

## ACCESS SERVICES EXPERTS MEETING 2019 SPEAKERS

### A



#### **SIRI ANTONSEN**

Strategic Head of Access Services, NRK, and member of the EBU Access Services Experts Bureau

Siri is responsible for making NRK's content accessible for the entire NRK audience through subtitling, sign language, audio description, spoken subtitles, audibility, readability and user-friendliness. She has headed NRK's User Council since 2015. Previously she was head of NRK's Sign Language Department, from 2000 to 2014. She is trained in general management, project management and strategy and is also an officially approved sign-language interpreter.

### B



#### **ROCÍO BERNABÉ CARO**

Deputy Head of the Professional College of Translation and Interpreting, University of Applied Languages, SDI München

Rocío Bernabé Caro is Deputy Head of the Professional College of Translation and Interpreting at the University of Applied Languages in Munich. She also leads the EU co-funded project LiveTextAccess, which aims to create training materials for 'respeakers' and 'velotypists'. Rocío is also an external collaborator for the TransMedia Catalonia interdisciplinary research group.



#### **KEVIN BURNS**

Head of Access, RTÉ

Kevin Burns is RTÉ's Head of Access, which means he oversees the broadcaster's policy and strategy to ensure it meets the needs of all its audience. His background is in programme-making. He was previously an award-winning television and radio producer/reporter with Ireland's national broadcaster. He has worked across a broad range of genres including current affairs, entertainment, comedy, sport and documentaries. He studied Celtic languages in college and recently completed an MA in Online and Distance Education.

### D



#### **WALTER DAELEMANS**

Professor of Computational Linguistics, University of Antwerp

Walter Daelemans is Professor of Computational Linguistics at the University of Antwerp, where he directs the CLiPS computational linguistics research group. His research interests are in machine learning of natural language, computational psycholinguistics, computational stylometry and language technology applications (for example biomedical information extraction, security in social networks, and conversational agents).



## **ERIK DE SNERCK**

Head of Access Services, VRT, and member of the EBU Access Services Experts Bureau

Erik began working for VRT in 1995, as a freelancer for the Subtitling Department. Since 1997, he has been a full-time member of this department, focusing on technical considerations. He introduced speech recognition in 2001 as part of his quest to find better solutions for live subtitling. In 2009 he became head of ProVO, a new VRT department that provides translating, subtitling and programme editing. Since 2011 he has been in charge of all types of access service, including signing, audio description and spoken subtitling for linear broadcasts and web content.



## **VOLKER DENKEL**

Head of R&D and Access Services, ZDF Digital

Volker Denkel is Head of R&D and Access Services at ZDF Digital Medienproduktion GmbH based in Mainz, Germany. ZDF Digital is an affiliate of public broadcaster ZDF, offering a wide range of products in the fields of content, technology and innovation. Volker Denkel has previously worked for various public broadcasters as an editor, project manager, and team lead for digital transformation and innovation.



## **ELISABETH DULLE ESSÉN**

Business Analyst, SVT Language & Access Services

Elisabeth has worked at SVT since 2002, starting out as a live subtitler after a few years spent working in the web industry as an editor and IT support employee. She still uses Velotype. Having studied languages, literature and computer science at Swedish universities, she was able to participate in developing SVT's current subtitling tool, Smash, as the UX project manager. For the 2019-2021 period, she is part of the Daxx/Tiebreak project, focusing on workflows and automation for all of SVT Language & Accessibility's sphere of activities – intralingual subtitling, translation, live subtitling, sign-language interpretation, audio description, planning and administration.

## **F**



## **LAURA FEYTO**

Head of Access Services, RTVE

Laura has worked at TVE since 1989 (this year is her 30th anniversary!). Technical qualifications in hand, she started working in the MCR (Master Control Room), which she managed for seven years before taking over responsibility for the Advertising and Data Ingestion Unit. Since 2013, she has been responsible for the Accessibility Services Unit – a department consisting of 40 employees and several external suppliers that in 2018 broadcast 40,213 subtitled hours in Spanish in addition to 808 in English, plus 3,709 audio-described hours and 1,101 hours with sign language. The RTVE Access Services Department also provides subtitles (and soon audio description as well) to the Interactive Services Department.



## NICOLA FOLTYS

Head of Access Services, ZDF

Since 2018 Nicola is member of ZDF's New Media Department and became Head of Access Services in February 2019. Since then she is responsible for ZDFtext, subtitling, audio description, sign language and the transformation of daily routines from linear to non-linear broadcasting. Before she started working permanently for ZDF in 1996, she worked as a freelancer journalist with various TV stations. During her career she went through various departments, from Kids TV, Entertainment to the News Department with a number of Daily news shows. Diversity and inclusion have a great significance in her life. She received a Master degree in American Studies and German Literature in 1991.



