

## Foreword

How to make better use of open source technologies in mobile learning environment is a popular topic. It has been widely discussed in professional meetings and academic institutions. Though there are success stories, most of them are addressing one aspect of the whole picture. The challenge of effectively utilizing open source technology in the mobile learning environment still there for us to deal with, and a more systematic organization of such experience is both necessary and important to achieve such goals. Dr. Li Chao's *Open Source Mobile Learning: Mobile Linux Applications* is perhaps the first truly comprehensive and well-organized book to address this difficult task of planning, developing, and administering open source components for mobile learning.

This timely book organizes the content of mobile learning into three aspects: the technical foundation of mobile learning, the open source setting of mobile learning, and the open culture, as well as ubiquitous education. From these three sections, you could find almost all aspects of open source technologies in mobile learning environment s, and, moreover, many chapters discuss not just underlying instructional and foundational issues, but also the nuts and bolts of how to configure specific systems. The book provides a wealth of guidance and valuable information on the technologies that are available and what they can do, with a special emphasis on Linux mobile operating systems and related products, and how to develop and administer mobile learning systems.

Dr. Chao has authored and edited books on numerous topics in computer science field, including database, networking, and programming. He is the most popular computer science faculty in the university. Students like his courses because of his talents in teaching complex computer science theory and practice in an easy-to-follow way.

I believe this new book will become an instant hit in mobile learning research and teaching community. It is my pleasure to write the Foreword for this timely, well-organized, and highly relevant book, written by one of our most popular faculties.

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