# Being a Catalyst in Communities -

# The scientific facts about the open source way

# - Karsten 'quaid' Wade,
# Sr. Community Gardener

# Who: @quaid

Fedora et al contributor

FOSS advocate for 10 years

Red Hat Community Architecture team

**Being a catalyst in communities**

*To be the catalyst in communities of customers, contributors, and partners creating better technology the open source way.*

    \<rh_pr> We are announcing Red Hat Project! A community-based
        distribution!
  \<oss_crowd> rh_pr: Neat.
   \<rh_dev> rh_pr: Uh... I'm not ready.
     * rh_pr is away: promoting rhel
\<oss_crowd> rh_dev: what do we do?
   \<rh_dev> oss_crowd: I'm not sure.
 \<rh_legal> rh_dev: don't do anything until I say it's ok.
\<oss_crowd> rh_dev: what can we do to help with Red Hat Project?
   \<rh_dev> oss_crowd: uh... file bugs and help test things.
\<oss_crowd> rh_dev: didn't we always do that?
 \<rh_sales> hey, all, if you really want a stable system, don't use
      fedora project. It will eat your brane. Buy RHEL instead.
   \<rh_dev> rh_sales: stfu
    --- rh_pr removes voice from rh_sales
\<fedora_us> hey, all, check out our neat community-driven system for
      red hat development
\<oss_crowd> fedora_us: ooooh!
   \<rh_pr> fedora_us: I like your name
    --- fedora_rh joined the channel
 \<rh_legal> much better
   \<rh_pr> We are announcing Fedora Project! A community-driven
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    * fedora_rh waves
\<fedora_us> I'm not dead yet.
\<fedora_rh> fedora_us: don't confuse things.
\<fedora_us> fedora_rh: does this mean we're merging?
\<fedora_rh> fedora_us: maybe
 \<rh_legal> fedora_rh: don't do anything until I say it's ok.
   --- fedora_us joined #limbo

# Professors Open Source Summer Experience: POSSE

## Being a catalyst in education

# Professors Open Source Summer Experience: POSSE RDU 2009

# From POSSE to
# Communities of Practice

*Communities of practice are formed by people who engage in a process of collective learning in a shared domain of human endeavor: a tribe learning to survive, a band of artists seeking new forms of expression, a group of engineers working on similar problems, a clique of pupils defining their identity in the school, a network of surgeons exploring novel techniques, a gathering of first-time managers helping each other cope. In a nutshell: Communities of practice are groups of people who share a concern or a passion for something they do and learn how to do it better as they interact regularly.*

*- Wenger, McDermott, Snyder "Cultivating Communities of Practice"*

# Elements of a
# Communities of Practice
# --
# Domain (what)
# Community (who)
# Practice (how)

# Principles of
# Communities of Practice
# --
# 1. Design for evolution
# 2. Open a dialogue 'tween in/out
# 3. Invite different levels of participation
# 4. Develop public/private spaces
# 5. Focus on value
# 6. Combine familiarity & excitement
# 7. Create a rhythm for the community

# Free <3 Open <3 Free

# The Open Source Way:

## Creating and nurturing communities of contributors

**http://www.TheOpenSourceWay.org/wiki**

**http://www.TheOpenSourceWay.org/book**

# How does this matter to you?

# How does this matter to you?

# Questions?


## Links:


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**http://quaid.fedorapeople.org/presentations**

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**The scientific facts about
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Caveat – No charts and graphs, references to social science

These are my bona fides, or why you should trust me.

Standing on the shoulders of giants who have been developing these models, methods, and stories for 20 years.

Questions:

How many people here can explain, in 60 seconds, what free and open source software is?

Have any of you ever tried to apply the principles of FOSS to another venue?  General business, design, gardening clubs, etc.

**Being a catalyst in communities**

*To be the catalyst in communities of customers, contributors, and partners creating better technology the open source way.*

Not just gut instinct, an understanding of community processes informed by science.

Tom Sawyer & the barn raising.

Fedora => RHEL & lessons learned.

SELinux – positive &  negative lessons learned.

Virt – Xen, KVM, and libvirt.

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Professors Open Source Summer Experience:
POSSE

Being a catalyst in education

Professors' Open Source Summer Experience

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Focus on higher edu as a place to teach how to participate in open source, not just as a consumer.

Students are graduating without experience that FOSS gives.

Our team took observed, talked, and learned:
1. No single location for educators to discuss resources and processes.
2. Academic calendar is different from FOSS calendar.
3. Success formula: having the educator already a contributor.

TeachingOpenSource.org [Webpage] – a CoP that has helped in many cases, e.g. OSCON Edu track.

POSSE – taught by community & FOSS contributors; productively lost;  [Pic]

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Greg's moment with Matt Jadud and Cam Seay.

FOSS is a big Community of Practice.

CoP scientific discipline is a better measuring stick than downloads and mailing list size. The principles and elements are there or not, working or not.

Pattern Language influence – how humans build environments, from home to cities.

**Elements of a**
**Communities of Practice**
**--**
**Domain (what)**
**Community (who)**
**Practice (how)**

3 structural elements:

Domain – area of knowledge: skateboarding, hunting,
   IP law

Community – set of people who care about the
   domain: skateboarders, hunters, lawyers
   - Don't judge by activities, silence, etc.

Practice -

**Principles of
Communities of Practice
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Constructed war v. healthy debate in a CoP.

Fundamentally, we are in violent agreement the majority of
    the time and cases.

But people associate themselves and feel put out or put off
    by e.g. "free software", "open source software".

Friedman's "The World is Flat", open source is one of the 10
    flatteners; he calls it "the most disruptive force of all."  CIOs
    took notice.

We've noticed at Red Hat as our business grew across
    markets as much as deeper in them.  Free software brand
    works great for hackers.  Open source brand works great
    for business.

With both, we've benefited from innovators who didn't feel a
    fit with the other term.

**The Open Source Way:**

**Creating and nurturing
communities of contributors**

**http://www.TheOpenSourceWay.org/wiki**

**http://www.TheOpenSourceWay.org/book**

Applying TOSW beyond technology, building on the brand strength of open source.

It's a handbook: principle, implementation, example. incomplete on purpose, designed for participation.

From internal cookbook, here to benefit to/from CoP around community leadership & help raise the tide.

It's good protection from knowledge lost to a hungry raptor. Plus, community work is going to be better, over time, than what we can write/maintain.

Free content creators get to choose their tools. Mine: MediaWiki, DocBook XML, Publican, git.

Free content creators get to choose their own license. Ours is the CC BY SA 3.0 Unported.

How does this matter to you?

[[Great stories to tell]]

"I told her to watch as I tossed my magnet, got it to stick, and then applied such a small force to the string that it was more a thought than a tug. I waited and did it again. After several such efforts, the first motion became visible. I timed my impulses with the pendulum, and within 5-10 minutes the motion was so great that the cylinder's swing exceeded the length of my string and the magnet flew off. Resonance naturally amplifies even the smallest of properly coordinated incremental impulses." - Tiemann on opensource.com, "Amplifying creativity and business performance with open source"

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