Where my feature at?

Razvan Nitu Dconf 2025

Communication - 2016

- Emails, forum posts, PR discussions
- Occasional phone calls and meetups
- Discussions almost entirely technical

Shortcomings

- Nonalignment
- Misunderstandings
- Frustration

Example

- Gsoc 2019
- Replace C stdlib with D version in druntime
- Student starts work on project
- PRs get closed reason: useless project

Communication - 2024

- Monthly meetings agenda items
- Community members participate
- Discussions are publicly available
- Bi-weekly meetings
- But...

Discussions are mostly technical, rarely about organizing work

Typical Cycle

- Forum post: "It's year X and D still doesn't have feature Y"
- Someone brings this up at a meeting (line_2)
 - "I thought T was working on this"
 - "Yeah, I forgot about that"
 - Nobody remembers
- T volunteers to implement Y
- time passes by
- Forum post: "It's year X+N and D still doesn't have feature Y"
- Goto line_2

No follow-up

The Project Coordinator Role

- Mike Parker's idea (shout out)
- Pro Nagger
- Poll people that are assigned to projects
- Remind what our goal/focus is during meetings
- Find people to implement projects

My take on the role

Poster projects

Strategic projects

Periodic updates to the community

Poster Projects 2025

- Sumtypes
- Dip1000
- Aarch64 backend
- Editions
- Move Semantics

Strategic projects

- Bugzilla → Github issues migration (Robert Schadek)
- Migration of dpldocs to dlang servers (Vladimir Panteleev)
- Dmd as a library
- New GC
- Phobos V3
- Release process
- Replacing druntime hooks with templates

Dmd as a library

- Assigned: Razvan Nitu, Nicholas Wilson
 - Great work done by Mattheu Qiu
- State: Separate semantic routines from AST nodes
- Next steps:
 - Get rid of duplication in ASTBase
 - Define the interface that will allow for overriding functionality at any level
- ETA: unknown

New GC

- Assigned: Steven Schveighoffer
- State: Usable as a dub package with an ldc version from Symmetry
- Next steps:
 - Integrate in druntime as an option
- ETA: 2026

Phobos V3

- Assigned: Adam Wilson, Jonathan Davis
- Status: std.meta + std.traits
- Next steps:
 - Finish meta + traits
 - Ranges
 - Rest of the library
- ETA: several years from now

Release process

- Assigned: Dennis Korpel, Iain Buclaw
- Status: Debate on how to simplify it (birocratically and technically)
- Next steps:
 - Implement the proposals
- ETA: end of 2025/start of 2026

Replacing druntime hooks with templates

- Assigned: Albert Guiman, Teo Dutu, Razvan Nitu
- Status: All functions have been replaced by templates
- Next steps:
 - Profile performance/memory usage impact
 - Fix regressions
- ETA: End of 2025

GSoC + SAoC

So much work to do

But no projects or mentors

GSoC

- 4 projects 4 mentors
- ~ 50 applicants
- Spike in forum/discord activity
- 2 slots allocated

Help with mentoring

Easy/medium difficulty projects

1-2h of mentoring involvement

Conclusions

- DLF has begun an era of organizational maturity
- Projects are advancing
- GSoC + SAoC are some of the best tools to attract new contributors