The Present and Future of FLOSS Data Archives

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Panel: The Present and Future of FLOSS Data Archives

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Abstract. This is a proposal for a panel presentation to be held during the OSS2010 conference in South Bend, IN. The purpose of this panel will be to discuss the features available in current archives of data about open source projects. The panel will also discuss possible future activities and features to be implemented into these data archives. Community feedback, requests, and questions will also be integrated into this panel discussion.

1   Proposal

This is a proposal for a panel presentation to be held during the OSS2010 conference in South Bend, IN. The purpose of this panel will be to discuss the features available in current archives of data about open source projects. The panel will also discuss possible future activities and features to be implemented into these data archives. Community feedback, requests, and questions will also be integrated into this panel discussion.

We propose that the panelists consist of the leaders of various data archiving projects: Megan Squire, Elon University and the FLOSSmole project, Jesus Gonzalez-Barahona, Universidad Rey Juan Carlos and the FLOSSMetrics project, and Greg Madey, University of Notre Dame, and the Sourceforge Research Data Archive.

The topics for discussion on the panel will include:
- What are the salient features of each data archive project? What is the mission of each project? How does it differ from the other projects?
- What are the biggest challenges facing each data archive project?
- How has the project helped to address significant research questions or otherwise helped the research community?

- What are some of the common requests from community members for the projects, and how is the project addressing these requests?
- What are the future initiatives of each project?
- What are some ways that open source community members can get involved with the project? Are there particular initiatives that the community can help with?

All of the data archiving projects have different answers to these questions. We expect a lively and fruitful two-way conversation between the panelists and the community members about the features and futures of data archiving projects.

For this panel, we will request a regular conference room, a timeslot during the conference program, a table arrangement at the front of the room with space for three or four seats, and the same audio-visual support as for a regular conference room.