## DEE FORBES

Director-General, RTÉ

Dee Forbes was appointed Director-General of RTÉ with effect from 11 July 2016. Prior to taking up her role at RTÉ, Dee was based in London for more than 27 years, working for broadcasters and advertising agency Young and Rubicam. Most recently she was President and Managing Director of Discovery Networks Northern Europe. Dee joined Discovery in 2010 as Head of the UK/Ireland operations and progressively enlarged her responsibilities to lead the Northern Europe region covering 18 markets and encompassing 27 channels, both free-to-air and subscription, which broadcast to more than 276 million households across Northern Europe each month.

Before joining Discovery, Dee led Turner Broadcasting's business in the UK and Ireland, which consisted of seven entertainment channels, including Cartoon Network, Boomerang and TCM. She spent several years working at Turner in a variety of commercial roles, including General Manager for the Nordic/ Central and Eastern Europe and EMEA regions, and Head of Advertising Sales for Europe. Dee is a former non-executive director at The Irish Times and currently sits on the board of Munster Rugby. A native of Drimoleague in West Cork, Dee is a graduate of University College Dublin (UCD) where she studied history and politics.

## J



## PER A JOHANSSON

Product Owner - Subtitling Systems, SVT

Per has worked as a system developer at SVT since 2012. Since 2014 his focus has been on automation-driven systems that make video material accessible. Currently Per is working as Product Owner for Subtitling Systems at SVT, i.e. all systems from pre-production to production and the transmission of subtitles. He is one of the initiators of the project to move the current systems at SVT over to a new open-source platform, Tiebreak, which is currently in development at SVT.



## MARIE JUNGE ERNST

Project Manager, Diversity & Accessibility, DR

Marie has worked at Danish Broadcasting Corporation since 2016. She has a master's degree in Media Studies and has always been passionate about working closely with and including user groups, specializing in working with user involvement when developing digital products. Marie works in the field between legal obligations, users and product development.

At DR, accessibility is defined as the task of securing everyone's access to DR's products and removing obstacles to hearing, seeing, reading and understanding. As the link between the Commissioning Department, the users and the Web/App Development Teams, Marie activates the voice of the users and makes sure that accessibility is incorporated early in product development.

She is driven by making DR's digital products (more) accessible for all users. Public service is about and for everyone and in order to make sure everyone is allowed entry; accessible digital products are crucial.

## K



### **RICHARD KURZIK**

Senior Service Manager for Access Services, BBC

Richard Kurzik is the BBC's Senior Service Manager for Access Services. For over ten years, he has worked on the production and delivery of subtitles, audio description and sign-interpreted programming for broadcast and online content.

## L



### **FRAUKE LANGGUTH**

Head of ARD Text and vice-chair of the EBU Access Services Experts Bureau

Frauke Langguth is a multimedia journalist with extensive experience in print and TV, radio and online media (Radio Fritz, ORB / rbb and ORBOnline / rbb-Online). Since 2008, he has headed up ARD Text at Rundfunk Berlin-Brandenburg in Potsdam. His responsibilities include the ARD Text newflash service on the leading nationwide channel, DasErste, which for more than eight years has been the most successful German teletext service. Frauke is also an expert on accessibility. ARD Text provides subtitles for numerous programmes on the first and third ARD channels, with a focus on live subtitling. Other areas of responsibility include media development, social media, interactive television and smart TV (HbbTV).



### **JANE LAURANCE**

Head of Specialist Broadcast Services, ITV

Jane Laurance currently works at ITV as Head of Specialist Broadcast Services. Her role is varied and includes working with Programme Strategy to ensure their Strategy makes it to air; to covering Transmission Incidents and Breaking News 'Out of Hours'; to Ofcom Reporting and looking after Access Services. Jane's professional life began at ITV but in the Central Region as a Presentation Scheduler. This role took her to London and Carlton TV and then to ITV when Carlton and Granada merged in 2003. All in all, she has worked at ITV for the past 23 years.



### **JULIE LENOIR**

Junior EU Policy Adviser, Legal & Policy, EBU

Julie Lenoir is Junior EU Policy Adviser at the European Broadcasting Union (EBU). She works on freedom of expression, accessibility and copyright in the Legal and Policy Department. She has, for instance, most recently worked on the European Accessibility Act and on the EU copyright reform. Before joining the EBU, she was Junior Research Associate at the Impact Assessment Institute. Julie mastered in Sociology at the ULB and in European Communication at IHECS, Belgium.



