

About CJ Fearnley
President & CEO, LinuxForce Inc. and
Executive Director, Synergetics Collaborative
Co-Organizer, Greater Philadelphia Thinking Society



Summary

CJ Fearnley is an explorer in Universe, an initiative-taker, and a comprehensivist. In addition to his primary initiatives of a for-profit Debian GNU/Linux-based consulting firm and a non-profit organization building on R. Buckminster Fuller's work, he leads several discussions each month in Philadelphia on a wide variety of topics.

CJ Fearnley was an early leader in the adoption and implementation of Linux and Free and Open Source Software (FOSS) in Philadelphia. In 1993, he recognized the emerging value of the Linux operating system. Through his leadership position in the Philadelphia Area Computer Society (PACS), he began introducing Linux to organizations in the Greater Philadelphia region. At PACS, he organized monthly presentations on Linux and FOSS and wrote 29 columns in the organization's print periodical, *The Databus*. He then founded and helped build Philadelphia's premiere Linux user group, the Philadelphia area Linux User Group (PLUG), where he continues to facilitate its first Wednesday meetings. After helping to establish a community and culture for Linux and FOSS in Philadelphia, CJ started building his first company, LinuxForce, to be the "go-to" firm for organizations wanting to realize the promise and power of Linux. LinuxForceSM is a leading technology services provider specializing in the development, implementation, management and support of Linux-based systems, with a particular expertise in Debian GNU/Linux and Ubuntu. LinuxForce provides remote Linux systems management services to clients including The Franklin Institute Science Museum and the Aker Philadelphia Shipyard. CJ contributes to a blog on *Managing FOSS for Business Results* at <http://blog.remotesponder.net>.

In addition, CJ Fearnley has applied his organizational and leadership talent to building Buckminster Fuller's legacy. CJ published an essay "Reading Synergetics: Some Tips" to help students of Fuller's magnum opus, *Synergetics: Explorations in the Geometry of Thinking*, wade through that complex, multi-dimensional tome. He started maintaining "The R. Buckminster Fuller FAQ" on the Internet in 1994. His early work on Buckminster Fuller was featured in an extensive interview published by *Dome Magazine* in 1999. In 2002 CJ started building the Synergetics Collaborative (SNEC) as an organization to bring together people with an interest in Synergetics' methods and principles in workshops, symposia, seminars, and other meetings. Major events include a symposium on "Synergetics and the Arts" at the Noguchi Museum, and a special event "Revisit Bucky: Exploring Synergetics" held at American University. Since 2007 he has helped organize the Biennial "Design Science Symposia" at Rhode Island School of Design (RISD). CJ serves as Executive Director of the Synergetics Collaborative.

CJ received his BA in Mathematical Sciences and Philosophy from Binghamton University in 1989 where he was a Regents Scholar and has done graduate work at Drexel University. He was profiled in Winter 1999-2000 issue of *Dome Magazine*. CJ was named to the Philadelphia Business Journal's 2006 "40 Under 40" List as one of the region's most accomplished young professionals.

Basic Biography

- 1967** Born Christopher J. (“CJ”) Fearnley in Troy, NY.
- 1985** Graduates from Bethlehem Central High School, Delmar, NY.
- 1989** Graduates from Binghamton University with a B.A. in Mathematical Sciences and Philosophy.
- 1991** Publishes an essay “Reading Synergetics: Some Tips” in *Trimtab*.
- 1993** Begins exploring Linux with kernel 0.99.13 and the SLS distribution.
Begins leading the Unix SIG leader at PACS (Philadelphia Area Computer Society).
Begins writing 29 columns on Unix/Linux for *The Databus* (1993–1997).
- 1994** Posts version 1.0 of the The R. Buckminster Fuller FAQ to the Internet.
- 1995** Initiates the formation of the Philadelphia area Linux User Group (PLUG).
Begins a Debian GNU/Linux consultancy which later becomes LinuxForce, Inc.
- 1997** Publishes the first draft of the essay “Integrity: An Essay on God” on the web.
- 1999** Initiates the formation of the Philadelphia Area Debian Society (PADS).
Incorporates LinuxForce Inc. with Buck Fleming.
Extensive interview published in *Dome Magazine* in the Winter 1999–2000 issue, pp. 18–25.
- 2002** Begins organizing the Synergetics Collaborative (SNEC).
Presents an essay on “The Search for an Algebra or Calculus for Synergetics” to SNEC.
Presents an essay on “Synergetics and Linux” to SNEC.
- 2003** Assumes the position of President & CEO of LinuxForce, Inc.
Presents a talk “Linux and Synergetics” at a PLUG meeting.
Profiled in the July–August 2003 issue of *BU Alumni Connect*.
Begins writing out his Business Philosophy.
- 2004** Publishes a compilation, “The Triangle: A One-Page Primer”.
Publishes “Supercircles” with Jeannie Moberly in the Proceedings of 2004 Bridges.
Delivers an invited presentation on Linux to Delaware Valley Chapter of the ICCA.
- 2005** Publishes “An Introduction to Linux and Open Source” in *Consulting Matters*.
Presents “UNIX/Linux Overview For Law Enforcement Personnel” for the FBI.
Presents “Open Source Software for Higher Mathematics” to PLUG.
- 2006** Named to the Philadelphia Business Journal’s 2006 “40 Under 40” List.
Presents to PANTUG on Linux and Open Source Technologies.
- 2007** Interviewed by Cameron Reilly of “G’Day World.”
Interviewed by Michael Riversong of The Tesla Academy Podcast Interview Series.
- 2008** Presents on “Foldable Great Circle Origami” at the Courant Institute.
Presents on “Comprehensive Anticipatory Systems Administration” to PLUG.
- 2009** Delivers a presentation on “Exploring Foldable Great Circle Geometries” to ISAMA 2009.
Abstract on “Foldable Great Circle Geometries” published in the ISAMA 2009 issue of *Hyperseeing*.
Start publishing a blog “Managing FOSS for Business Results”.
- 2010** Start publishing a personal blog “Syntropy: CJ Fearnley’s Blog”.
- 2012** Publishes “Harmonic Perspective” with Jeannie Moberly in Proceedings of 2012 Bridges.
Presents on “Education Automation Now and in the Future” at ReVIEWING Black Mountain College 4.
Presents on “Synergetics and Model Thinking” at ReVIEWING Black Mountain College 4.
Presents on “Data Analysis in Linux” to the Philadelphia area Linux Users Group (PLUG).
Become a Co-Organizer for Greater Philadelphia Thinking Society.
- 2013** I become a Co-Organizer for Math Counts.

