

## **GNOME and University Outreach**

Gaurav Agrawal, Saloni Garg

>> Hello. Welcome to GUADEC 2020, second day. I'm looking for Gaurav Agrawal who wants to be presenter.

>> Hello. Can anyone hear me?

>> If that was someone talking, I couldn't hear you. I guess I'm supposed to be presenting right now but I can't find the button to present.

>> You're presenting?

>> Yes, I'm Christopher Rogers. Actually mine should have started about 15 minutes ago.

>> No, I think yours --

>> Oh, I'm sorry. I had the wrong time zone. I'll come back in an hour.

>> No problem. I'm looking for the next presenter who is Gaurav Agrawal and Saloni.

Saloni, should I make you presenter?

>> Can anybody see Gaurav?

>> I found you. Gaurav, would you like to check your audio and video?

>> Hello.

>> Hello. It's a little bit quite to hear you.

>> Okay. Is it better now? Saloni should be joining us any moment.

>> Can you hear me?

>> Yes, I can hear you, Saloni.

>> Hello, everyone. This is Saloni. So let's begin the presentation.

>> Yes, one second, I would like to give a little opening first.

>> Sure.

>> Oh, the presentation is here. Great. So hello, everyone. Welcome to this day two. In the short notes you can find the schedule for today and also you can leave your questions for Q and A. We are using the chat channel from but yesterday it all crashed. So I'm using the chat here. I put one window on the left and one on the right. And that's how I have here.

What else? So there's some social events tonight. The information you can find it on the website. Okay. Please welcome Gaurav Agrawal and Saloni.

>> Hello. Thanks for the warm welcome, Manuel. So I hope you can see my screen. This is for the university outreach initiative -- I'm sorry. I just can't see the slide.

Okay. Now I can.

>> So I'm Saloni. I'm an open source contributor. So we are going to do this class about university outreach initiative. It's initiated by GNOME to involve more students. So how is it going to head the students? We'll discuss all these points one by one. This is a great program for students to improve their technical skills by making contributions so this way they'll get real life experience which is otherwise -- so this will be a great opportunity for students to network and find mentors and add them to their professional network.

So this is a great opportunity to connect with people outside of your country, outside of your professional network and build a long-lasting relationship with them. Next is recognition. So this is to get you recognized for your efforts. Next is rewards. We'll be rewarding the students. This will help the students to keep their interest in the program and to be rewarded and to be excited for what's coming up next.

Next is a question of why are students important for open source organizations? They play a very important role and they're always looking for opportunities to contribute more and to expand their network. Next is the help in effective Outreach. How do they do this? For example, if they're part of a community club they are great way to reach more and more a number of audience. So they're all technical people, a bunch of technical people who very closely network. Next is the volunteer at events and conferences. Being a student I know how much you have to wait for the next conference. This is a great opportunity for the students to enroll into an organization.

Next one is students become future mentors and maintainers. So this would be to get them in such an early stage in the future. Next, they bring in new perspectives. They're thinking is all fresh and they bring fresh perspectives to the organization. This is the process of open source. This is a short timeline which shows how a student gets involved with GNOME step by step. So the first thing is to really talk to the student and then the U. O. team, that is the university outreach team has lots of mentors and guides who are willing to volunteer their time to actually get the student involved into the organization and for him to understand all the process and how things work which will tell them how this works and everything.

Next is using the knowledge they organize events and help students at their universities. And the last one is a larger pool of students from events get on board with projects and initiatives. So the students will now be involved with the U. O. program. So campus representative play a large role. They'll be the ones responsible for conducting events and nobody is feeling left out. Everyone is able to give their inputs and tell us about more ideas, what kind of things may be beneficial for their problems and the entire community becomes easily manageable. And we get more participation and more active leaders and they'll be able to reach out to a lot of students. So this would have increased with more active leaders. This will have more active leaders -- now I will let Gaurav go.

>> Hi, everyone. So how this is viewed by the university is they would like the students to be out there and have someone who they can talk with. I help Saloni and what Saloni talked about the campus representative. They'll be in this particular point as well. So basically when we would be going to the universities for the outreach, these people are going to be my first contact. So basically it involves the basic steps so things like newcomer's guide and how to build the project. So people struggle from even my perspective and whatever I've seen the student community, they struggle a lot with these problems, and they need someone to guide them through this process because in universities they're trying to prepare. So first step is to prep the campus representative and guide them through this knowledge first so they can share the whole knowledge. And this would help a lot. And it's probably going to save a lot of time from ourselves also because we won't be handling repetitive questions. That's why we that campus representatives are great to solve these problems.

