

Objective

To work together with passionate people on challenging projects using modern technologies to solve exciting problems.

Industry Experience

Lead Features Engineer

2008 - Present / Wikimedia Foundation

Improving the user experience of Wikipedia and other Wikimedia sites in a highly collaborative and transparent environment, working with an active volunteer base on open source web applications that empower communities to create and distribute openly licensed content.

- Leading efforts to make editing wiki pages easier by creating a visual editor for wikitext that employs a direct manipulation user interface, similar to a word processor.
- Improved the performance and development efficiency of MediaWiki by creating a JavaScript and CSS processing, delivery and loading system that reduces volume of requests and data required to load a page.
- Improved the usability of Wikipedia and it's sister-projects as the lead developer of Wikimedia's first usability project, which improved usability by conducting qualitative user experience research, redesigning the visual theme and improving the navigation, search and editing tools based on those discoveries.

Freelance Designer, Developer and Multimedia Producer

2000 - 2008 / Trevor Parscal Consulting

Improved relationships and quality of communication between companies and their customers through web, video, and print while maintaining a consistent theme across mediums.

- Produced digital media for companies and political campaigns to effectively communicate the organization's message.
- Designed and implemented user interfaces which were usable, accessible, attractive, and optimized for the web.
- Provided effective online communication and advertising solutions to companies and elected officials.
- Built collaborative content creation tools using free and open source web technologies.

Open Source Community Involvement

Projects

- UniD, a library for cross-platform development of windowed, multimedia-rich, 2D and 3D graphical user interface oriented applications.
- Tango, a cross-platform open-source general purpose software library, written in the D programming language for D programmers.
- MediaWiki, the wiki software that powers Wikipedia and many other major open content projects.

Presentations

- **Building a Visual Editor for Wikipedia**
Trevor Parscal and Roan Kattouw @ Wikimania in Washington, D.C. on 2012-07-12
Trevor Parscal and Roan Kattouw @ Open Source Bridge in Portland, Oregon on 2012-06-26
- **Low Hanging Fruit vs. Micro-optimization, Creative Techniques for Loading Web Pages Faster**

Trevor Parscal and Roan Kattouw @ Linux.conf Australia in Ballarat, Victoria on 2012-01-17

Trevor Parscal and Roan Kattouw @ OSCON in Portland, Oregon on 2011-07-29

- **Wikipedia's Structured Data Challenge**

Erik Möller and Trevor Parscal @ SemTech in San Francisco, California on 2010-06-25

- **How Wikimedia is Scaling Open Source Innovation**

Eugene Eric Kim, Trevor Parscal and Tomasz Finc @ Xeorx PARC Forum in Palo Alto, California on 2010-06-05

- **Unit Testing with PHPUnit**

Trevor Parscal @ Wikimedia Hack-A-Ton in Washington D.C. on 2010-10-23

- **Making things easier to use, one test subject at a time**

Trevor Parscal @ WMF Developers' Workshop in Berlin, Germany on 2010-04-14

Technologies

As a software engineer my focus tends to be on the front-end, employing JavaScript, HTML, and CSS; and utilizing common libraries such as jQuery. On the server side I am most experienced with Linux, Apache, PHP and MySQL used together (LAMP), but more recently have come to prefer using Node.js and MongoDB. I've also used Windows, Carbon (Mac), XWindows (Linux), and OpenGL APIs to build cross platform applications with hardware accelerated graphical user interfaces.

For visual design and multimedia production I use a combination of open source and commercial applications to work with raster and vector graphics, recorded and synthesized audio, live action video and 2D animation, and 3D modeling, animation and rendering.

References

- **Earl Nicholas**

Software Consultant @ AMO Software

- **Heidi Hayes Jacobs**

Education Consultant @ Curriculum Designers

- **Jim Hobart**

User Interface Design Consultant @ Classic System Solutions