On-Line Courses

- Statement of Accomplishment / Certificate Earned / In Depth Study
 - Dante in Translation with Giuseppe Mazzotta of Yale University
 - Linear Algebra with Gilbert Strang of MIT OCW
 - Introduction to Databases with Jennifer Widom of Stanford University
 - The Art of Living with R. Lanier Anderson, Kenneth Taylor, and Joshua Landy of Stanford University
 - Mathematics: Making the Invisible Visible with Keith Devlin of Stanford University
 - Model Thinking with Scott E. Page of University of Michigan
 - Listening to World Music with Carol Muller of the University of Pennsylvania
 - Design: Creation of Artifacts in Society with Karl T. Ulrich of the University of Pennsylvania
 - Computing for Data Analysis with Roger D. Peng of Johns Hopkins University
 - Data Analysis with Jeff Leek of Johns Hopkins University
 - World History to 1500 CE with Richard Bulliet of Columbia University
 - Global Sustainable Energy: Past, Present and Future with Wendell A. Porter of the University of Florida
 - The Fiction of Relationship with Arnold Weinstein of Brown University
 - Introduction to Sustainability with Jonathan Tomkin of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
 - Energy 101 with Michael E. Webber of the University of Texas at Austin
 - Introduction to Complexity with Melanie Mitchell of the Santa Fe Institute
- Audited
 - Financial Markets with Robert Shiller of Yale University
 - Modern Poetry with Langdon Hammer of Yale University
 - Principles of Evolution, Ecology and Behavior with Stephen Stearns of Yale University
 - Global Problems of Population Growth with Bob Wyman of Yale University
 - Physics I: Classical Mechanics with Walter Lewin of MIT OCW
 - Principles of Chemical Science with Catherine Drennan & Elizabeth Vogel of MIT OCW
 - Introductory Biology with Graham Walker & Penny Chisholm of MIT OCW
 - Highlights of Calculus with Gilbert Strang of MIT OCW
 - Introduction to Solid State Chemistry with Donald Sadoway of MIT OCW
 - Single Variable Calculus with David Jerison of MIT OCW
 - Physics for future Presidents with Richard Muller of UC Berkeley
 - Computer Vision with Jitendra Malik of UC Berkeley
 - Computer Science 101 with Nick Parlante of Stanford University
 - Blue Planet: Introduction to Oceanography with Edwin Schauble of UCLA
 - World Civilization to 1500 with Sally Vaughn of the University of Houston
 - Fundamentals of Human Nutrition with Kristina von Castel-Roberts of the University of Florida
 - A first course in Linear Algebra with Norman Wildberger of the University of New South Wales
 - Great Discoveries from the Ancient World with Julian Bennett of Bilkent University
 - Nutrition, Health, and Lifestyle Issues and Insights with Jamie Pope of Vanderbilt University
 - Accountable Talk: Conversation that Works with Jennifer Zoltners Sherer, Pam Goldman, and Lauren B. Resnick of the University of Pittsburg
 - Nanotechnology: The Basics with Vicki Colvin & Daniel Mittleman of Rice University
 - Becoming a Resilient Person - The Science of Stress Management with Clayton Cook of the University of Washington
 - Natural Disasters with John Gyakum & John Stix of McGill University
 - Introduction to Communication Science with Rutger de Graaf of the University of Amsterdam