## **GION LINDER**

Head of Access Services, SWISS TXT AG and chair of the EBU Access Services Experts Bureau

After studies in marketing, Gion Linder worked as a consultant for various new media projects in the 1980s. From 1992 to 1997, he was National Subtitling Coordinator at Swiss TXT. He then worked as content manager for a publisher, as product manager for a cable company and as a project manager for a mobile carrier. In 2007, he returned as head of the National Subtitling Coordination Service at Swiss TXT, where he is a member of the executive management team. Gion Linder is also chairman of EBU Access Services group.

## **O**



## **VANESSA O'CONNOR**

Director of Member Relations & Communications, EBU

Vanessa joined the EBU in June 2018 to head up a newly-created Department assembling Member Relations, Communications and the EBU Academy. In this new role she is responsible for strengthening the EBU's relations with Members and developing a long-term communications strategy for the EBU, and public service media.

She joined the EBU from Eutelsat in Paris, where, as Corporate Communications Director, she shaped key development phases of one of the world's leading satellite operators, including restructuring from a European intergovernmental organisation into a private company and the expansion of global activities across video, telecommunications and broadband markets. Prior to Eutelsat, Vanessa worked in London as Editor-in-Chief of Digital TV Europe, the first pan-European publication on new media. She graduated in Modern Languages from the University of Oxford.

## **P**



## **BENJAMIN POOR**

Project Manager, Digital Radio, EBU

Ben joined the EBU's Technology and Innovation department in 2017, having participated in the early development and implementation of hybrid radio services (combining broadcasting and the internet). His current work covers platforms and services for driving a more engaging user experience across all audiovisual content, with special interest in smart speakers and connected cars. Ben is the Project Manager for Eurovox.

## **R**



## **VINCENT PATRICK REILLY**

Editorial Manager, NRK

Vincent Patrick Reilly received his Bachelor's in Interdisciplinary Engineering from Cooper Union in New York City. He has worked for NRK Norwegian Broadcasting for over three decades in technical, journalistic and marketing fields. He has also managed single-camera production specialists and online-service software developers. His most recent responsibilities are simultaneous subtitles and on-screen continuity presentation, in which he facilitated NRK's first foray into live audio description.



## ROBIN RIBBACK

Head of Innovation Management & EU Projects, SWISS TXT AG

Robin Ribback is responsible for the development of new service technologies and the implementation of EU research & innovation projects. He has a long history in IT and the media services. As a co-founder and CIO of VerbaVoice, he developed 'Beyond TV' access services for educational institutes and parliaments. As CTO/CIO of Media Professionals AG and Norcom AG, he developed complex real-time platforms for the production and distribution of television and radio programmes. He started his career as an engineer researching automatic speech-processing applications.



## MAURO ROSSINI

Senior Researcher, RAI Research Centre

Mauro graduated in electronic engineering in 1986 and, the following year, joined RAI Research Centre within the Telematics Group, where he was involved in researching new services for broadcasting data in analogue TV transmissions. He was involved in the technical evaluation of Digital Terrestrial Television trials in Italy and researched multimedia within the context of mobile DTT. He has also been a technical manager of international R&D projects in which RAI has participated such as ESA/ESW (Euro Sky Way) and EU/UNIC (Universal Satellite Home Connection), which is researching efficient means for offering interactive multimedia services. He has also been a member of international working groups led by the European Broadcasting Union (EBU-FT/AVC – File Transfer Technologies for Audio-Visual Material). He has authored several technical and scientific publications and given lectures at international conferences and exhibitions. He is currently involved in the RAI project Accessibility of RAI Cultural Spaces, which is using assistive technologies to set up itineraries within the Museum of Radio and Television and enable concert-goers with cochlear implants to hear music in the A. Toscanini Auditorium.



## CHLOÉ ROUX

Head of the Multilingual Department, ARTE

Chloé Roux has been Head of the Multilingual Department at European channel ARTE, based in Strasbourg, since 2016. ARTE produces French and German versions of all its programmes and offers an online selection of subtitles in English, Italian, Spanish and Polish. She also coordinates the production of accessibility versions in collaboration with ARTE's partner channels in France and Germany.

