address the need.

- Automation and programming demand more craft and care, not less. *Aesthetics matter*.

- Simplify a problem by refactoring it: this requires *imagination* as well as an *awareness of context* to address and solve problems at a high level while not forgetting *what is practical*.

- Even the most ingenious invention is of limited use if those who come after don't know how to use it. *Transparent* and *intelligible* work can endure.

- Similarly, *standards* and *standards-based technologies* are essential for realizing the promises both of *electronic books* and of *the web as a media platform*.

Skills

- I have developed **XML** tag sets and applications for both documentary publishing (such as journals and conference proceedings) and for more highly structured information processing systems. I am a leading practitioner of **XSLT**, and have designed and built schemas and validation systems using **DTD**, **RNG**, **XSD** and **Schematron**. I have also worked with **XSL-FO**, **XQuery**, **SVG** and much else.

- I have designed and built solutions to **hard problems in XSLT and XQuery** such as **overlap problems**, and constructed, deployed and managed **pipelining architectures**. For pipelining I have used Apache **Ant**, **XProc** and XSLT natively (using **Saxon** extensions). I have used XSLT and XQuery for **plain text conversion**, **indexing and profiling**, **heuristic and inferential analysis** and (along with Schematron) for **validation**.

- I am familiar with major XML-based documentary encoding formats including **TEI**, **Docbook**, **DITA** and **NISO/NLM JATS**, with their extension and profiling mechanisms, and with the joys and perils of boutique and **custom-built solutions**. I have used **SVG** extensively.

- I have coded **HTML** and web pages since 1995, and **CSS** since its beginnings. I am following developments in web technologies including **HTML5** and **JQuery**. My experience includes **EPUB** production.

- I have experience with **a wide range of XML and XSLT toolkits and applications**, including **Apache Cocoon** and **oXygen XML Editor**, which I am able to configure and customize.

- I am competent on all the major operating systems, and most familiar with **Windows** (MS-DOS to Windows 7), as with common applications including **MS Word**, **Excel**, **Open Office** and so forth.

- I have experience **organizing and leading workshops** and **teaching courses** in commercial and academic settings, and can **write**, **edit** and **copy edit**.

Activities

- Eat Your Vegetables (a blog) includes informal writings such as personal reflections on the technologies I use. I publish infrequently and haphazardly.

    blog: http://wendellpiez.com/eatyourvegetables/

- My professional web site presents a range of materials including XML and XSLT resources. I also post code to Github.

    web site: http://www.wendellpiez.com
    XML and XSLT resources: http://www.wendellpiez.com/resources.html
    Github: https://github.com/wendellpiez/

- I am a long-time member of ACH (the Association for Computers and the Humanities) and of the TEI (the Text Encoding Initiative).

    ACH: http://ach.org/
    TEI: http://www.tei-c.org/index.xml

- Prose by me has been published in print, several times.

- My works and projects appear in Digital Humanities curricula. Some of my theoretical work has occasionally been cited. I am a developer and instigator of an alternative markup technology, LMNL (Layered Markup and Annotation Language), with interesting applications in (among other things) literary study.

    LMNL: http://lmnl-markup.org/

- I have contributed to HUMANIST since 1996 and XSL-List since its inception in 1998. Participation in other lists varies and changes over time.

    HUMANIST: http://dhhumanist.org/
    XSL-List: http://www.mulberrytech.com/xsl/xsl-list/index.html

- In 2007 I co-founded Digital Humanities Quarterly, for which I serve as General Editor. Since 2008 I have been engaged with Balisage (The Markup Conference) and its predecessor conferences (since 1998), as peer reviewer, contributor and technical support specialist.

    DHQ: http://digitalhumanities.org/dhq/
    Balisage (The Markup Conference): http://www.balisage.net

- Many of my solutions to common or tricky problems in XSLT are cited in the XSL FAQ.

    XSL FAQ: http://www.dpawson.co.uk/xsl/sect2/sect21.html

- I am almost entirely quiet on Google+ as `wendellpiez` and on Twitter as `@WendellPiez`.

Background

2012 - current ... *Piez Consulting Services (Rockville MD)* ... **2008 - current** ... *University of Illinois GSLIS* ... **1998-2012** ... *Mulberry Technologies, Inc. (Rockville, MD)* ... XML and SGML ... XSLT ... XSL-FO ... **1995-1997** ... *Center for Electronic Texts in the Humanities (Rutgers and Princeton Universities)* ... SGML ... **1991-1995** ... *Rutgers English Department ... Rutgers Special Collections and University Archives* ... **1985-1991** ... *Rutgers University Department of English (New Brunswick, NJ)* ... poetry ... rhetoric ... aesthetic theory ... **1980-1985** ... *Yale College (New Haven, CT)* ... European languages and literatures including English and Anglo-Saxon, Ancient Greek and Latin, and German ... **Before 1980** ... *American School in Japan (Tokyo, Japan)* ... BASIC ... 6502 Assembler ... *Reston, VA ... Manila (Philippines) ... Kabul (Afghanistan)* ... *Frankfurt (Germany)* ...

Selected Bibliography

See the web version of this resume for some of my publications and conference papers (39 works listed).

Resume on the web: http://wendellpiez.com/resume/web.html
XML source code: http://wendellpiez.com/resume/source.html
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