INTERVIEW PROTOCOL COVERSHEET - OPEN SOURCE RESEARCH SOFTWARE ORGANIZATIONS

organization_name:

organization_id

participant_name:

participant_id:

participant_type: project_lead OR project_founder

interviewer_name:

interviewer_id:

interviewer_insitution_name:

irb_protocol_id:

date:

time_start:

time_end:

location OR medium:

CONSENT STATEMENT: participant_name, do I have your consent to record and transcribe this conversation? De-identified excerpts may be used in academic publications and presentations. I'll protect the transcript of our conversations according to my agreement with institution_name Institutional Review Board, but I cannot guarantee full protection against re-identification of your excerpted quotes.

Q1: First, I'd like to hear about the trajectory that led you to become a [project lead or founder] of [project_name]. Starting as far back as you'd like, could you tell me about the personal and professional experiences you've had leading up to your involvement with [project_name]?

    PQ1.1: What year did you begin working on [project_name]?

    PQ1.2: What positions did you hold with [project_name] prior to becoming a [project_lead]?

    PQ1.3: Are there any experiences as [previous position] or other career experiences that influenced what you do as project lead?

    PQ1.4: Can you tell me about your collaborations with other co-founders OR previous project leads?

        PQ1.4a: When did you first interact with [project co-founders/project founders/previous project leads]?

        PQ1.4b: Where did you first interact with [project co-founders/project founders/previous project leads]?

        PQ1.4c: When did you first interact with [project co-founders/project founders/previous project leads]?

Q2: When you [founded project_name OR became lead of project_name], what were the first actions you took in your new role?

    PQ2.1: What was your motivation for [first actions]?

    PQ2.2: What resources, including people, did you consult when you [founded the project OR became project lead] when [taking first actions]?

PQ2.3: Does anything stick out in your mind as lessons learned during the first few days, weeks, or months of [founding the project OR becoming the project lead]?

Q3: What steps did you take, if any, to grow the project?

PQ3.1: What challenges did you encounter as you tried to grow the project?

PQ3.2: What resources, if any, did you consult when growing the project or addressing the challenges posed by growth?

PQ3.3: Have your approaches to growth changed since [founding OR becoming project lead]? How?

Q4: Your project has demonstrated a great deal of success, but research on open source software and technological change in other contexts suggest there are always some people who resist new tools and new ways of working. Has your project faced any pushback, either from members of your discipline or the broader software development community?

PQ4.1: How did you address the pushback when making new contributions or doing maintenance work, if at all?

PQ4.2: How has the content or form of pushback changed over time, if at all?

Q5: More generally, what are some of the other challenges you've faced as [founder of project_name OR project lead]?

PQ5.1: How have the challenges changed as the project has matured?

PQ5.2: Can you tell me about how you've learned to execute leadership tasks?

Q6: The world of open source research software seems to be a small one. Have you had any interaction with other project leads? If so, what have your interactions been like?

    PQ6.1: How did you form relationships with other organization leaders?

    PQ6.2: What, if anything, do you discuss with other organization leaders?

Q7: [IF APPLICABLE] How did you hand off leadership of [project_name], or otherwise distribute the leadership responsibilities of the project?

Q8: I typically end my interviews with "blank check" questions. In an ideal world, what would you like to see [project_name] doing in 5 years? In 10 years?

    PQ8.1: Are there any conditions that need to change in the broader research community to facilitate these goals?

    PQ8.2: What, in your opinion, are the actions that institutions, organizations, and individuals can take to facilitate these goals?

INTERVIEW PROTOCOL COVERSHEET - OPEN SOURCE RESEARCH SOFTWARE ORGANIZATIONS

organization_name:

organization_id

participant_name:

participant_id:

participant_type: project_core_contributor OR project_maintainer

interviewer_name:

interviewer_id:

interviewer_insitution_name:

irb_protocol_id:

date:

time_start:

time_end:

location OR medium:

Q1: First, I'd like to hear about the trajectory that led you to become a [project_core_contributor or project_maintainer] of [project_name]. Starting as far back as you'd like, could you tell me about the personal and professional experiences you've had leading up to your involvement with [project_name]?

PQ1.1: What year did you begin working on [project_name]?

PQ1.2: What knowledge did you have of [project_name] prior to becoming a [project_core_contributor OR project_maintainer]? What made [project_name] attractive to you?

PQ1.3: Are there any experiences as [previous position] or other career experiences that influenced what you do in your current role?

Q2: What was the first contribution you made to [project_name]? Second?

PQ2.1: What was your motivation for [first actions]?

PQ2.2: What resources, including people, did you consult when you first contributed to the project?

PQ2.3: Does anything stick out in your mind as lessons learned during the first few days, weeks, or months of contributing to the project?

Q3: What steps did you take, if any, to become a more central member of the project?

PQ3.1: What challenges did you encounter as you tried to become a [project_core_contributor OR project_maintainer]?

PQ3.2: What resources, if any, did you consult when learning how to [contribute to or maintain] the project? To overcome challenges in becoming a more central member of the project?

PQ3.3: Have your approaches to your role in the project changed since your initial contribution]? How?

Q4: Your project has demonstrated a great deal of success, but research on open source software and technological change in other contexts suggest there are always some people who resist new tools and new ways of working. Has your project faced any pushback, either from members of your discipline or the broader software development community?

PQ4.1: How did you address the pushback, if at all, in your contributions or maintenance work?
PQ4.2: How has the content or form of pushback changed over time, if at all?

Q5: More generally, what are some of the other challenges you've faced as [a project_core_contributor OR project_maintainer]?

PQ5.1: How have the challenges changed as the project has matured?

PQ5.2: Can you tell me about how you've learned to execute [contribution or maintenance] tasks?

Q6: The world of open source research software seems to be a small one. Have you had any interaction with other [project core contributors or maintainers]? If so, what have your interactions been like?

PQ6.1: How did you form relationships with other contributors or maintainers?

PQ6.2: What, if anything, do you discuss with other contributors or maintainers, either within your project or outside of your project?

Q7: [IF APPLICABLE] How do you record information about the tasks you do in your day-to-day work for other contributors or maintainers who might work on the project in the future?

PQ7.1: Did any previous contributors or maintainers do this prior to you? Can you explain what that information is and how it is/was communicated to you?

PQ7.2: What have you done differently, if anything?

Q8: I typically end my interviews with "blank check" questions. In an ideal world, what would you like to see [project_name] doing in 5 years? In 10 years?

PQ8.1: Are there any conditions that need to change in the broader research community to facilitate these goals?

PQ8.2: How can projects and other institutions or organizations promote better, more frequent contributions OR maintenance tasks?