## S



## CHRISTIAN SIMON

Tonmeister, Fraunhofer Institute for Integrated Circuits IIS

Christian Simon received his Dipl.-Tonmeister in Audiovisual Media from the Film University in Babelsberg, Germany. He has 20 years of experience in audio recording and post-production with a focus on film mixing and speech intelligibility improvement. At present, Christian is working as a scientist and member of the SoundLab group at Fraunhofer IIS with a key focus on Next Generation Audio and accessibility.



## MATT SIMPSON

Head of Technology & Strategic Product Management, Red Bee Media

Matt Simpson is responsible for the commercial and technical sides of customer relationships and managing the Access Services product roadmap to deliver the right products for the market. Additionally, Matt guides the development of technology platforms and research & development projects used to provide live and pre-recorded captioning, audio description and sign language translation services around the world. Over the last few years, he has been engaged in various speech technology research projects, both collaborative - such as EU-Bridge - and directly with academic partners. These projects have focused on speaker-independent automatic speech recognition technologies. Earlier he spent 13 years at Europe's leading entertainment company, Sky, in the UK, where he worked in live news and sports production, largely on the creation of systems for handling and presenting data on screen for news, weather, sports and election broadcasts, and working on virtual reality projects.



## TONY STOCKMAN

Senior Lecturer and Researcher, Queen Mary University of London

Dr Tony Stockman is a Senior Lecturer and Researcher with the Centre for Digital Music (C4DM) and the Cognitive Science research group at Queen Mary University of London. He has over 100 journal and conference publications on interaction design and auditory displays to his name. He is also an expert in assistive technology for visually impaired people, specializing in data sonification and the use of audio and haptics to improve accessibility.

## T



## ANDREAS TAI

Co-Chair of the EBU Timed Text Group, Project Lead – Accessibility, IRT

Andreas Tai is project manager at the Institute for Broadcasting Technology in Munich, where he is researching access services in connection with audiovisual content. He currently co-chairs the EBU Timed Text Group. He has a diploma in Politics from the Freie Universität Berlin and an M.Sc. in Applied Informatics from the Technical University in Munich.



## CATHY TAYLOR

Principal, Standards and Audience Protection team, Ofcom

Cathy Taylor is a Principal in Ofcom's Standards and Audience Protection team, specializing in accessibility and television on demand. She has previously worked for VOD regulator ATVOD and the British Board of Film Classification but has seen both sides of media regulation having started her career in television production.



## ANDREJ TOMAŽIN

Editor & Scriptwriter, Department for Accessibility, RTVSLO

Andrej Tomažin holds a BA in Slovene Language and Comparative Literature. He is a journalist, writer and editor within the Department for Accessibility at Slovenia's national public broadcaster, RTV Slovenija. He has been tasked with implementing accessibility technologies at RTV Slovenija, focusing on research into new possibilities for audio description and other accessibility services used in television production. He is also heavily involved in content management for a special web portal, [www.dostopno.si](http://www.dostopno.si), which covers topics relating to the everyday needs and entitlements of people living with disabilities.

## W



## MARIA WÜNSCHE

Researcher and Teacher, Hildesheim University

Maria Wünsche is a researcher and teacher at Hildesheim University, where she has worked as part of an ERDF-funded project on TV subtitling for children who are deaf or hard of hearing. Her PhD research focuses on empirical research in audiovisual translation. She is also a freelance translator for French and English with a focus on SDH and captioning for TV and theatre.

## Y



## EINAV YAACOBY

Senior Product Manager, KAN

Einav Yaacobi is a senior product manager at KAN where she oversees audio products for the corporation. When the Eurovision Song Contest came to town in May 2019, she was tasked with running the digital product strategy for the event. She got to stay late at work for many months and ended up creating two online international games, a website, a first-ever Hackathon, and accessible broadcasts for people with hearing, vision and cognitive impairments. Before joining KAN, Einav was a product manager for cable and satellite TV music platforms and an expert in trends, technologies and user consumption in the field of product development.

## Z



## ANNA ZETTERSTEN

Head of Languages & Access Services Department, SVT

Anna started working at SVT as a live subtitler in 1997 and since 2003 has headed up various departments. Since 2015 she has been in charge of accessibility services as Head of Language & Accessibility – a department with 85 staff plus external suppliers. SVT L&A publishes 17,000 inter- and intra-lingual subtitling hours per year and 700 hours of audio description and sign-language interpreting. Tools are developed in-house by L&A leadership, users and development teams working in collaboration. Anna also oversees Project Daxx, an SVT development and workflow project aiming to achieve automatic speech recognition in Swedish.