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TITLE: Liaison report from UC Berkeley (Script Encoding Initiative)

SOURCE: Deborah Anderson, UC Berkeley (liaison member to SC2) and Project Leader of

Script Encoding Initiative

STATUS: Liaison member contribution ACTION: For consideration by WG2 DISTRIBUTION: ISO/IEC JTC1/SC2/WG 2

This document serves as a summary of the UC Berkeley Script Encoding Initiative's recent activities as they relate to WG2. The Script Encoding Initiative was established to help scholars and user communities get various unencoded characters and scripts proposed for inclusion in the UCS/Unicode, and to ensure that current proposals are reviewed by specialists. SEI focuses on unencoded modern minority scripts and historic scripts. SEI welcomes working with user communities and national bodies on script proposals, and welcomes email inquiries (dwanders@berkeley.edu).

Proposals currently submitted to WG2 that have involved SEI assistance:

- Vedic and Devanagari Additions (by Peter Scharf, Michael Everson, et al.)
- Brahmi (by Andrew Glass, Stefan Baums, and Michael Everson)
- Unified Canadian Aboriginal Syllabics (by SEI Michael Everson and Chris Harvey)
- Bamum (Old Bamum) (by SEI Michael Everson, Charles Riley, Konrad Tuchscherer]
- Mandaic (by SEI Michael Everson)

Ongoing work continues on the following:

- Batak (a few questions remain on proposal)
- Anatolian Hieroglyphs (proposal still under review)
- Old Hungarian (alternative proposals have been submitted)
- Meroitic (additional research being done)
- Varang Kshiti (preliminary proposal only, await user feedback)
- Sorang Sompeng (preliminary proposal only, await user feedback)
- Manichaean (additional details are being incorporated into proposal)
- Chakma (await user feedback)
- Psalter Pahlavi (issues on punctuation are being worked out)

Other proposals:

• Work on a number of Indic scripts proposals (including Khojki, Takri and Sharada) is underway.

• Book Pahlavi has posed several obstacles and is currently on hold.

For the remaining part of 2008, work is planned for Newari and possibly Pahawh Hmong. Proposals for missing Greek papyrological signs, Byzantine Greek characters, and alchemical symbols are being discussed.

Deborah Anderson is encouraging additional participation from Egyptologists for future work on Ptolemaic signs. She is also enlisting other linguistics projects (such as the Max Planck Institute in Leipzig and LinguistList) to send in locale data. She has also submitted an application to NEH for funding to cover 2009-2011.