

I am standing for re-election for the position of Joomla Events Department Coordinator.

This year marks 9 years since I started contributing to the Joomla Project. I can say, it has been a wonderful journey of learning, networking and growing. For the past year, I have been privileged to serve on the board of Open Source Matters.

I was onboarded as Events Department Coordinator during a really difficult time. Coronavirus had taken a hold of the world and everything was asleep. We were working in the house, some of us lost our loved ones, and some of the things we loved to do in Joomla, such as meeting for events became unreachable luxuries to us.

The Events Department during the year has been working towards reinventing how Joomla Events will run in the future. When I started my work as DC Events, my desire was that the Events team would not simply have the role of approving events but of engaging the whole community.

During this time, we have encouraged the community to go to virtual events instead of in-person events. The virtual events that happened were very successful. For the first time, we had JoomlaDayUSA which was a virtual event commanding participation from all over the world. Several Joomla User Groups pivoted well, running Virtual User Groups regularly since the start of the pandemic. They're now attracting in some cases both a stronger local audience as well as international viewers where time zones align.

The department is working on making JUGs a core mechanism for outreach and engagement by the Joomla project. Joomla is a product that should be loved by many people and our community is on the forefront in evangelizing for the product. Our community is the JUG.

To strengthen the JUGs, the JUG Team have begun an ongoing process of regularly contacting JUG organizers globally. We're hoping to reinvigorate and engage better with JUGs, offering support and resources to the people leading those JUGs and giving them recognition on the community portal for the effort they put forward.

The team at PBF have every year managed to organize a successful event. We are looking forward to an even bigger and more engaging PBF 2021 with the release of J4.

We are grateful for the support we have gotten from the Operations department. We managed to migrate the JUG directory to DP Calendar and the migration of Events to DP Calendar is ongoing.

Moving Forward:

In 2021/22, we would like to welcome back the in-person events, with plans to support at least 10 JoomlaDay events. The department will also be encouraging virtual events to accommodate those who are not yet ready for offline events.

We are also making JUGs more engaging and popular. Already we made it possible for the community to have Virtual JUGs, I believe this will help in fostering more engagements within the community.

Pizza Bugs and Fun has been one of those successful events within the community and we intent to make it bigger and better.

The new official domains: joomladay.online, Joomla.events, joomladay.org and Joomla.group; will become an essential tool that will help in making sure that we are supporting the Event's organizers while protecting the intellectual properties of the project.

We plan to be on the forefront as we launch J4, and using the community within the department to drum up support for it and engage the community as we celebrate the effort but forward towards realizing this great achievement.

After commencing as DC, several long serving members left the department. I am glad to note that with a lot of help and renewed interest, all the teams within the department are working well with a new group of talented and dedicated volunteers to help in bringing in fresh ideas to the department.

To end, I would like to thank my colleagues on the board who have been really helpful as I have navigated these new waters for the past year. I also thank my teams, TL and ATL who have supported my time in office with so much

dedication and zeal. I would say, you have made me succeed in many ways and I thank you.

And to all the Joomlaers out there, the work of building a wonderful products takes the effort of many, each putting in the little they have.