Programs 2020 Q3 Report

All of the department teams are holding regular meetings, and many have welcomed new members in this last quarter.

Following the recent Team Leader Responsibilities Policy, Jaz developed a similar document to cover the responsibilities of Department Coordinators (DCs). Of course each department has differing responsibilities due to the nature of the teams within the department, but there is a list of things that are common to all DCs. Following input and feedback from the other DCs and the rest of the board, it was approved as an official OSM policy following a board vote. Every 6 months at the time of the OSM elections, the community and potential candidates ask various questions about the things that DCs are required to do as part of their role. One of the main aims behind this policy was to formalise DC responsibilities and to provide a point of reference for current and future DCs.

Jaz recently took part in a leadership interview for the Joomla Magazine with Anja de Crom.

Joomla Certification Team (JCP)

As various countries are easing their COVID-19 lockdowns, the number of Joomla exams taking place has increased in this quarter. This was a welcome surprise for the team given the current world crisis - congratulations to our newest Certified Joomla Administrators!

The team is working with TechJoomla to resolve the issues found with Shika - the new exam platform for the Joomla exams. Meetings are being planned with TechJoomla for the coming weeks to review the current blockers and to define a rough timeline for the next steps in the process.

The team has begun planning for the processes involved with creating the question set for the Joomla 4 exam. They have also been exploring ideas around building awareness of the Joomla exam and finding ways to encourage those who have sat the J3 exam to also sit the J4 exam.

Volunteer Engagement Team (VET)

The VET team has recently said farewell to a small number of members, but has also welcomed a few new volunteers to the team. With this renewed energy, the team are brainstorming ideas to improve the onboarding process and determining how Joomla can improve when attempting to attract new volunteers to our community.

The team continues to publish the ‘Community Openings’ article for the Joomla Community Magazine. They are currently working on their team mission surrounded by three main values:
Retention, Recognition and Recruitment and continue to explore different avenues of outreach, relations, communications and engagement.

Educational Outreach Working Group (JEO)

The JEO working group is now holding regular meetings during which the members share updates about their recent and upcoming classes where they teach Joomla to students - the sharing of valuable knowledge that is helping the team to explore ideas in the sector.

One of their main focuses is finding ways to encourage students to develop a connection with Joomla. They hope that once this connection has been made, that the students will then go on to sit the Joomla exam and maybe even join our community.

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.