CORA Cork Open Research Archive
Cartlann Taighde Oscailte Chorcaí

Title	Why do episodic volunteers stay in FLOSS communities?
Authors	Barcomb, Ann;Stol, Klaas-Jan;Riehle, Dirk;Fitzgerald, Brian
Publication date	2019-05
Original Citation	Barcomb, A., Stol, K-J., Riehle, D., and Fitzgerald, B. (2019) 'Why Do Episodic Volunteers Stay in FLOSS Communities?', 41st International Conference on Software Engineering, Montreal, Canada, 25-31 May. Forthcoming.
Type of publication	Article (peer-reviewed)
Link to publisher's version	https://2019.icse-conferences.org/home
Rights	© 2018 the authors
Download date	2024-04-25 04:29:48
Item downloaded from	https://hdl.handle.net/10468/7248

UCC
University College Cork, Ireland
Coláiste na hOllscoile Corcaigh

Why Do Episodic Volunteers Stay in FLOSS Communities? (Appendix)

Ann Barcomb*†§, Klaas-Jan Stol†‡, Dirk Riehle* and Brian Fitzgerald†§
*Open Source Research Group, Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg
†Lero—the Irish Software Research Centre
‡School of Computer Science and Information Technology, University College Cork
§Dept. Computer Science and Information Systems, University of Limerick
ann@barcomb.org, klaas-jan.stol@lero.ie, dirk@riehle.org, bf@lero.ie

I. Survey

This is an appendix to our paper "Why Do Episodic Volunteers Stay in FLOSS Communities?", which was published in the proceedings of the 41st International Conference on Software Engineering [1]. The questions in the survey are reproduced in Table I. Items marked with an asterisk (∗) are reverse-coded, while those marked with a dagger (†) were optional. Participants who did not enter a number greater than one to questions *exp1* and *exp3* were not given the opportunity to proceed beyond the *Volunteering experience* section. Instructions were given as follows:

> The following questions are used to understand your volunteering habits, which means any type of unpaid activity, including: documentation, translation, bug reports, mentoring, programming, or any other activity you do for an open source project.
>
> For this survey we use the following definitions:
>
> *Habitual volunteering:*
>
> you contributed frequently (10 or more substantial contributions)
>
> **OR**
>
> you made 2 or more contributions of any size per month, for 6 consecutive months.
>
> If your volunteering is not habitual, we refer to your volunteering as "*episodic*".

II. Promotion

The survey was promoted in person at the following events:

- The European Perl Conference (Romania)
- Amsterdam Perl Mongers meeting (Netherlands)
- Limerick Open Source meeting (Ireland)
- Mozfest (UK)
- T-DOSE (Netherlands)
- London Perl Workshop (UK)
- FOSDEM (Belgium)
- DjangoCon (Italy)

The survey was promoted on the following media outlets:

- ONOS mailing list
- OpenCord mailing list
- Twitter (4 accounts)
- Personal Facebook pages (3 accounts)
- Codeable
- Email to FOSDEM volunteers
- #fosdem-volunteers IRC
- Email to Gnash contributors
- ResearchGate
- LinkedIn
- CMX Hub Facebook group
- Debian forums
- Reddit /r/opensource
- Reddit /r/linux
- Debian Spanish user's blog

The researchers were assisted in promoting the survey by seven FLOSS contributors and Bitergia.

Acknowledgments

This work was supported, in part, by Science Foundation Ireland grants 15/SIRG/3293 and 13/RC/2094 to Lero.

References

[1] A. Barcomb, K.-J. Stol, B. Fitzgerald, and D. Riehle, "Why do episodic volunteers stay in FLOSS communities?" in *41st International Conference on Software Engineering*, 2019.

TABLE I
QUESTIONNAIRE

Code	Item
Volunteering experience	
exp1	How many free/libre/open source software projects have you volunteered for in the last 12 months?
exp2	In how many free/libre/open source software projects have you clearly been a habitual volunteer in the last 12 months?
exp3	In how many free/libre/open source software projects have you clearly been an episodic volunteer in the last 12 months?
exp4	Please name one free/libre/open source software community which you have volunteered episodically for in the last 12 months. The rest of the survey will pertain to your experiences in this community.
exp5	Please select the area where your main contributions are: {both; code, programming; other contributions (documentation, translation, tests, artwork...)}
exp6	In which year did you first contribute to the community?
exp7	On average, how many hours per month did you volunteer to this project over the last 12 months?
Contributor benefit motives	
cbm1	I want to be recognized for my contributions.
cbm2	I want to receive a tangible acknowledgement of my contributions.
cbm3	I volunteer to get a reputation in the free/open source developers' scene.
cbm4	I volunteer to improve my job opportunities.
cbm5	I volunteer to make money.
cbm6	I volunteer to learn and develop new skills.
Social norms	
sn1	Many people think of me in terms of being a volunteer.
sn2	Other people think that volunteering is important to me.
sn3	It is important to my friends and relatives that I continue volunteering.
sn4	It really wouldn't matter to most people I know if I decided to give up volunteering. $*$
sn5	Many of the people I know are not aware that I am a free/open source software volunteer. $*$
sn6	Many of the people that I know expect me to continue as a volunteer.
sn7	No one would really be surprised if I just stopped volunteering. $*$
sn8	Many people would probably be disappointed in me if I just decided to stop volunteering.
Psychological sense of community	
psc1	I am quite similar to most people in my community.
psc2	If I feel like talking, I can generally find someone in the community to talk to right away.
psc3	If there was a serious problem in the community, the people could get together to solve it.
Satisfaction	
s1	I enjoy my volunteer experience.
s2	My volunteer experience is personally fulfilling.
s3	My volunteer experience is worthwhile.
s4	My contributions to the project are important.
s5	I accomplish 'good' through my work.
s6	I am likely to continue to volunteer for this project.
Community commitment	
cc1	I talk up this community to my friends.
cc2	I feel very little loyalty to this community. $*$
cc3	I find that my values and the community's values are very similar.
cc4	I am proud to tell others that I am a part of this community.
cc5	I could just as well be working for another community as long as the type of work were similar. $*$
cc6	It would take very little change in my present circumstances to cause me to leave the community. $*$
cc7	There's not too much to be gained by sticking with this community indefinitely. $*$
cc8	I really care about the fate of this community.
cc9	For me this is the best of all possible communities to participate in.
Intention to remain	
ir1	I plan to volunteer for this community in the future.
ir2	I will recommend that others volunteer for this community.
ir3	I will tell others about the positive experiences that I had volunteering for this community.
ir4	I hope that volunteering is a part of my life for years to come.
ir5	I would recommend that other people volunteer for free/open source software communities.
ir6	Other people should be encouraged to volunteer.
ir7	I am more motivated to volunteer because of my recent volunteer experience with this community.
ir8	I care about the community for which I volunteer.
Demographics	
dem1	What is your year of birth? †
dem2	Which of the following describes how you think of yourself? † {male; female; other}
dem3	What is your highest education level? † {university/college; technical/trade; high school; primary school}