So by designing this program we were looking at a lot of student programs where we're trying to outreach to students. And one really active and great program is GSoC. So in GSoC they've seen a lot of students who have participated with us in the community and a lot of contributors like Carlos, and I can think of a lot of names, but even colleagues at your work, right. And then GSoC students are really active and trying to get on board. So, for example, Felipe just graduated from college and tries to connect with students in college and tries to motivate them and inspire them. So we try to get students in GSoC programs and open source as well. So the GSoC students try to get a lot of traffic and to get into a lot of open source organizations. But the problem with GSoC is that there are not a lot of GSoC students who stick until the completion of the program. So they just leave, for example, ten GSoC students get in and then maybe one stays. But the one who stays is a really great value for us. So we shouldn't think how much of the shares we are getting from this program, we should think how much bigger we can make the pie. We should try and obviously we can't control this, but we can try to create for programs. For example, outreach is there. So that is where the university outreach is a good program.

So the things we try to learn from GSoC is first of all target audience. So if we can outreach, we can outreach to anyone, but I think GSoC tries to outreach for students for open source. So the students why they're really great outreach for open source, Saloni already explained with their jobs. So basically open source helps students directly sometimes getting jobs or sometimes through networking. Open source has not had directly but they can contribute to a particular thing or something like that. This really helps the community and is much value for any student. So even in my particular university I've seen a lot of students trying to help them out and this is how they can help us in these particular programs. So basically even little things can help a lot of momentum for us. So you can do things like inspire and join the university outreach and we can include you in the different segments. Students value those experiences a lot of using open source. So that can be one way that you can help the student. As I already said, the students will be onboarding with us. So they would already be taken care of and then they'll contribute for your specific project. So you just need to guide them, and you can help them guide in network. For example, if you're looking for a C++ or something like that then they can help out. These are ways they can help out and create a lot of impact on the lives of the students. And of course if anyone is really interested, if you like this for big projects that is just a bigger picture that can help them later on.

So how the university program helps their projects grow. They always help the students to grow the projects and contribute and net washing. One student will be the probability's contributor. Then later on they'll outreach to four more. Then they'll outreach to more. For example, I learned a

lot from open source and that's why I'm doing the outreach now. What we like we advertise out. And then there's like little things, little projects and features, they can always be taken up by the students and you can throw them the hard part and they can take care of it. The student as well as those issues will help as a learning chance. And of course, in this case it will be like a 360 growth for the project. We're not just helping out for the coding part of the project. We're also trying to onboard students. So they'll be helping out in the design teams and other things as well.

So basically you can mentor them. That's how everything and adding students will be very beneficial and open source.

>> You have five more minutes.

>> Now, how far we have reached to date? I'll come back to that in the next slide. We have these things that are ranging from what we've already done. You can visit the Wiki page if you have the link already. So the mentors are volunteering their time for new students. Next, we have planned some future events. Regina is talking with some other interested students in Africa. Next, we have figured out the roadmap for our next set of actions. So we're rewarding students for their contributions this way they'll be excited, and we'll be going to meetings regularly to let them know what to do next.

So coming back to the first university outreach that we conducted. Change the slide, please. Yes, coming back to the first university outreach this is connected by me and Amit. So we get involved to GNOME to provide them the basic instruction so they can know who we are, what we do. This is one of the best entry point to students to enter the world of open source early in their professional careers. So the main focus was on how to get involved with these projects that GNOME has and how can you attend this event. A lot of comments on the students who were interested in helping, for example, so (inaudible). So next if you have any idea or want to get involved please e-mail us to our e-mail address and this is the link to the Wiki page. See you in the box session, we invite your inputs and please feel final decree to share if you have anything beneficial for this program. Thank you so much.

>> Thank you so much, everyone.

>> Thank you, Saloni. Thank you, Gaurav. We're on time so please remember to reach Saloni in the chat and we'll be back in five minutes for the next meeting. For the next talk.