



The next generation Python Software Foundation

What is the PSF ?

Vision

How you can help

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What is the PSF ?

- People
- People from many countries
- People with diverse backgrounds
- People with diverse skills
- People who want to bring Python forward



What does the PSF do ?

- Protects the IP in Python
- Funds conferences & sprints
- Funds Python related projects
- Runs PSF projects
- Helps **spread the word** about Python





Looks good...

...so where's the problem ?



Need for change

- PSF is regarded as closed organization
- PSF has problems reaching out to the community
- Identity problem:
PSF membership status is difficult to define; lack of interest from the members



Membership size

- PSF was founded in 2001:
16 members, 2 sponsor members
- June 2012:
204 members, 26 sponsor members



Membership model

- 2001 – 2014:

Members have to be nominated by other PSF members and then get voted in by the membership (once or twice a year)

Sponsor members can sign up for membership, but also need to be voted in by the membership (once or twice a year)

- **Result: Very slow membership growth**



EuroPython 2012

Help us grow !

- New **PSF Associate Membership**
- Only USD 99 (EUR 79) per year, which the PSF will use for funding and running projects
- Our Goal:
200 new signups at EuroPython
- Visit <https://psfmember.org/> or the PSF booth here at EuroPython





Membership size

- PSF was founded in 2001:
16 members, 2 sponsor members
- June 2012:
204 members, 26 sponsor members
- **March 2013:**
283 members, 28 sponsor members

Proposal for new membership model



Vision

- Extend the reach of the PSF to all Python users
- Allow all Python users to call themselves members of the PSF
- Turn the PSF into a community organization
- Allow members to easily run work groups with access to PSF resources



Vision: Part 1

- Extend the reach of the PSF to all Python users
- Allow all Python users to call themselves members of the PSF



New membership model

- Basic members
- Supporting members
- Sponsor members
- Managing members
- Contributing members
- Fellows



Basic members

- Sign-up via webform
- *no voting rights*
- no fees to pay
- may attend members meetings
- open to anyone, anywhere



Supporting members

- Basic membership +
- *voting rights*
- *yearly fee or lifetime fee*



Sponsor members

- legal persons only
- *yearly fee*
- *voting rights* via delegates
- *various sponsor levels*
 - each with different benefits and number of delegates
- *voted in by voting members*



Managing members

- Basic membership +
- *voting rights*
- need to sign up to at least one working group and invest at least 5 hours work per month
- requirements revisited on a yearly basis; conversion to basic membership in case requirements are no longer met



Contributing members

- Basic membership +
- *voting rights*
- need to invest at least 5 hours work per month contributing to (Python related) open-source projects
- requirements revisited on a yearly basis; conversion to basic membership in case requirements are no longer met



Fellows

- Basic membership +
- *voting rights*
- need to be nominated by other Fellows
- need to be voted in as Fellow by 2/3 of the voting members
- stay Fellow for life
- nominated members as-of June 2013 are eligible as Fellows and were given the choice to become Fellows or convert to other membership forms



Voting members

- Special group of members:

All members with voting rights,
who have indicated that they want to
use this right

- Voting rights must be reestablished
each year (via checkbox)
- Members lose voting rights for a the
remainder of a year in case more than 4
votes are not cast



Voting made easy

- Special online voting software
- Based on the OSS *eVote* system developed by Massimo di Pierro and David Mertz:
<https://github.com/mdipierro/evote>
- Already used by OSI at
<https://elections.opensource.org/>



Membership size

- PSF was founded in 2002:
16 members, 2 sponsor members
- March 2013:
283 members, 28 sponsor members
Proposal for new membership model
- June 2013:
Only 157 members signed up as
voting members



Vision: Part 2

- Turn the PSF into a community organization
- Allow members to easily run work groups with access to PSF resources



Work Groups

- Can be proposed by any member
- Voted in by voting members or PSF board
- Integration into the PSF defined by work group charta
- Can get their own budget



Timeline

- June 2013/ Feb 2014:
Bylaws WG working out the membership change details
(<https://bitbucket.org/vanl/psf-bylaws/src>)
- Feb/March 2014:
PSF Board adopts the new bylaws
- April 2014:
Start opening up the flood gates :-)



How you can help

- Talk to people and provide contacts
- Participate in PSF projects
- Bring Python forward in your professional setting
- Organize local user groups or meetings
- ... and join the PSF



Contact us

- Talk to PSF members
- Tell us your ideas
- Write an email to `psf@python.org`
- Visit our website at <http://python.org/psf/>



Thanks to ...

... all of you for coming to this
conference

... the FOSDEM Python DevRoom
organizers