



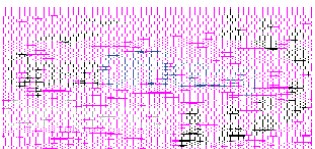
# OOoCon 2004 - Berlin



Funding OpenOffice.org

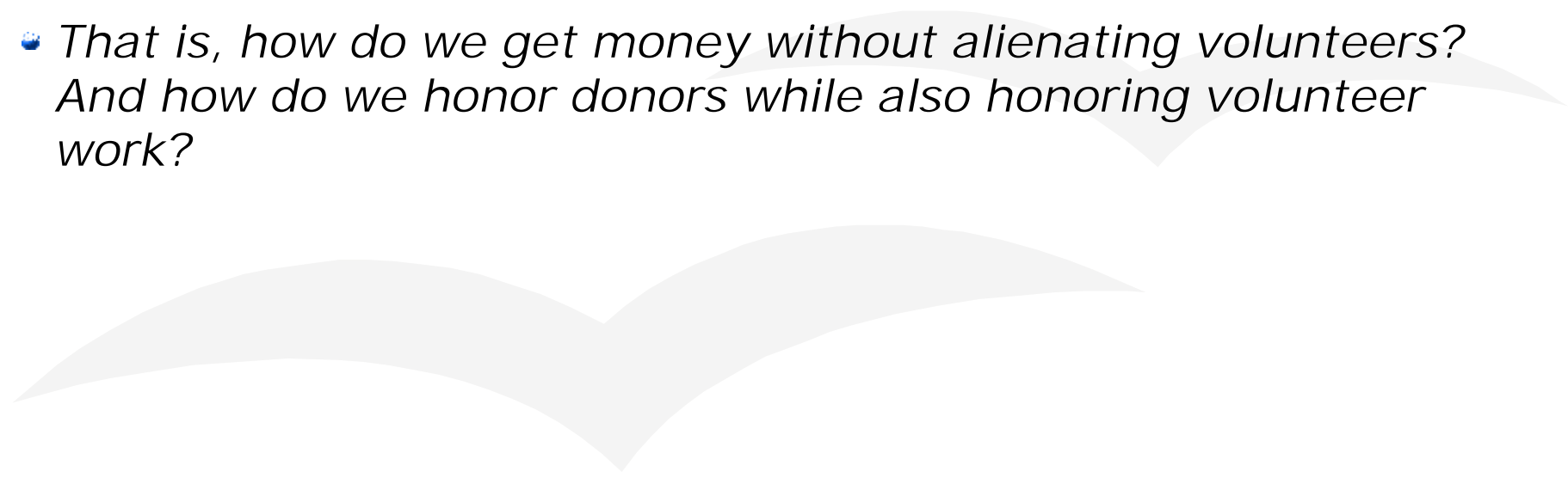
Louis Suarez-Potts

Community Manager





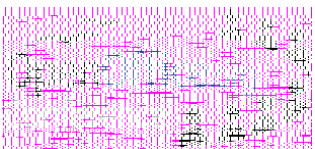
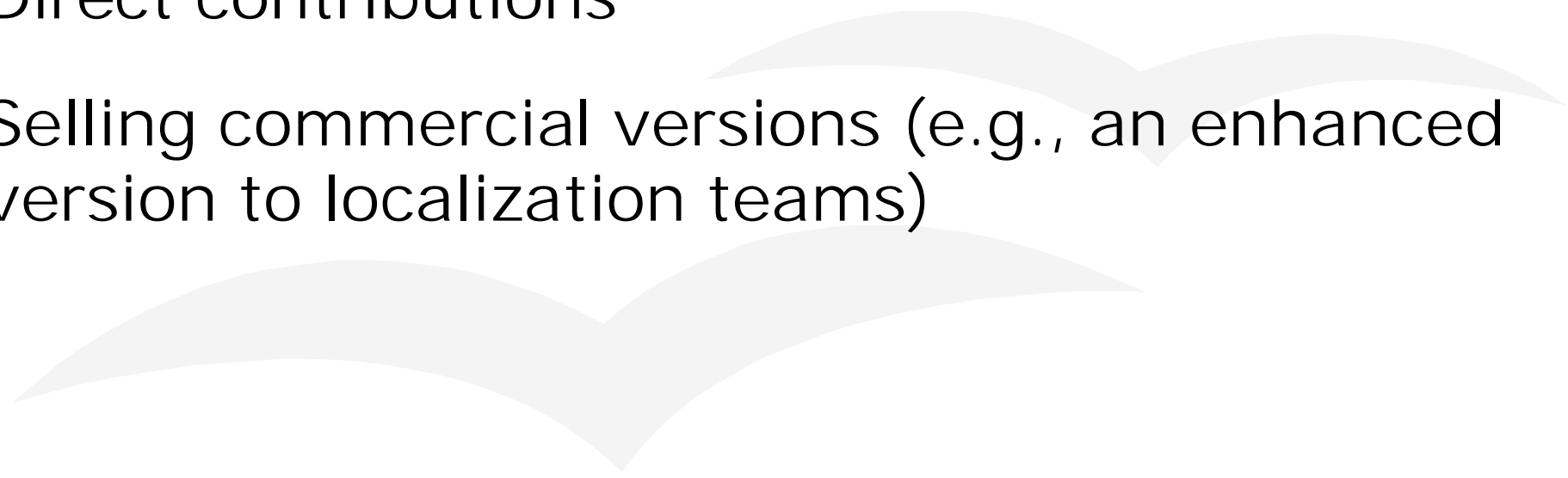
# Agenda

- Theme: We need money. We also need to manage it. How?
  - What are the issues, moral, political, fiduciary?
    - *That is, how do we get money without alienating volunteers?  
And how do we honor donors while also honoring volunteer work?*
- 



# Funding options

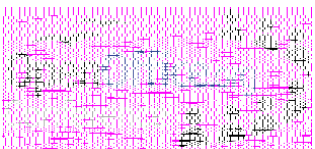
- Sponsors (ad fees)
- Direct contributions
- Selling commercial versions (e.g., an enhanced version to localization teams)





# Option 1

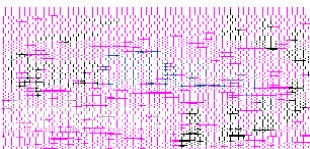
- Sponsor pages: where, how?
  - Off main homepage & support
  - On CD-ROM/OEM pages
  - On support page
- A risk is creating too many such pages that litter OpenOffice.org with advertisements
- Another risk is alienating developers with the commercialization





# Option 2: Direct Contributions

- We currently encourage direct contributions to OpenOffice.org e.V., a German nonprofit corporation. We accept bank transfers and PayPal submissions, as well as checks.
- What else?
  - The Community Council has endorsed the creation of a US-based nonprofit (preferably tax-deductible)
    - The nonprofit would be managed by elected members of the community
    - How would the funds be used?
  - The CC has also suggested using an organization that earmarks (specifies) the allocation of funds.
    - Why? So that if someone wants, say, to fund the development of a WP filter, and only that filter, we would have a way of managing those funds.





# Volunteers

- How to honor volunteers while also honoring cash contributors?
- Open source contributions are honored by attribution and by what the code does. Anything beyond that is not needed. We do not need a special page beyond the credits page.
- But: non-code contributions should be honored more publicly.
- The mistake is to try to equate cash and volunteer contributions.
- There is no logic that would allow such equation without also causing madness.

