

melange



Suresh Marru ComDev PMC Member

* These slides are from ACNA 2014, they will be updated in with latest statistics.









Overview

- Google Summer of Code GSoC
 - Goals of the program
 - Timeline, stipends ...
- Why should you participate
- A student's perspective
 - Guest Speaker Sachith Withana
- When is the right time to engage students.
- How to attract and identify good students
- Next steps with GSoC 2014 and ASF Process
- Discussions







What is Google Summer of Code?

Google Summer of Code is a program designed to encourage university student participation in open source software development.







What are the goals of the program?

- Inspire young developers to begin participating in open source development
- Provide students in computer science and related fields the opportunity to do work related to their academic pursuits during the summer
- Give students more exposure to real-world software development scenarios (e.g. Mailing list etiquette, distributed development, etc.)
- Get more open source code created and released for the benefit of all
- Help open source projects identify and bring in new developers and committers





SUMMER How does GSoC work?

- Program genesis: "flip bits, not burgers" during summer holidays
- Exposure to real-world software development
- Students submit project proposals to the organizations, who select student(s) and pair with mentor(s) from the org
- Students must execute milestones laid out in their accepted project proposal
- Program stipend allows students to concentrate on OSS development







Google Summer of Code timeline

- ❖ 3 14 February, 2014: Google begins accepting applications from open source projects.
- 24 February, 2014: List of accepted organizations announced on google-melange.com.
- ❖ 10 − 21 March, 2014: Student application period.
- ❖ 21 April, 2014: Accepted students announced on google-melange.com.
- ❖ 19 May, 2014: Students begin coding.
- ❖ 27 June, 2014: Mid-term evaluation deadline.
- ❖ 22 August, 2014: Final evaluation deadline.







Stipends

- Google will provide a stipend of 6000 USD per accepted student developer, of which 5500 USD goes to the student and 500 USD goes to the mentoring organization.
- Accepted students in good standing with their mentoring organizations will receive 500 USD shortly after coding begins.
- Students who pass their mid-term evaluations will receive 2250 USD shortly after the mid-term evaluations.
- Students who receive passing final evaluations will receive 2750 USD shortly after the final evaluation deadline.







Creates a Win-Win situation

- Organizations gain:
 - New contributors and Code
 - Global Exposure
- What Students gain:
 - **❖** Skills
 - Real World Experience
 - Sample Code
 - Contacts
 - Career Building Recruiters looking for them rather than other way around







GSoC: A Student Perspective

Sachith Withana
University of Moratuwa





First hand open source, open community experience of the real-world of the real-world of the real-world of the real-world open source, open community experience of the real-world open source, open source,







Challenges to engage with Apache Projects

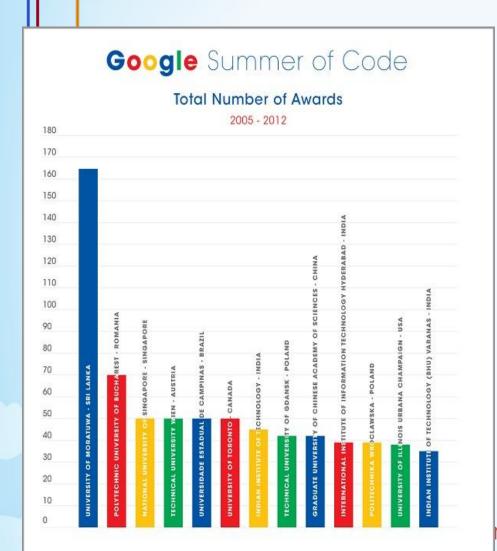
- Lack of project-specific knowledge
 - Example: Apache Airavata: Distribution Systems knowledge
- Many projects lack good documentation and introductory resources
- Balancing time in a busy academic schedule







Challenge Accepted ...



Rank	School	Country	# of Accepted Students in 2013	# of Students in 2012
1	University of Moratuwa	Sri Lanka	39	29
2	International Institute of Information Technology - Hyderabad	India	29	16
3	Polytechnic University of Bucharest	Romania	25	21
4	Birla Institute of Technology and Science, Pilani (BITS Pilani)	India	19	12
5	Dhirubhai Ambani Institute of Information and Communication Technology	India	17	17
6	Birla Institute of Technology and Science Pilani, Goa Campus / BITS - Pilani - K.K. Birla Goa Campus	India	16	14
7	National University of Singapore	Singapore	15	21
8	Vienna University of Technology	Austria	13	10
9	Beijing (Peking) University	China	12	8
10	Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur	India	11	10



From Challenges to Solutions

- Lack of documentation?
 - *add documentation, fix them.
- It's a HUGE learning phase
- No-time in a busy schedule?
 - that's life, make way for your future







Solutions Contd...

- Domain-specific barrier
 - start few months before the GSoC application submission period
- Interact with the communities, it's OPEN TO ANYONE
- University of Moratuwa way ...
 - conduct workshops
 - help students conquer the barrier







Further contributions

Final Year project

approx: 8 months long
4 students per group
research-oriented
concrete contributions to project









Questions?

Turning back to Suresh...









What students look for?

- Engage with project itself (not just the mentor).
- Is the project welcoming and appreciative of their contributions?
- Should they invest extra effort or just put in enough to secure the stipend.
 - They need to be motivated to contribute to the project above and beyond GSoC.









Motivate community Aspects

- Provide opportunity to play with other open source tools
- Let them Experiment
- Balance Learn & Engage









Emphasize the need for speaking up early and often







Apache in GSoC

Participating in GSoC for the tenth year in a row (since its inception in 2005)

Number of projects in past 4 years

2010: 44

2011: 40

2012: 41

2013: 51

^{*} Thanks to Ulrich Stärk for these statistics







Apache ComDev

ComDev PMC co-ordinates GSoC engaging all Apache Projects.

ASF is one of the biggest participating orgs in GSoC ~75 mentors from different projects each year

* Thanks to Ulrich Stärk for these statistics







Next Steps in 2014

We are almost finished with proposal ranking Internally PMC's are due on April 11th

Due with Google between April 15 and April 18. April 21: announcement of accepted projects

* Thanks to Ulrich Stärk for these statistics









Executing the projects may 19: start of coding june 27: midterm evaluations due august 11/18 suggested/firm pencil down date august 22: final evaluations due august 25: end of gsoc







Key Take Away's

- Free Pens speak up now.
- Spend time to create starter tasks.
- Be welcoming to students and encourage. them by "rewards".
- Look for both direct and in-direct benefits.
 - Improved documentation
 - Hire potential students in our day jobs
 - New committers



