

Giving Good Talks Workshop

Selena Deckelmann
PostgreSQL Global Development Group
selena@postgresql.org

Activism.

LIBREPLANET

THREE DAYS OF FREE SOFTWARE ACTIVISM

a policy of taking direct
and militant action to
achieve a political or
social goal.

a policy of taking direct **action**

A call to action:
Give talks.
Here's how. :)

Two parts: Theory and Practice



- ★ PostgreSQL Consultant
- ★ User Group Leader
<http://pugs.postgresql.org/pdxpug>
- ★ Conference Organizer
<http://opensourcebridge.org>



Talks I've given

- Running Successful User Groups
- PostgreSQL released!
- Bucardo (replication for PostgreSQL)
- Conference kickoffs
- How to un-rig an election
- How to kill 5 chickens in 3 years



YOU

Great talks create a
community.

You've got an idea.

OMG!!!



You want:

To share,

To inspire,

To find partners in crime.

What's a community?



A community is a group of people that **make things** together.

Talks may not create
things, but they inspire:
enthusiasm, curiosity,
argument, commitment.

And a call to action.

Great talks are
leadership.

what is
leadership?



Having a good time.



Not having a good time.

Leading without
being in charge

Facilitator Moderator Guide

6-step program to:
prepare, give and love
your talks.

1. Get the talk accepted
2. Prepare for the talk
3. Get people to the talk
4. Start the talk
5. Make people feel good
6. Take questions

#1 - Get the talk accepted

Pick an event.

Yet Another Perl Conference



FOSDEM

FREE AND OPEN SOURCE SOFTWARE DEVELOPERS' EUROPEAN MEETING

FREE AND OPEN SOURCE SOFTWARE DEVELOPERS' EUROPEAN MEETING



PyCon

Connecting The
Python Community



SCALE

Southern California Linux Expo



Ohio LinuxFest 2010

Free and Open Source Software Conference and Expo
Columbus, Ohio | September 10-12, 2010



linux.conf.au 2010

18-23 January 2010, Wellington, New Zealand
Follow the signs. Visit WELLINGTON!

About

Welli

O'REILLY

OSCON

Open Source Convention

July 19-23, 2010

Portland, Oregon

LinuxFest Northwest

Bellingham, Washington

RUBYCONF



IX

2009



SF

NOV 19-21

LibrePlanet

Perl Mongers

PDXPHP

Ruby Brigade

Lunch 2.0

Linux Users Group

BarCamp

Functional Programmers

.NET Developers

Agile Developers

Cisco Users

Pythoneers

Java Developers

Older PostgreSQL Events Listing

Event	Web Page	Date	Country	City
FOSDEM, Brussels 2010	FOSDEM '10	February 06-07, 2010	Belgium	Brussels
Large Installations and System Administration Conference	LISA 2009	November 1-6, 2009	USA	Baltimore
European PGDay 2009	European PGDay 2009	Nov 6-7, 2009	France	Paris
PostgreSQL Cluster Developers' Meeting	Call for participants	November 19, 2009	Japan	Tokyo
PostgreSQL Conference 2009 Japan	JPUG 10th Anniversary Conference	November 20-21, 2009	Japan	Tokyo
OSDC 2009	OSDC Brisbane	November 25-27, 2009	Australia	Brisbane
PGCon Brazil	PGCon Brazil 2009	October 23-24, 2009	Brazil	Unicamp, SP
PgWest	PgWest 2009 Seattle	October 16-18, 2009	USA	Seattle
FrOSCon 2009	FrOSCon 2009	August 22-23, 2009	Germany	St. Augustin
USENIX	USENIX Security '09	August 10-14, 2009	Canada	Montreal

<http://wiki.postgresql.org/wiki/Events>

Know your audience.



Topic Selection (more on this later)

Know the conference
committee.

#2 - Prepare for the talk

Practice
Practice
Practice

Your Mirror

Record yourself

Friends

Significant Other

Classroom

User Groups

Lightning Talks

Ignite

Pecca Kucha

*Camps

Conferences

AND GET FEEDBACK!



thanks, ari @ flickr

flickr.com/photos/44124466908@N01/2494536884

If you never **fail**,
you're not taking enough risks.

#3 - Get people to the talk



Free advertising

Email to friends, family, associations

Blog yourself, or ask others

Talk to people!

More free advertising

Ask someone else to blog

Ask other UG leaders to email

Speak at another UG

#4 - Start the talk

Set an agenda

Make announcements

Make introductions



from flickr: gemengdbedrijf

Why did you come today?
What do you want to learn?
What's your favorite ...?

Introduce yourself

Rituals



from flickr: magisterludi

What can I expect at
your talk?

Introductions

Tell a story

Repeat yourself

#5 - Make people feel
good



from flickr: red5standingby

If you're comfortable,
they are comfortable.*



LibreP

thanks, nrbelex
[flickr.com/photos/nrbelex/1300319055/](https://www.flickr.com/photos/nrbelex/1300319055/)

Smile.

Make *yourself* feel good.

Why are you doing this?



Have a goal

Measure your goal

Make adjustments

#6 - Take questions

Ask people
what they think

Write it down

the 6 steps:

1. Get the talk accepted
2. Prepare for the talk
3. Get people to the talk
4. Start the talk
5. Make people feel good
6. Take questions

Sharing is a
revolutionary act.

?

Practice :)

- Picking a Topic
- Presentation Style
- Practicing
- Tricks

Picking a topic

- What are you interested in?
- What will your audience be interested in?
- Tell a story
- Research possible places/conferences

Presentation style

- Slides or not?
- *Always* tell a story
- Images
- Practice with your equipment

Practicing

- At least once
- Stories of disaster and triumph
- Seven is the charm

Inner Critic

- Everyone starts somewhere.
- Things you don't know are just things you haven't learned yet.
- Imposter syndrome

Presenting

- Get a good night's rest.
- Do something for yourself.
- Have water.
- Breathe.
- Move around.
- Slow down and Smile.

Tricks

- Ask the audience questions
- Practice participation
- Jokes in first 30 seconds
- Find ways to relax
- Presents!
- Classroom management tactics

Thank you!

CONTACT ME

Identi.ca/twitter: selenamarie
slena@postgresql.org

This work is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution-Noncommercial-Share Alike 3.0 United States License. To view a copy of this license, visit <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/3.0/us/> or send a letter to Creative Commons, 171 Second Street, Suite 300, San Francisco, California, 94105, USA.