Current Positions

- President & CEO, LinuxForce, Inc., <http://www.LinuxForce.net>
- Executive Director, Synergetics Collaborative (SNEC), <http://SynergeticsCollaborative.org>
- Meeting Facilitator / Emcee, Philadelphia Linux User Group (PLUG), <http://www.PhillyLinux.org>
- Co-Organizer, Ben Franklin Thinking Society, <http://www.meetup.com/ThinkingSociety>
- Co-Organizer, Math Counts <http://www.meetup.com/MathCounts/>

Memberships

- Buckminster Fuller Institute
- Philadelphia Linux User Group (PLUG)
- Synergetics Collaborative (SNEC)
- GENI: Global Energy Network Initiative
- Association for Computing Machinery (ACM)
- The Long Now Foundation
- Rocky Mountain Institute
- The Energy Co-op
- The Nature Conservancy
- The International Living Future Institute
- Sylvia Earle Alliance
- The Wagner Free Institute of Science
- The B612 Foundation
- Free Software Foundation

Corporations and Organizations Founded

- LinuxForce, Inc., <http://www.LinuxForce.net>
- AdminForce Remote LLC, <http://www.AdminForce.net>
- Philadelphia Linux User Group (PLUG), <http://www.phillylinux.org>
- Synergetics Collaborative (SNEC), <http://synergeticists.org>
- The Philadelphia Area Debian Society (PADS), <http://CJFearnley.com/pads>
- The Bucky Fuller SpaceShip Earth Club, SUNY-Binghamton, 1989

List of Publications

- “Changed Requirements Would Hurt Choices” in the 16 February 1988 issue of *Pipe Dream*.
- “Reading Synergetics: Some Tips” in Trintab, 1991.
- Published 29 columns on Unix/Linux in *The Databus* between 1993 and 1997.
- The R. Buckminster Fuller FAQ, internet publication, 1994.
- “Integrity: An Essay on God”, internet publication, 1997.
- “The Triangle: A One-Page Primer”, internet publication, 2004.
- “Supercircles: Expanding Buckminster Fuller’s Foldable Circle Models” with Jeannie Moberly in *Proceedings of 2004 Bridges: Mathematics, Music, Art, Architecture, Culture*, 2004.
- “An Introduction to Linux and Open Source for Computer Consultants” in *Consulting Matters*, 2005.
- “Buckminster Fuller and the Open Educational Resources Movement”, blog essay, 2010.
- “Thoughts on Brain, Mind, and Thinking inspired by Lehrers ‘How We Decide’ ”, blog essay, 2010.
- “A Cosmic Speculation about The Purpose of Humans in Universe”, blog essay, 2010.
- “Some thoughts on the nature and pervasiveness of existentialism”, blog essay, 2010.
- “The most important video course on-line: Physics C10/LS C70V at Berkeley”, blog essay, 2011.
- “Study Linear Algebra at MIT with Gilbert Strang”, blog essay, 2011.
- “Are Randomness and Uncertainty fundamental and pervasive?”, blog essay, 2011.
- “Society and Our Technology Built World”, blog essay, 2011.
- “Sugar is a chronic toxin”, blog essay, 2011.
- “A Big Picture, Conceptual Introduction to Biology: EEB 122”, blog essay, 2011.
- “An Enquiry Concerning Scientific Understanding”, blog essay, 2011.
- “The Pickwickian Sentiment”, blog essay, 2012.
- “Determinism and Randomness Always and Only Coexist”, blog essay, 2012.
- “Dante’s Great ‘Commedia’ or Poetry as a way of Knowing”, blog essay, 2012.
- “The Importance of Model Thinking”, blog essay, 2012.
- “Models of Projective Geometry”, blog essay, 2012.
- “Harmonic Perspective” with Jeannie Moberly in *Proceedings of 2012 Bridges: Mathematics, Music, Art, Architecture, Culture*, 2012.

Web Presences

- CJ Fearnley Home Page: <http://www.CJFearnley.com>
- Syntropy: CJ Fearnley's Blog: <http://blog.CJFearnley.com>
- Synergetics Collaborative: <http://www.SynergeticsCollaborative.org>
- SynergeticsCollab YouTube Channel: <http://www.youtube.com/SynergeticsCollab>
- LinuxForce, Inc.: <http://www.LinuxForce.net>
- Remote Responder: <http://www.RemoteResponder.net>
- Managing FOSS (Free and Open Source Software) for Business Results:
<http://blog.RemoteResponder.net>
- Twitter: <http://twitter.com/cjfsyntropy>
- Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/cj.fearnley>
- LinkedIn: <http://www.linkedin.com/in/cjfearnley>
- Google+: <https://plus.google.com/104222466367230914966>