



# Technical Advisory Council (TAC) Overview

*March 2024*



# Open Mainframe Project Overview and Governance



# OPEN MAINFRAME PROJECT

The Open Mainframe Project was founded in 2015, as a focal point for deployment and use of Linux and Open Source in a mainframe computing environment.

Open Source is the collective thread within leading organizations that look to leverage their technology infrastructure as a competitive advantage. The mainframe design principles of security, stability, scalability, and performance are important to these leading organizations, and having the mainframe interoperable in a hybrid infrastructure enables leading organizations to realize its benefits. Open Mainframe Project believes this is best achieved as a community through open source.

Open Mainframe Project hosts 17 projects and working groups and is supported by 40 organizations.

## Vision

The mainframe is an active, integrated, and essential part of modern enterprise IT, consumable by mainstream developers and users, and driven by a vibrant open source community.

## Mission

To achieve the vision of the Open Mainframe Project by...



**Setting a high bar for application development on the mainframe** through documentation, API development, and a security-first approach.



**Enable the mainframe to be more consumable by developers** with a transparent experience in leveraging the value propositions of the mainframe.



**Showcase the mainframe of today** to both the mainframe ecosystem as well as the broad enterprise IT community.



**Ensure the mainframe aligns well in the changing enterprise IT landscape** of cloud-native and DevOps.

# Member Organizations



Learn more about membership at [openmainframeproject.org/join](https://openmainframeproject.org/join)

# We're a nonprofit, but not separately incorporated



- The Open Mainframe Project is part of the [the Linux Foundation](#) and is not a separate legal entity
- Therefore, the Open Mainframe Project Governing Board is not a corporate board of directors, and is not subject to corporate law statutes (e.g., those that govern fiduciary duties and how corporate boards of directors must operate)
- The powers and duties of the Governing Board are set forth in the [Open Mainframe Project Charter](#)

# Open Mainframe Project enables this innovation

## Active Open Mainframe Projects (4)



## Incubation Open Mainframe Projects (7)



## Sandbox Open Mainframe Projects (3)



## Open Mainframe Project Working Group (3)



Learn about all Open Mainframe projects at <https://openmainframeproject.org/our-projects/>

# Open Mainframe Project Governance at a glance



Cross-project collaboration  
Project Lifecycle Management  
Developer Voice to GB

Technical Advisory  
Council (TAC)

Open Mainframe Project  
Governing Board

Strategy & Priorities  
Budget  
Marketing Strategy & Events  
Legal & overall governance

Zowe

ADE

Mentorship

Zorow

etc

Developer Communities

Marketing Committee

Annual Marketing Plan  
PR  
Events  
Content/Web  
Branding  
Market Development



# TAC Responsibilities



# TAC Responsibilities



The TAC's responsibilities include:

- Setting an overall technical vision for Open Mainframe Project
- Approving new projects and working groups;
- Overseeing the Project Lifecycle;
- Enabling collaboration between projects and working groups;
- Making recommendations to the Budget Committee for any resource needs;
- Voting on other decisions that come before the TAC.

Additional responsibilities are described in [Section 4](#) of the Open Mainframe Project Charter.

# What the TAC is NOT responsible for



- The TAC does **not** manage the day-to-day activities and operations of hosted projects and working groups, such as committer rights, release schedules, and roadmaps.
- The TAC is **not** responsible for overseeing day-to-day operations of Open Mainframe Project. This is the responsibility of the project staff.
- The TAC does **not** directly manage the overall budget for the Open Mainframe Project. The TAC makes resource recommendations to the Budget Committee and Governing Board, and provides feedback on the use of those resources.



# TAC Operations

# TAC Composition



- The TAC voting members consist of:
  - One representative appointed from each Platinum member and each Platinum End-User; and
  - One representative appointed by the TSC of each top-level project
- See [Section 4\(a\)](#) of the LF Energy Foundation Charter for more information about composition.
- You can change your representative at any time by making a request at [members.openmainframeproject.org](https://members.openmainframeproject.org).

# Technical Advisory Council (TAC) Representatives



Phil Tully

**Chair**

LinuxONE  
Engineering  
Operations  
Director  
Citi



Andrea Orth

Scrum Master  
State Farm  
Mutual  
Automobile  
Insurance  
Company



Giancarlo Frix

Senior Software  
Developer  
Rocket Software



Gregory  
MacKinnon

Distinguished  
Engineer  
Broadcom  
Corporation



Joe Bostian

Open Source and  
Analytics Architect  
International  
Business  
Machines  
Corporation



Lauren Valenti

Head of  
Mainframe  
Education and  
Customer  
Engagement  
Broadcom  
Corporation



Nikolay  
Gueorguiev

IBM Mainframe  
Consultant  
SUSE LLC



Sean Grady

Senior Software  
Architect  
Rocket Software,  
Inc.



