TO:	UTC
FROM:	Anushah Hossain and Deborah Anderson
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TITLE:	SEI Liaison Report
DATE:	April 22, 2025

This document provides a summary of the UC Berkeley Script Encoding Initiative's recent activities.

Proposals

The following SEI-funded proposals were recently submitted to the Script Encoding Working Group:

- Proposal to encode **Sirmauri** in Unicode, Anshuman Pandey and Biswajit Mandal [L2/25-134]*
- Final Proposal for Encoding the **Mwangwego** Script in the UCS, Oreen Yousuf and Daniel Yacob [L2/25-135]
- Proposal to encode the **Minim Dag Noore** script in the UCS, Oreen Yousuf [L2/25-136]*

* not yet reviewed by SEWG

Ongoing Script Work

The following script proposals are in active development, and are expected to be submitted to SEWG for review in the next six months:

- Small Seal (Revised)
- Proto-Cuneiform (Revised)
- Lampung (Revised)
- Zou (Zolai) (Revised)
- Kulitan (Revised)
- Masaba (Revised)
- Sheek Bakrii Saphaloo (Revised)
- Odùduwà (Preliminary)
- N'Ti (Preliminary)
- Luo Lakeside (Preliminary)
- Egyptian Hieroglyphs glyph changes and Unicode Hieroglyph Database [UAX#57] update

Other ongoing projects include: Book Pahlavi, Proto-Elamite, Proto-Sinaitic, Vatteluttu, Ranjana, Linear Elamite, Byblos, Kerinci, Maya Hieroglyphs (Codical and Classical).

The full list of SEI-funded projects, including those currently inactive or awaiting more information, is available on the SEI website (linguistics.berkeley.edu/sei).
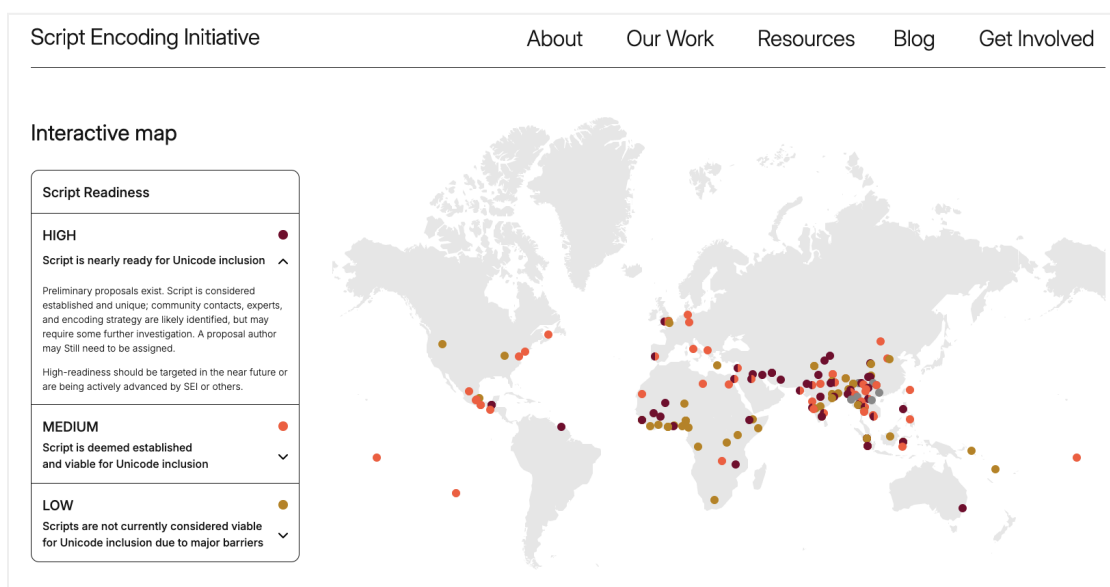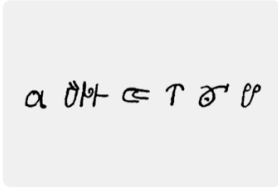
Research Activities

We delivered several talks this past quarter. Anushah Hossain gave talks on "ISCII Imperialism" at Face/Interface at Stanford University, on "Script Encoding: The Future" for World Endangered Writing Day, on "garbage typing" at Automatic Type Design 3 in Nancy, France, and "Bridging Scripts and Standards" at UNESCO's Language Technologies for All conference in Paris, France. Logan Simpson delivered a talk entitled, "Behind the Scenes of Unicode: Navigating the Proposal Process for Indigenous Scripts" at the International Conference on Language Documentation & Conservation at the University of Hawaii at Manoa. Gabrielle Vail, Andrew Glass, and Alexandre Bassi presented "New Digital Tools for Engaging Audiences with Maya Text" at the Tulane University's Latin American Library.

We will be participating at upcoming events at the Computer History Museum and the IMUG meet-up in May 2025.

We have been continuing collaborative work that extends beyond proposal-writing. SEI worked with JamraPatel to prepare a Sunuwar Noto font. This font has also been supplied to CLDR for the upcoming release. We are continuing our testing of a PUA-based messaging app for Bété, as a possible strategy for aiding new/experimental script communities.

SEI's new website will launch on May 2 and will feature an updated script database, blog, and resources for learning and teaching about script digitization. Visit us soon at linguistics.berkeley.edu/sei.

Script Name ↓	Alternative Names ↓	Region ↓	Location ↓	Origin ↓	Proposal Status ↓	High/Medium/Low ↓	
Adinkra alphabet		Africa	Ghana	Modern	Not started	Low	● ⌄
Adinkra symbols		Africa	Ghana	Historic	Not started	Low	● ⌄
Afáka	Ndjuka	America	Suriname, French Guyana	Modern	Active – others	High	● ⌃

Language: Ndyuka
Script Types: syllabary
Directions: LTR
Dates: 1908 to Pr   **Latest Proposal:** /
Related Scripts: /   **Latest Proposal Authors:** /

Preview of Scripts to Encode page

We are planning to work with four interns this summer, on a range of projects including: the history of the *zwj* and *zwnj*, on typewriter reforms in South Asia, on a guide for formatting Unicode proposals, and research on Indonesian scripts.

Funding

SEI is formally housed in the Department of Linguistics at the University of California, Berkeley, but is entirely sustained by external grants. Basic operations and script research funding currently comes from the Mellon Foundation's Public Knowledge program, and will provide support from Sept 2024 – Aug 2028. Additional support for public communications projects from Sept 2024 - Aug 2026 comes from the Internet Society Foundation. Proposal work by Anshuman Pandey is also being supported through the Unicode Adopt-a-Character (AAC) program. Carlos Pallán's work on Codical Maya hieroglyphs is being supported jointly by the Unicode Consortium and SEI.

SEI accepts [donations via our website](). We participated in UC Berkeley's annual fundraiser, the Big Give, on March 13, 2025 and raised $4,350 from eleven donors! This funding helps us offer additional stipends for fieldwork and proposal research.

We are continually seeking funding to be able to expand our team with postdoctoral scholars and administrative support.