

## Software Underground

# Board Meeting

29 July 2021

Minutes are recorded in green.

## Agenda

**We will start at 16.00 UTC on Thursday 29 July. Quorum is 5.**

**Regrets: Luisa, Brendon, Jo?**

**Present: Matt, Steve, Filippo, Dieter, Steve, Chance, Olawale**

**Visiting:**

## Previous meeting

The minutes from the previous meeting are on GDocs here >

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1pNt3ESB5k6165qpsymFtNxGAITQqCBx2\\_lkQLTHA\\_cA/edit](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1pNt3ESB5k6165qpsymFtNxGAITQqCBx2_lkQLTHA_cA/edit)

...and on GitHub here >

<https://github.com/softwareunderground/swung-org/tree/master/board>

**If you have not had a chance, you might be interested to see Sean's presentation and our discussion about it here**

**<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JgEM6Jwj2ig&t=2025s>.**

**Remarks: None**

## Annual filing

Taxes filed, and Corporations Canada annual report done.

**Remarks: None**

## Northern Lights CCS data challenge

Matt met with Valeria and her team. They were looking for more of a service offering — work being done to a timeline — so it no longer seemed like a good fit for Software Underground. They (now it involves the project partners as well) were considering whether to hire Agile or go some other way, and it seems like they have chosen the latter course of action.

**Remarks: None.**

## Openness and licences

We chatted about a Rendezvous on open licences, etc. Jo thought it might be possible to enlist one or more legal experts on the topic.

### **Is there any movement on this?**

Aside: Matt had an interesting conversation on 23 Jun with the Drogon team at Equinor, who are releasing a synthetic reservoir simulation dataset. They were asking how to avoid a repeat of the Volve situation and understand the importance of choosing a standard licence. They are juggling ODbL vs CC BY, but consider the former to be more conducive to reproducibility, essentially requiring licensees to open their derivative products. One question I have is: what kinds of things are derivative products? Does this really impact reproducibility, since a person can presumably use ODbL'd data but not release code or content?

**Remarks: We should hold a workshop event around this, at TRANSFORM if not before. Include the Drogon people, and the Equinor licensing people.**

**Steve: Or as a Rendezvous.**

## Developer summit

We held two Dev Summit meetings on 14 June. The notes are here >

<https://hackmd.io/xP7sH6G-QdC7vFROD-wNBQ>

We will be doing it again, likely in August (if people are around) or in September. The main item for next time is the idea of a Swung Python distribution / Conda channel / Docker / whatever.

**Remarks:**

- **Filippo: I would be happy to take part in this. This would fit nicely with the SwungHub. [SwungHub is still up, 'dormant', needs a use-case / 'customer'.]**
- **[Update after meeting: a date has been proposed for another meeting in August]**

## "The stack" and the intern

At the Dev Summit, there was general interest in pursuing ways to hire help.

Here's the timeline (from <https://www.outreachy.org/communities/cfp/>)

### Timeline for December 2021 cohort

June 17, 2021 at 4pm UTC	Community sign up opens
Aug. 9, 2021 at 4pm UTC	Initial applications open
Aug. 23, 2021, 4 p.m. UTC	<a href="#">#OutreachyChat on Twitter</a>
Aug. 30, 2021 at 4pm UTC	Initial application deadline
Sept. 3, 2021 at 4pm UTC	Deadline for community sign up
Sept. 17, 2021 at 4pm UTC	Mentor project submission deadline
Oct. 1, 2021	Contribution period begins
Oct. 31, 2021	Contribution period ends
Oct. 31, 2021 at 4pm UTC	Final application deadline
Nov. 9, 2021	Intern selection deadline
Nov. 19, 2021	Outreachy organizers finalize intern selections
Nov. 22, 2021 at 4pm UTC	Interns are publicly announced on <a href="#">the alums page</a>
Dec. 6, 2021 to March 4, 2022	Internships period

We proposed meeting with Outreachy to address the various questions that came up about the process. However, there's been no response, and I interpret this as an attempt to keep everything fair and on the website. So I think we just have to jump into the process.

