



GOVIS Open Source Software Seminar

Friday 3 March 2006

Speaker Profiles

Mary Ann Fisher

IBM Program Executive
Global Government Industry



Mary Ann Fisher currently serves as a program executive for IBM's Global Government Industry. She is responsible for IBM's Open Source and Linux business initiatives with governments around the world. In this role, she sets and oversees IBM's open source and Linux business strategies for its Government programs. Key areas of focus include consultation with clients around the world, IBM investment in Open source and Linux for Government, partnership development with business partners and ISVs, and Global communications and marketing. Mary Ann also leads IBM government initiatives in the areas of unstructured text analytics and enterprise content management.

Edwin Bruce

Management E-government Projects, ICT Branch,
State Services Commission



Edwin has more than 20 years experience in ICT both public and private sector, including 10 years in CIO roles. He has been involved in most aspects of the E-government program over the last 4 years including Authentication, www.govt.nz, SEEMail, Public sector Intranet, Shared Workspaces, E-Government Interoperability Framework (e-GIF) and more recently the Government Shared Network.

John Elwood

Managing Director
Elwood Consulting Limited



John has worked in the IT and telecommunications industries for over 13 years. Before launching his IT contract and commercial consulting business, he was an ICT lawyer for a leading New Zealand law firm and worked as an ICT procurement and commercial specialist for some of the world's largest global companies. This breadth of experience is rare, and helps John readily identify and manage the complex commercial issues that can arise in ICT projects. John is well regarded as an expert in his field, has published articles and given many training sessions and public presentations. Clients value John's deep understanding of the issues, his focus on their needs, his practical solutions and his clear presentation.

Bill Hilf

Director, Platform Strategy
Microsoft



Bill Hilf is the Director for Microsoft's Platform Strategy organization. Bill leads the Linux and Open Source technology group at Microsoft. Prior to joining Microsoft, Bill led IBM's Linux technical strategy for the Global Emerging and Competitive markets organization, in addition to his direct customer interaction as a senior I/T architect. Bill has been involved with Open Source Software (OSS) for over twelve years, and is an IEEE Distinguished Visitor on the subject of OSS. Prior to joining IBM, Bill was the Sr. Director of Engineering for eToys, where he helped build one of the premier ecommerce businesses on the Web. Bill is a graduate of Chapman University Graduate School.

Andrew McMillan

Founder and director
Catalyst IT Limited



Andrew's background covers a wide span of IT consulting, software designing and development and management. He has over 10 years experience in open source technologies and is a member of the Debian Project producing Debian Linux.

Andrew was instrumental in the architectural design of many of Catalyst's larger client's systems utilizing open source and remains closely involved with them through providing support services and consulting.

Don Christie

Founder and director
Catalyst IT Limited



Donald Christie is a founder and director of Catalyst IT Limited, a New Zealand based open source development company. Donald has been involved in IT for 20 years as a developer, architect and company owner. He and Catalyst are strong advocates for FOSS within the NZ business and government arenas.

Frank Feldmann

Technical Strategist
Novell

Frank Feldmann is working for Novell NZ as a Technical Strategist. In his role he is responsible for managing strategic engagements with large Novell multi national customers. Before joining Novell NZ last year he managed a Java services company called JNet Consultancy in the Netherlands for 3 years specializing in Open Source and JBoss technology implementing and architecting Open Source solutions for companies such as Philips Medical Systems and European Patent Office. Prior to this Frank worked for SilverStream Software -a SOA company- for 4 years which Novell acquired in mid 2002. Frank has a business degree in computer science & economics and has been involved in many product and technology shaping activities throughout his career all focused on the use and adoption of open standards across the industry.

Richard Wyles

NZ Open Source Virtual Learning Environment Project



Richard Wyles leads the New Zealand Open Source Virtual Learning Environment Project, developing open source software, and involving a consortium of 20 universities, institutes of technology and polytechnics. Richard views the application of open source technologies as a natural driver for innovation in our education systems and knowledge economies of the future.

In early 2004, Richard led the development of Eduforge (www.eduforge.org), an open access environment designed for the sharing of ideas, research outcomes, open content and open source software for education. Eduforge now hosts 100 projects from throughout the world.

Richard is also founder and director of Flexible Learning Network Limited (www.flexible.co.nz), focused on online learning solutions for education, government and corporate clients.

Laurie Wong

Software Business Manager
Sun Microsystems Australia



Sun Microsystems' software solutions play an integral role in much of today's technology, from desktop computers to supercomputers, from mobile phones to multi-million dollar data centres. Bringing this software to the local market and matching it with the needs of Australian and New Zealand businesses is the role of Laurie Wong, Sun Microsystems' Software Business Manager.

With a product portfolio ranging from the desktop with the Sun(tm) Java(tm) Desktop System to the entire Sun(tm) Java Enterprise System and Sun's Datacentre management software, Laurie's key responsibility is to explain and evangelise Sun's software solutions. His role also enables him to share his technical and business expertise with Sun staff, partners and customers, and develop strategies to address emerging market needs.

Laurie has been involved in the local IT industry for 20 plus years and ridden many waves of change during this time. Drawing on this experience, Laurie works with organisations as diverse as schools and telecommunications companies to identify and plan both their current and future software needs.

Laurie joined Sun Microsystems as Software Sales Executive in 2000. Laurie has also worked with Microsoft where he was responsible for setting up and running Microsoft's Application Developer Customer Unit for the South East Asia Region. He has also held the position of General Manager, Software Development for Synon professional services.

In his free time Laurie enjoys fishing, surfing and playing the occasional game of golf near his home in Sydney's north.