Georg C. F. Greve

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Curriculum Vitae

Summary

- Expert in Free Software and Open Standards;

- Self-taught software developer; successful academic career as physicist working in interdisciplinary field;

- Entrepreneur with several years of experience in the founding, establishment and growth of an international organisation. Experienced in management of a distributed organisation spanning several countries and cultures;

- Excellent analytical skills and strategic understanding of technology and politics. Ability to combine technical, political and legal concerns into strategic picture. Proven capability to adapt plans in changing tactical environments for achievement of strategic goals;

- Strong mediation skills and good at process facilitation. Proven ability to build consensus in diverse groups with different cultural backgrounds and conficting interests;

- Proven track record in problem resolution and crisis response;

- Seasoned speaker with excellent interpersonal and communication skills that have been tested addressing a wide variety of audiences. Experienced writer with hundreds of publications and the ability to explain complex subjects to audiences new to the issue;

- Project manager with strong conceptual skills, as well as possessing the ability to effectively translate his ideas into structures while overseeing successful implementation;

- Skilled negotiator with diplomatic experience at, inter alia, the United Nations World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS), the Internet Governance Forum (IGF), the World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO), and the International Standards Organisation (ISO);

- Hard worker with a strong belief in personal initiative and responsibility. Professional team player and fast learner. Commitment to doing the best job possible today, and learning how to do a better job tomorrow.

Specialties	Team Building and Management, Strategic Analysis of Technology and Politics, Policy Development, Negotiation, Consensus Building, Entrepreneur, Facilitation, Diplomacy, Project Management, Communication, Writing
Honors & Awards	Cross of Merit on ribbon by the Federal Republic of Germany for extraordinary achievements in Free Software and Open Standards, December 2009.

Professional Background

February 2010–present	**CEO & President of the Board**, *Kolab Systems AG*, Zürich.
	Strategic management and business development of the commercial environment around the Free Software Kolab Groupware Solution.
June 2009–present	**Member of the Board**, *Free Software Foundation Europe*, Zürich.
	Honorary activity and strategic input to the board of the association including advice for the organisation's management.
January 2008–present	**Reviewer**, *European Commission*, Brussels.
	Reviewer for QualiPSo project IST-FP6-034763. Strategic analysis and counseling of European Commission and project management regarding project objectives and evaluation of project success.
February 2009–present	**Member of the Board**, *Open Database Alliance*, Zürich.
	Honorary activity and strategic input to the board of the association.

September 2009– January 2010	**Strategic Advisor**, *Open Database Alliance*, Zürich. Strategic Consultant / Contractor to the drive incorporation and start-up of the Open Database Alliance, a non-profit industry ecosystem association for Free Software databases. Development of Articles of Association as well as internal policies and structures, facilitation of consensus building between initial participants, strategic communication & relationships.
March 2001– June 2009	**Founder/President**, *Free Software Foundation Europe*, Hamburg/Zürich. Chairing general assembly. Chief strategist and analyst for policy issues. Representation of the organisation towards United Nations, European Commission, national governments, industry and the media. Coordination of staff and priority projects. In 2010, the FSFE was awarded the Theodor Heuss Medal for its contribution to good global governance.
1998–present	**Speaker**, *GNU Project*. Speaking on behalf of the GNU Project and Free Software movement about issues concerning software freedom in business, technology, law, politics, law and strategy.
July 2006– November 2008	**Board member**, *SELF*. EU FP6 project IST-2005-34595 to develop authoring platform for e-learning based on Free Software and Open Standards. Chair of Legal Experts Group (LEG). Responsible for legal policy, long-term legal strategy, legal sustainability.
August 2007– April 2008	**Technical Programs Manager/Open Standards Specialist**, *Google*, Zürich. Strategic Consultant / Contractor as Open Standards specialist. Representation of Google on DIS29500 process towards various national standardisation bodes. Member of German (DIN) and Swiss (SNV) standardisation bodies. Coordination of Google's activities for the DIS 29500 Ballot Resolution Meeting (BRM). Technical and strategic analysis and implementation.
2003–2008	**Invited expert**, *The World Bank*, Torino. Teaching at the annual "Procurement of Information Systems in World Bank -financed projects" course for World Bank project managers at the International Training Centre (ITC) of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) in Turin. Half-day seminar about the strategic benefits of Free Software and Open Standards in World Bank financed projects under economic, political, social inclusion and development related aspects. Introduction into business models and best practice discussion.
January 1999– June 2006	**Author**, *Brave GNU World*. Monthly column about the GNU Project and Free Software in general. Analysing effects on and interaction with politics, science and society. Printed in English, German, French, Korean, Japanese, Portuguese.
April 2004– July 2004	**Board member**, *X.Org Foundation*. Interim board member of the X.Org Foundation. Work involved issues of political and organisational nature to help put technical basis of the X Window System on a solid organisational basis.
2001–2004	**Board member**, *AGNULA*. FP5 EU project IST-2005-34879 to build Free Software professional multimedia distribution, laying the foundations for Ubuntu Studio. Responsible for legal sustainability and policy, as well as strategic positioning to ensure maximum usability after project end.
2002–2003	**Civil Society representative in German Governmental Delegation**, *World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS)*. Representation of the German Civil Society Coordination Circle in the German Governmental Delegation to the United Nations World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS). Policy strategy and diplomacy on Civil Society issues, i.e. Free Software, Open Standards, freedom of knowledge, human rights, gender equality, and others.
June 2000– January 2001	**Software developer**, *ID-PRO GmbH*, Hamburg. Development of system monitoring software in C++.
May 1996– October 1998	**Software developer**, *UKE*, Hamburg. Development of software to filter, analyse and display data from an Magnetoencephalography (MEG) array in C and C++ on Solaris and GNU/Linux workstations.
1998–2000	**Co-Owner**, *Coinstreet Consulting*, Hamburg. Development, deployment and support of GNU/Linux based solutions, including connectivity, email, web services and workgroup solutions.