So everyone should read: <https://www.outreachy.org/docs/community/>

Then we have to fill out a form that looks like this:

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1O0arL\\_BC6l0q8eG5ZscTRkluGOU37e8AHBY52ZQDULM/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1O0arL_BC6l0q8eG5ZscTRkluGOU37e8AHBY52ZQDULM/edit?usp=sharing)

Then we need to decide:

- Would the intern work on one project in the stack, several projects, or on a 'meta' Swung project (like the distro / Conda idea, see above).

By early September, we should have some clarity on what next.

**Remarks: Chance would like to be involved in this. First task will be to define the task, or to take 2 candidate tasks to the dev-summit group and see which one appeals the most.**

## EDI/COC issues

We had a single Slack guest break the CoC more than once in June and July, in messages related to Pride Month. The individual is a conservative Catholic with a strong tendency to promote their moral values — some of which are not consistent at all with our community values or Code of Conduct. The person was patiently and gently rebuked by various members of the community, but continued to provoke. Matt had a conversation with them and asked them not to post for 2 weeks, whereupon they posted again, violating the Code of Conduct again, so their account was deactivated for 2 weeks. Their account is now live again, as of 27 July. Any further violation will mean permanent deactivation. Matt reviewed the CoC and our By-Law, and felt that the situation was adequately covered, both in terms of the activities being clear violations, and our response to them being reasonable and fair. (To be sure, though, both documents contain some rather sweeping language, e.g. from the CoC: "[unacceptable behaviour includes...] conduct which could reasonably be considered inappropriate in a professional setting").

There was a second violation in July: a new guest was messaging others asking to 'rent their Upwork accounts', which is apparently a freelancing scam. The account was deactivated without warning.

Some things to consider:

- Some members felt that the first issue could have been dealt with more swiftly.
- One person suggested that 'solicitation' should be explicitly forbidden in the CoC.

**Remarks:**

**Leiaka: The first issue was handled well and I don't see a need for more process.**

**Chance: Maybe one more CoC enforcer?**

**[Update, after the meeting: a person has been approached, and there is another candidate. Chance can report at the next board meeting.]**

## Technology selection

The main takeaway from the Curvenote conversation was that we need a tech proposal (from members) and review (by the board or representatives of it). Currently the items for consideration are:

- Curvenote — signing up as a team for USD27/user/year, or approx USD 800/year total, proposed by Steve.
- 8x8 hosted Jitsi — proposed by Filippo
- Discourse
- Mattermost or other replacements for Slack
- A review of our entire stack, essentially

I guess this calls for a Working Group or similar?

### Remarks:

**Matt: Essentially, the working group is currently Matt, Steve, Filippo and Dieter, since they hold the current logins etc.**

**We will aim to meet before the September board meeting to start figuring out what the priorities are. Includes: process for proposing tools, open vs proprietary preference, hosted vs self-hosted preference, password sharing, and tidying up the current list:**

**<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1g5oO l5 G3Army4BH6idQa3B WsCGaVO 9Kn1 90Bspo/edit>**

## Any other business

- Dieter: "Official" receipts or something? I think we talked about it before. Some employers pay back society memberships such as SEG and EAGE to their employees. That usually needs sort of an official receipt. Do we have something like this? It might be hard as we are pay-what-you-want-and-only-if-you-want.

- Remarks: Automatic in SqSp? If switch to 'Fulfilled'? Automatically? Chance and Steve offered to help figure it out on SqSp and/or Stripe.

## Next meeting

**Matt will not be at the next meeting.**

**You should have received an invitation for August through to November — all have accepted except Dieter and Jo. Please check your calendar.**

## Parking lot / next meeting

These items will go into the next board meeting(s):

- Do we want to record board meetings, eg as unlisted YouTube videos (livestreamed from Jitsi)? >> **Moved to next meeting:**  
[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ferafSq6BK2r\\_nNdzLo0yZe04x8SsGpdu2n0z-gKwSY/edit](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ferafSq6BK2r_nNdzLo0yZe04x8SsGpdu2n0z-gKwSY/edit)
- Next meeting regrets: Dieter, Matt, Filippo.