Sudharsana  
Srinivasan

IBM Z Influencer  
Program Manager  
International  
Business  
Machines  
Corporation



# TAC Chairperson

Annually in December, the TAC will elect a chairperson to serve for the subsequent year. Duties of the TAC Chairperson include:

- Leading the strategy for setting an overall technical vision for the Open Mainframe Project
- Preparing the agenda for and leading TAC meetings, with the support of the project staff (generally meets with the staff on a regular basis to align on topics and priorities)
- Serving as a voting member of the Governing Board to represent the TAC and larger technical communities.
- Be a spokesperson for the TAC and larger technical community, as needed

See [Section 4\(e\)](#) of the Open Mainframe Project Charter for more information about the chairperson role.



# TAC Meetings

# Meeting Cadence



- The TAC has virtual meetings, generally every on the second and fourth Thursday of the month. **All meetings are public meetings unless specified otherwise.**
- Format for the meetings generally include short updates, and up to two larger topics ( such as an annual review of a project/working group, new project/working group proposal, larger discussion item, or special presentation )
  - Voting will often take place at each meeting
  - If you cannot attend a meeting and wish to have someone else represent you, please contact the project staff at [members.openmainframeproject.org](https://members.openmainframeproject.org).
- In rare and exceptional circumstances (e.g., in an emergency situation), an additional ad hoc special meeting of the TAC may be convened.
  - To request a special meeting, please email your request to the project staff and TAC Chair, and they will decide whether a special meeting is necessary or the proposed agenda item can be discussed by email or at the next regular meeting.



# How to propose an agenda item



- Agenda for TAC meetings are managed at <https://github.com/orgs/openmainframeproject/projects/21>
- Propose a topic for a TAC meeting at <https://github.com/openmainframeproject/tac/issues/new/choose>
- Please submit your proposed agenda item at least 7 days prior to the meeting.
- Please be patient. TAC meeting agendas are often quite full, and the length of the meeting only allows the time for two larger topics per meeting, so if your topic is more than a short topic it may not be scheduled for the next meeting.

# Proposing an agenda item (continued)



- If we cannot accommodate your request in the upcoming meeting we may:
  - Wait until the following meeting to discuss the topic
  - Call a special meeting to discuss your topic, or
  - Refer the topic to the appropriate committee or task force of the TAC
- We may ask you to provide slides 3 days before the meeting.



- Agendas for TAC meetings will be made available the morning the scheduled meeting
- Past meeting notes can be found [here](#).
- No meeting of the TAC is recorded unless the TAC provides explicit consent to do so.

# Discussion Channels



## Relevant Mailing Lists

- TAC Public List: [omp-technical@lists.openmainframeproject.org](mailto:omp-technical@lists.openmainframeproject.org)
- TAC Private List: [omp-tac-private@lists.openmainframeproject.org](mailto:omp-tac-private@lists.openmainframeproject.org)
  - This list is ONLY for sensitive topics and voting
- Project and Working Group Leads:  
[omp-technical@lists.openmainframeproject.org](mailto:omp-technical@lists.openmainframeproject.org)

## Slack Channel

- You can [join Open Mainframe Project slack here](#).
- To join the TAC slack channel, make a request at [members.openmainframeproject.org](https://members.openmainframeproject.org).

# LFX Organization Dashboard



[LFX Organization Dashboard](#) provides access to key membership materials, including...

- Member contacts, which you can change at any time ( look under ‘Users’ > and then under the ‘Key People’ tab )
- Membership details ( look under ‘Membership’ > ‘Open Mainframe Project’ ), including...
  - Membership Overview Deck and High Level Overview Deck ( look under the ‘Resources’ tab )
  - Your fully executed membership agreement ( look under the ‘Membership’ tab )
  - Details on how to leverage membership benefits ( look under the ‘Benefits’ tab )
  - Insights on contributors from your organization ( look under the ‘Project Contributors’ tab )

**ACTION: Request access to LFX Organizational Dashboard [here](#).**



# Policies and Other Resources

# Important Open Mainframe Project Policies and Resources



- [Open Mainframe Project Charter](#)
- [Linux Foundation Antitrust Policy](#)
- [Project GitHub repository](#) with many other public facing policies and materials including...
  - [Elections Process](#)
  - [Open Mainframe Project hosted project charters](#), which define each project's intellectual property and licensing policies.
- [OMP Landscape](#)
- [High Level Overview](#)

# Open Mainframe Project Staff



- [John Mertic](#), Executive Director
- [Maemalynn Meanor](#), Director of PR & Communications
- [Yarille Ortiz](#), Project Coordinator
- [Gary Schillinger](#), Podcast Producer
- [Deb Giles](#), Open Mainframe Summit and Events



Contact us at [members.openmainframeproject.org](https://members.openmainframeproject.org)



# Who's Who in the Academy Software Foundation



- [Open Mainframe Project Members](#)
- Staff: [Open Mainframe Project Staff](#), [Linux Foundation Leadership](#)
- [Governing Board Members](#)
- [Technical Advisory Council Members](#)
- [Open Mainframe Project Project and Working Group Leads](#)



# Thank you!

*If you have any questions, feel free to  
contact the staff at:*

*[members.openmainframeproject.org](https://members.openmainframeproject.org)*