TAB AMA

Kernel Summit 2024

Technical Advisory Board: “Ask Me Anything”

Who are we?

How do we operate?

What have we been up to?

LF Support for the Linux Kernel Project

Open Questions

Who are we?

An elected body included in the original structure of the Linux Foundation

The chair of the TAB sits on the LF Board

Underlying mission: Support the long term health of the Linux Kernel Project

How do we operate?

The influence of the TAB is simply the pooled influence of its members

Provide consultation to the Linux Plumbers planning committee

Provide consultation to the Code of Conduct committee

Provide a collective response to project wide concerns

What have we been up to?

Advocacy for maintainer “quality of life” concerns

- Linux Kernel Contribution Maturity Model
  - https://docs.kernel.org/process/contribution-maturity-model.html
- Ongoing discussions around maintainer peer support
  - https://lore.kernel.org/all/20230919121001.7bc610d4@gandalf.local.home/
- Connect community needs to resources

TAB View of LF Support

Foundational support

- kernel.org infrastructure, mail, tooling, and contributor support
- Conference Support: e.g. LSF/MM/BPF, Plumbers…
- Mentorship
- Legal advocacy and policy engagement
- Press relations and marketing
- Fellow salaries

Opportunities

- Infrastructure feature requests
- Sustainability positions: man pages, regression tracking, refactoring…

LF Support for the Linux Kernel Project

Who we are:

- Organization founded to protect, promote, and defend Linux and open source

How we operate:

- Core support: hiring key roles into a neutral foundation to support the kernel community
- Infrastructure support: systems, people to operate, update, and secure systems used in the kernel development process
- Events support: events to bring developer communities, end users, and others together
- Training support: building out the ecosystem of developers, users, and operators of Linux systems
- Supporting collaborations based on Linux that extend beyond the in-kernel development work (e.g. AGL, Yocto, KernelCI, Real Time Linux, eBPF, etc)

Open Questions