

Roswitha von den Schulenburg Graham28 March 1935 – 14 April 1999[†]

Dag Langmyhr



Roswitha worked at the Kungliga Tekniska Högskolan (Royal Institute of Technology) in Stockholm, Sweden. Her job was to organize the production of books, compendiums and other teaching material for the students. She heard about \TeX and saw its potential. Even though she never used \TeX herself, she became very en-

thusiastic about it and made a great contribution to introducing it at KTH.

Producing books in the Swedish language, she quickly noted the shortcomings of \TeX 2. For instance, even though all the letters were there, the Swedish quotation marks were missing. The worst problem, however, was that you could not properly hyphenate words containing either an ‘å’ or an ‘ö’.

In 1988 she was the major force when NTUG (the Nordic \TeX Users Group) was founded. Its main purpose was to ‘promote the use of \TeX and related programs in the Nordic countries (Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden)’. Another important issue was the work to extend \TeX to fix the problems of the Nordic users. Members of the Nordic group—and Roswitha in particular—had several meetings with Donald Knuth on this. With the advent of the 8-bit \TeX 3 and the Cork font encoding, the Nordic languages (and others) got the necessary support.

Roswitha led the Nordic group from its initiation until 1993 and in these years she was also automatically a board member of TUG. After 1993, she remained on the board of NTUG, and her enthusiasm for \TeX and the group never diminished.

We who have met her will remember her for this enthusiasm for \TeX and its users, but also because she was so immensely hospitable. Quite a few \TeX personalities have fond memories of visits to her summer house on a small island in the Stockholm archipelago. In *TUGboat* volume 13(1992) no 4, we can read about Donald Knuth’s visit there and the talks he had with Roswitha.

Roswitha was so very much alive that it is difficult to believe she is no longer among us. We will surely miss her.

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[†]Our thanks to Peter Graham, Roswitha’s husband, for providing the photograph.