Opening Note:

Hello, (\*introduce ourselves\*) thank you for helping us out by participating in our study. The interview will be quite short and will consist of 8 questions regarding the impact of gamification on StackOverflow. With approval from you we would like to record the audio of this call for later transcription and review.

**Do you have any questions/feedback about the survey conducted?**

No feedback

**As a Stack Overflow member, do you find enough motivation with the current recognition system? Explain why.**

**Motivation is not driven by recognition system**

**Training and way to learn**

**How StackOverflow discourages participation through the use of current rules (member reputation, badges, privileges) or members behaviour?**

**Doesn’t discourage participation and is a necessary step to weed out spam**

**Higher users being harsh towards newer users with less reputation**

**Number of initiatives to prevent this. Flagging system and comments to systemize mitigating the harshness of high level users towards low level users (Check audio for extra feedback)**

**Currently, ranking does not reflect effort. How would you change the rules to earn reputation and badges to motivate more contribution?**

**Ranking is not his main reason and so he does not have much feedback on these**

**Daily reputation cap (hit many times) \*key\* Only way to get past this is to post *THE* answer (the top answer) rather than posting many answer.**

**Reputation cap is at a good level (did not reach the cap for the first 3 years) so it is not too low**

**Do you think that the collaboration on StackOverflow can be improved with the inclusion of the possibility to share reputation and badges on GitHub, LinkedIn and Social Media or the main problem is the design of how to earn badges and reputation?**

**Disagree, the sharing of reputation would not increase the participation of higher end users because they are not providing input for the sake of gaining recognition**

**After 20k rep points there is no higher threshold**

**Badges could be more tailored to show skills**

**Additional system that could better qualify expertise in a subject**

* **Based on consistency rather than reputation**
* **Factors: #of days visiting, #of interactions per day,#of posts**
* **Presented as: a daily rate of participation,(not clear on how would be accomplished) possibly a formula that takes these into account and present a trend of the users participation in the skills to show expertise**

**Discreet indicators at a given time as they are currently**

**How do you think the current means of obtaining badges, reputation and privileges can affect members who have a lower reputation?**

**Reputation and badges are tied for newer users, doesn’t inhibit their participation but has limitations on what newer users are allowed to do which are lifted fairly early**

**Has work to do to let newer users understand how the site really works**

**Doesn’t do a good enough job of helping users understand the site**

**Some kind of pointer or indication when posting a question to remind users to accept answers, as they are not at first allowed to upvote/downvote and when they become allowed to the site doesn’t remind them that they are now allowed to and should use up/downvotes**

**Do you think that it is necessary to change the current design of reputation, badges and privileges in order to promote more participation and being an inclusive community? Please describe the new system to earn badges and reputation in StackOverflow**

**No obvious changes**

**Not best person to evaluate the effects of rep/badges as he has surpassed all of the thresholds and is no longer affected by it**

**Even if there were a upper tier threshold system would not change his activity and the base reason for his participation**

**Would you like to include additional thoughts to the interview?**

**Clarifying premise**

**2 kinds of badges**

1. **Badges to incentivize behaviours in users, and to guide users around the site and to teach users how to interact with the site**
2. **Badges for posting questions/answer**

**Badges aren’t really representative of expertise (has large reputation and badges in java but is self-proclaimed not an expert) and many of badges are connected for example Eclipse and Java. Expertise in Eclipse gives points connected to java and makes it look like an expert in Java as well.**

**Once upper level, the concept of rep/badges is not valuable except for possibility of pre-qualifying your resume for things like interviews**