Programs 2020 Q1 Update

All active teams within the department continue to hold regular meetings to help facilitate their work and goals. All team leaders are attending the monthly department meetings.

Alongside the department members, Jaz is working on a number of documents and procedures designed to help formalise team membership and provide guidance to team leaders. These procedures and guidelines can be used by the VET to support other teams regarding the onboarding and the retention of their volunteers.

Joomla Certification Team (JCP)

The team continues to work on upgrading the examination platform to a Joomla based LMS, Shika by TechJoomla. Despite a few recent setbacks and persistent bugs, testing is continuing well, and workarounds have been implemented so that the migration process as a whole isn’t delayed further.

The team has unified all information about the certification program on the Certifications website, including the re-organising of the menu to provide better navigation of the resources available. A number of upgrades on the website have been completed, including a new exam calendar, Joomla Learning Partner (JLP) directory, and a new ticketing system. A number of processes have also been updated, including the Second Chance and Ambassadors Initiatives.

Their main important goal for 2020 is to complete the migration of the Certification’s website, including being able to use the new exam platform for future exams.

Recent discussions resulting from the Forum for the Future (FfF) event have meant that the team are researching the possibility of adding new exam types in the future. This development is still in early stages and more information will be available when the idea has been further developed. Any new exam types are dependent on the availability of the new JCP exam platform.

Volunteer Engagement Team (VET)

Davide Messia has recently been elected as the new team leader and is settling well into his new role. The team has been analysing the results from the Peakon survey completed in 2017 and are looking into how best to follow this up.

The team has started to create regular content for the Joomla! Community Magazine, titled ‘Community Openings’. With the help of the department liaisons within the team, it will be used
to highlight currently vacant positions within the teams and will hopefully increase awareness and result in roles being filled. It is hoped that the team will also be able to provide other regular features as the Magazine develops in the coming months.

In a recent collaboration with the social media team, the team devised a post inviting people to share the ‘view from their window’ during the current pandemic. The post was well received and many people replied with a photo. The team hopes to provide similar engagement posts in the future.

Educational Outreach Working Group

A number of community members continue to run classes and workshops in the educational sector with aims to educate, engage and inspire the next generation of Joomlers. Members have started to hold regular meetings with a primary goal of starting to collate this information so that the resources can be further benefited from by anyone involved in the sector. The team is currently working to define clear responsibilities within the group to help facilitate its activities.

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.