IT Skills

Operating systems	GNU/Linux user since 1993, experience with software development on GNU/Linux and Solaris
Programming languages	Self taught software developer, experience with solutions in Assembler, C, C++, Python, Bash, Lisp
System administration	Self taught system administrator, experience administrating Debian GNU/Linux, Ubuntu, SuSE
Deployment experience	Experience deploying various Free Software solutions, including components such as Apache, Asterisk, Bacula, ClamAV, CUPS, FreeWRT, Mailman, OpenVPN, OpenWRT, Postfix, Sendmail, Wordpress

Languages

German	**native**
English	**near native**
Portuguese	**rudimentary**

Education

1995–2001	**Physics**, *University of Hamburg*, Hamburg, *Diplom.* Topic of special interest: Biophysics
1992–1995	**Physics**, *University of Hamburg*, Hamburg, *Vordiplom.* Topic of special interest: Physical Oceanography

Diploma thesis

Title	*"Systematische Problemanalyse der Bildgebung in der Rastersondenmikroskopie (SXM) und anwendungsorientierte Analyse der Anforderungen an die digitale Verarbeitung von SXM-Bildern"*
Supervisors	Prof. H. Siegfried Stiehl, Prof. Roland Wiesendanger
Description	Interdisciplinary work between Computer Science and Physics in the field of nanotechnology on the imaging defects of scanning probe microscopy and potential remedies.

On-line profiles

LinkedIn	http://www.linkedin.com/in/GeorgGreve
XING	http://www.xing.com/profile/Georg_Greve
FSFE	http://fsfe.org/about/greve/

Selected Recommendations

"I have worked with Georg for about 7 years in Brussels on intellectual property and open source issues in the public policy domain. Georg is an inspiration to work with because of his deep expertise about the issues, his professionalism and passion - and drive to do the right thing for the Open Source community. Georg is also incredibly well connected and respected inside and outside the Open Source community - including within the European institutions - which is a major asset in negotiation situations - and he is innovative and has a vision which makes his contributions unique and very valuable in public policy discussions. For example, Georg was one of the key players in Brussels during the famous EU draft 'CII' Directive debate (also called the 'software patent' draft Directive debate) some years back - driving the open source agenda. He was incredibly innovating and successful in his way of very successfully tackling the issue. Lately I have had the pleasure of working with Georg in the 'European Software Strategy' exercise which the European Commission launched in January 2009. In this debate George's IPR and Open Source expertise has been highly valued by most players and the final outcome of the expert group report reflects a number of Georg's direct contributions. In short, Georg is a major asset to any company or organisation which wants to get involved in public policy IPR, Open Source, interoperability and open standards debates."

