Programs 2020 Q4 Report - Jaz Parkyn

As part of my role as DC, I have attended a number of the meetings that have been held by the department teams and have assisted them in their day-to-day operations as well as helping them plan for their upcoming activities. The JCP and VET teams are now using Github successfully as a project management tool to help organise their activities.

Department meetings are held each month and have proved invaluable in keeping all the department teams feel connected to and supported by each other. They have each defined a list of goals for 2021, and I hope to support them in achieving and surpassing these goals.

Outside of the Programs Department, I have also been working with a number of teams by helping them to achieve various things, including configuration, development and collaboration:

- Service Providers Directory - working with Wilco to setup and customisation of a new component for the Resources Directory and migration into the community site.
- JUG team - assisting Wilco with the configuration of the JUG directory in a new component, including overriding views to better display data.
- Trademark team - developing a new custom built component to help them better record trademark requests and their outcomes.
- Extensions Directory team - helping to onboard the newly elected team leader and working with him to re-engage development on the new version of the JED component.
- Vulnerable Extensions List team - migration of the existing component and data into the Joomla Extensions Directory website.
- Webmasters team - helping to review, advise on and implement various improvements and changes across all of Joomla's websites.
- Joomla Foundation - working with Wilco to create a very simple website for the purposes of the 501(c)(3) submission.
- Translation teams - working with the Production, Operations and Marketing Departments to evaluate the centralisation of our translation activities.
- Supporting the Production department by helping them to analyse key extension developers in our community, with the aim of reaching out to them ahead of the J!4 release to encourage testing and to provide resources aimed at helping them ensure compatibility of their extensions with the upcoming release.

As a member of the OSM board, I have been able to add my input, viewpoint and experience to a number of matters relating to professionalism, corporate affairs, board commitments, policies, adoption of tools/software, teams, sponsors, and more. I proposed 2 motions, and seconded 18 motions throughout 2020.

Joomla Certification Team (JCP)

The JCP team is continuing the migration of the exam platform to a new component, Shika, and have reached a number of milestones in this process. The live platform has recently been upgraded to run on the latest versions of Moodle and PHP, with MySQL soon to follow. This will allow the current platform to continue running whilst the new platform is being developed and tested. I continue to provide support both as a DC and developer in this task.

The team has also begun working towards one of its 2021 goals - the creation of the Joomla! 4 Administrator exam, it is in the early stage and they hope for the J!4 Administrator Exam to be available approximately 6 months after the J!4 release date. I am working with them to help them choose the right toolset for the processes involved in developing this new questions set. I will also provide input and advice when the questions are being researched, developed, written and tested.

The JCP team has decided to hold 2 meetings a month to help keep tasks progressing smoothly. Chris Keen has recently been re-elected as Team Leader.

Volunteer Engagement Team (VET)

The VET team has recently welcomed new members and contributors who have expressed their interest in helping the team to achieve its goals and to explore new avenues.

Recently the team defined a number of tasks, with a group of team members working on each. These tasks include onboarding, community openings, company engagement, and improvements to the Volunteer Portal and have resulted in the team discussing a variety of topics. As I have been a Joomla volunteer for many years now, I have been able to offer them guidance and advice in their exploration of these topics, and will continue to do so as they progress.

I have highlighted various things to the team that indicate that perhaps they aren't visible in the community enough, and that the structure is not as effective as it could be. During the first quarter of 2021, I will be working with them to help them to better define their position within the community, what their role is and to help them further engage with the wider community by analysing ways to promote their activities, support offerings and team goals.

Davide Messia has recently stepped down as Team Leader, an election process is in progress for a new Team Leader. Everyone thanks him for his time in the role and is happy that he would like to remain as a member of the team.

Educational Outreach Working Group (JEO)

Having recently said farewell to a number of inactive members, the remaining members have worked hard on defining their mission and hope to attract new members with their renewed strategies and goals.

The team has outlined their main goal for 2021 to create a hub of training resources that can be utilised by anyone wanting to learn about or teach Joomla. I believe that this is a great addition to our wide range of resources, and will work with them to analyse research, define the structure and organisation of the resources, as well as suggestions on the types of material available.

Members of the JEO working group have recently had articles published in the Joomla Community Magazine, with more planned for the upcoming issues.

Event Traveller Programme (JET)

This team continues to remain inactive, but will be restarted in the run up to an event if JET funds are approved.