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2010 Biennial National Conference Fremantle Western Australia 5-6 Nov.

MEDIA RELEASE

25.05.2010

Find out what they're talking about on Pandora, without leaving Earth

Linguists and Avatar fans alike will have the opportunity to learn the secrets of the Na'vi language without leaving Earth.

Professor Paul Frommer, creator of Na'vi, is coming to Fremantle, Western Australia to speak at the Biennial National Conference of the Australian Institute of Interpreters and Translators 5-6 November at the University of Notre Dame.

Prof. Frommer from the University of Southern California has studied languages from Mandarin to Hebrew. He was asked by Avatar director, James Cameron, to create a complete language with a totally consistent sound system, morphology and syntax. Cameron asked Prof. Frommer to make sure the language was pleasant and appealing on screen. Na'vi started with a vocabulary of about 1000 words and it is growing even now. Frommer trained the Na'vi speakers on the set. Speakers of Na'vi on Earth include Jake, played by the Perth actor Sam Worthington.

Prof. Frommer has long been interested in inter-galactic languages and he has previously written exercises for his students in deciphering Klingon, another screen language.

Na'vi continues to attract new speakers and Prof. Frommer has been giving lectures on the language including a recent humorous talk called Sweet Nothings in Na'vi at University of Southern California.

If you ever wanted to go to Pandora and know how to talk with the natives, Prof. Frommer is your man. Hear him speak in Fremantle by registering for the conference at <http://www.ausitconference.org> and maybe even learn some new Na'vi words from the creator himself.

Conference website : www.ausitconference.org

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