– Charlotte Thornby
Sr. Director Global Government Strategy and Communities, EMEA, Sun Microsystems

"At the 2008 IGF in Rio I worked closely with Georg with regard to the promotion of interoperability both with regard to communications and to policy developments in seminars and workshops attended by a variety of stakeholders representing often very divergent positions whether from industry, governments, NGOs or civil society. This often included explaining to governmental representatives the relevance of the European Commission's anti-trust case against Microsoft to interoperability. Georg has a gift not only for grasping the political significance of often highly technical issues, but he is also able to explain both the policy and technical dimensions to non-specialists notably government officials and politicians. Please note that at the IGF I acted as communications director for a participant, the European Committee for Interoperable Systems (ECIS) on behalf of POD Associates while Georg represented the Free Software Foundation Europe."

– Elizabeth De Bony, Director, Burson-Marsteller

"I worked with Georg when we hired him as a consultant at Google to make our views known on Microsoft's attempt to get the document format Office Open XML (OOXML) declared an ISO standard. Georg was incredibly helpful and professional in the work he did with us. He authored many papers and proposals that Google published on this matter: http://www.odfalliance.org/resources/Google XML Q A (2).pdf and represented Google at International Standards meetings worldwide. He also advised our internal policy teams in Europe and prepared our responses to US state government policy proposals. I would highly recommend Georg for a policy, public relations or government liaison role, or as a lead position in a standards environment. He is persuasive, well connected, and able to articulate complex technical issues in a very clear and concise way to non-technical people. He understands the technical and political issues behind the technology, and is very skilled in working in the public policy arena. Jeremy Allison."

– Jeremy Allison, Linux Evangelist, Google

"I've worked with Georg over the course of several years on various complex international legal policy issues. He's a charismatic person who combines great understanding of complex technical and political issues with pragmatism and a willingness to hear the views of others and try to work to find a common solution. He's a pleasure to work - and a pleasure to know!"

– Nick Ashton-Hart, Principal, Consensus Optimus

"Through many years as head of FSFE, Georg Greve has shown great leadership and initiative. Focused and determined, he has built up the organisation and taken it through both good and bad times with his impressive self-starter capabilities and communication skills. Georg's decisions are both quick and strategic. He is a natural leader who knows how to take his team along."

– Karsten Gerloff, President, FSFE

"Georg is brilliant. As President of the FSFE, which he has started from scratch, he has achieved a very well deserved reputation as a great strategist and an outstanding politician (in the good sense of the word) in multi-lateral situations. Competent and knowledgeable. Great Freedom advocate!"

– Carlo Piana, Avvocato, Carlo Piana

"Free Software and Europe - that has always been Georg. From the first time we met years ago, over the years, until now - Georg has always been the role model for promoting the goals that he believes in - Free Software, open society, transparency. He has definitely changed and defined the Free Software ecosystem that is now driving a lot of people and systems all across Europe and far beyond. Combined with his leadership, he made FSF Europe a respected voice that has driven Free Software, its philosophy, its ethics and its power."

– Jan Wildeboer, Evangelist, Red Hat

"Georg has the ability to bring people together to work towards common objectives. He has a surprising amount of cultural knowledge and quickly builds connections regardless of geographical location. He is capable of meeting challenging deadlines regardless of obstacles, and always brings a can-do attitude to the table."

– Shane Coughlan, Legal Coordinator, FSFE

"I had the absolute pleasure of meeting Georg at eLiberatica 2009, in Bucharest, where he spoke on free software and its political/economic implications. Georg's ability to simplify and clarify complex issues was extremely impressive. Just as important, his open, friendly, and approachable personality made his speech come alive. What struck me is that while Georg is committed to free software, he has an excellent grasp of business as well, and the economics of starting and running a successful organization. I'd work with him in a heartbeat."

– John Koetsier, Sparkplug 9

"I have worked with Georg as part of our common promotion of Open Standards. I have witnessed that Georg's outstanding skills and intelligence can be summarized in one word: versatility. Georg has been a major asset in our initiatives as he was able to coordinate very different teams, provide technical expertise (or bring in someone we needed for this very quickly), advise on strategic and communication levels while showing a great political sense. All in all, I'd work again with Georg: it's been fun, instructive, and we did get the job done, which does not happen with anyone."

– Charles-Henri Schulz, Owner, Ars Aperta

"I worked with Georg in the context of the IGF and The Standards Edge conferences. Georg is unique in that he not only understands the dynamics of how technology and policy interplay, but can create opportunities from those dynamics. George is well-spoken, knowledgeable, and passionate–three qualities that allow him to bring about change, even in environments where resistance is high."

– Sherrie Bolin, President and Founder, Bolin Group

More recommendations available upon request.