GUTS
Glasgow University Tech Society

Hackathon Event

In partnership with:

University of Glasgow

sie scottish institute for enterprise

SCOTLAND HACKS

COMPSOC

www.gutechsoc.com/hackathon

Glasgow University Hackathon

The Organisers

Glasgow University Tech Society (or GUTS) is a society founded by young visionaries who want to spur the development of a productive "hacker" community around the University . We have the full support of our University, and of the School of Computing Science. Our growth is phenomenal for a new society with 50 active members already participating in our events and with more than 300 individuals from around campus showing interest in future events. We have ambition and belief that we can make a difference, based on our three core purposes:

- **Promoting Teamwork** - In an interconnected world we understand the importance of working relationships. We promote positive interpersonal dialogue and collaboration, overcoming individual differences.
- **Ethical Hacking** - The word hacking is sometimes associated with people who are breaking the law. We like to repurpose this word. To us, hacking is the creation of a clever, elegant solution to a particularly difficult problem through trial and error. Hacking is problem solving at its best.
- **Technical Innovation** - Technology is constantly evolving and, as technologists, we must always be aware of and utilise the latest tools to our advantage. We find a focus on the future essential to the creation of brilliant technology, always mindful of the past and the improvement of current tools and practices.

Visit our website: http://gutechsoc.com, drop us an e-mail at team@gutechsoc.com or visit our facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/gutechsoc.

The Event

Driven by our core purposes and our passion for great technology, we decided to organize a coding event which takes an iconic form. We decided to organize a Hackathon. The idea is that students from the University of Glasgow will team up and work in a dynamic environment to solve challenges posed by others, or themselves.

Here we present some more details about the event and how you can help us.

When

1st - 3rd of November (Friday - Sunday)

Who

Most participants will be Glasgow University Computer Science (GUCS) students, but we will have a number of members from other GU departments and a smaller group of non-students. We will have a soft limit of 50 participants in total.

Duration

- Overnight option (preferred) -- incurs covering janitorial costs. The hackathon runs for 2 days including the night (Sat 9.30am to Sun 15.00pm)
- Janitorial hours only -- 2 days with a night break (Sat 9.30-22.00 and Sun 9.30-17.00)

Challenges

Our hackathon teams will compete on various challenges proposed by our academics, private companies -- big and small alike -- and students themselves. We are aiming for a broad coverage of interesting problems within modern computing science and the tech industry at large. Our sponsors will have the ability to propose challenges and if so, attend the pitching of solutions at the end of the event. If you think you might have an idea for a challenge, sponsor or not, please e-mail us at team@gutechsoc.com.

Currently proposed challenges:

1. **Dr. Matthew Chalmers (University of Glasgow)** Matthew will give a talk on his populations project (future cities) and would like to be a challenge leader. To check out his research, visit softwarepopulations.com

2. **Student Challenges** We are encouraging students to propose any challenges they think might be suitable.

3. **Sponsor's challenges.** We are currently discussing possible challenges with our sponsors. Proposing a challenge gives you the ability to build connections with students, increase your profile within the University and attract the next wave of talented technologists to your firm.

Support

- We have the acknowledgment of the School of Computing Science and support from its Professor, Prof Joe Sventek. Dr Tim Storer (http://www.dcs.gla.ac.uk/~tws/) is supervising the event and Dr Matthew Chalmers (http://www.dcs.gla.ac.uk/~matthew/DCS/Home.html) is proposing a challenge.
- We are officially affiliated with Student's Representative Council (http://www.src.gla.ac.uk/) .
- We are co-organising the event with SIE (Scottish Institute for Enterprise - http://www.sie.ac.uk). Our main contact with SIE is Tadas Labudis (tadas@eventhread.com).
- We are receiving great organisational support from scotlandhacks.org.uk, who have experience in organising hackathons and will assist us in ensuring the event is run in a smooth and professional manner. Our contact with Scotland Hacks is Leisha Sterling (lisha@gwob.org).
- We are in touch with a few tech companies based in Glasgow, both big and small, who would like to contribute challenges and support the event.
- We have a diverse community of around 50 dedicated society members and around 130 loosely related students.

How can you get involved?

If you represent a large company, please consult with the department that is responsible for student outreach. We are looking to build lasting relationships with businesses in Glasgow and we would like to get off on the right foot. If you are a small startup or an indie company we would love to hear from you and have you present a challenge. In every case you can:

- Provide a challenge for the hackathon
- Support the event (see below for more details). This could take the form of supervision, technical resources, funding or something else.
- Give prizes to the best participants, examples of which could be:
  - Premium access to your company's products.
  - 3rd party awards - e.g. premium Github accounts, Amazon vouchers, etc
  - Work experience with a team within your company.
- Give a talk on a tech-related subject (possibly area of tech that your company is involved in). Our talks are separate from our hackathons, but equally as important.

Benefits

- **Recruitment** - Spotting talented students is much easier when they are in the midst of rapid development, solving challenging problems.
- **Brand Presence** - You get the option of speaking in front of all attendees, displaying flyers and having your logo on our materials and website.
- **Publicity Boost** - We will be thrilled by your support and make everybody aware that your company is supporting the hackathon by mentioning you across our social media presence and on our advertisements which will be placed around the University.

Why do we need support?

Some of the requirements for the hackathon have already been covered by University of Glasgow, the School of Computing Science and other student bodies. Such things include the venue, supervision, janitorial costs and advertising. However, we still need support to:

- Provide food and beverages to our participants.
- Provide prizes for the best solutions.

For a specific breakdown of our budget for this event or if you have any other questions/suggestions please don't hesitate to contact us at team@gutechsoc.com.

Thank you for your consideration,
The Board of the Glasgow University Tech Society