

# Community Involvement

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## Reading Material

Mock Debate , review the references in Part 2 to prepare

Building Communities , read sections:

- How to build an open source community
- Essential tools for running a community-led project
- A guide to participating in an open source software community

Read Flow

### Importance

- We as Open Source developers want to be part of a community
- Code gets looked by many eyes and many heads
- Different Perspectives on uses of Code
- Many people test your code
- If you help others, others will help you

### Essential Tools for Running Communities

Tools should facilitate and not dictate

Provide the basic tools

- website,
- developer mailing list,

- version control
- issue tracker

### **Essential Tools for Communcation (contd)**

- Communication, Communication, Communication
- Mail Archives
- Forums
- Questions and Answers as in Stackoverflow
- Blogs, Syndication
- Social Networking, Microblogging

### **More Communication**

- screen casts
- videos - youtube/vimeo
- version control system
- Management of Intellectual Property

### **Participating in an open source community**

- Prepare - Play to your strengths
- Many roles outside writing code in open source projects
  - Documentation Writers
  - Translators
  - website designers
  - GUI designers
  - Communications people

### **Participating in Open Source Community (contd)**

- **Estimate your time commitment**
- Check your employment contract.
- Show your enthusiasm

### **Get to Know your community**

- Understand how the community communicates
- Understand how the community is governed
- Understand the role of constructive criticism
- Get to know the people
- Understand the communication Channels
- Learn about "Poisonous People"

### **Engage**

- Communicate what you are working on

- Acknowledge resources you use and their creators
- Give back
- Plan an exit strategy
- Retire Gracefully

## **Sustainable Open Source**

Reaching sustainability

Product Development

- Large market share (support, training, customization, search engines)
- Hardware companies give out free drivers
- Software companies who utilize open source components
- Dual licensing model - open source version and a proprietary version.

## **Non Profit Open Development**

- Free Software Foundation
- The Eclipse Foundation
- The Gnome Foundation
- The Mozilla Foundation
- The Python Foundation
- The Linux Foundation

## **Mock Debate (Open Vs. Proprietary)**

- Mock Debate
- Please read the references and try to debate and argue for your case.
- We will have two groups - Your teacher and TAs will also join sides.

**The End**

**by Moorthy**