

FOSDEM @ 20 – A Celebration

2nd February 2020 – 02/02/2020

by Steven Goodwin

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www.MarquisdeGeek.com



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Introduction

- The origins
- The early years
- Changes through the years
- Social networking
- The conference today

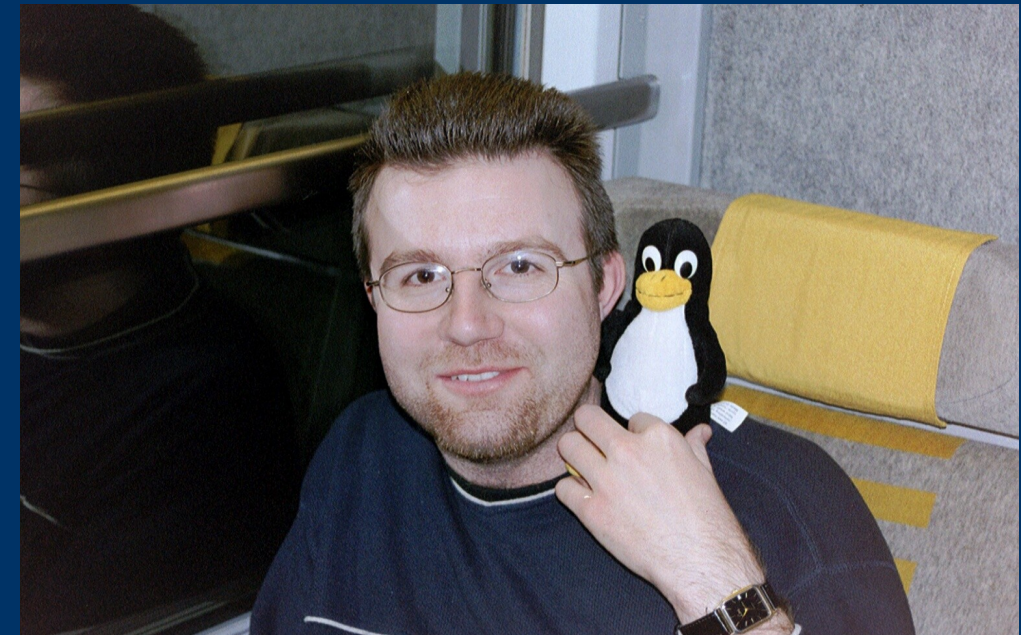
Who am I?

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The ego slide

The ego slide

- General-purpose geek
- Developer, CTO, and author
 - Articles for Linux Magazine, Free Software Magazine, and others
 - 5 books (but only 3 on open source!)
- Attended every FOSDEM
- Write the FOSDEM diaries
 - https://marquisdegeek.com/words_fosdem
- Given 16 talks (on 14 different subjects)



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The Origins

programers meeting

Raphael Bauduin rb at tiscali.be

Wed Dec 6 11:44:48 EST 2000

- Previous message: [Using sudo to log in as a user other than root?](#)
- Next message: [Kerberos 4 Issue](#)
- Messages sorted by: [\[.date. \]](#) [\[.thread. \]](#) [\[.subject. \]](#) [\[.author. \]](#)

Hi all,

I hope you don't consider this as spam, as I think lots of you could be interested by this..... If not, please accept all my excuses....

we are proud to be able to announce the first Open Source and Free Developers' European Meeting featuring Fyodor, Jeremy Allison, Richard Stallman, Kevin Lawton, Phil Thomson, Rasmus Lerdorf and a lot of other programmers. It will take place in Brussels saturday the 3rd and sunday the 4th february 2001, and is organised in collaboration with VA which is actively supporting the event.

The goal is to bring developers together so they can share ideas and learn to know other projects. We hope this event will foster collaboration between different projects and maybe give birth to new projects.

The website (which will undergo a major redesign :-) is available at <http://www.osdem.org>, the initial announcement is also available at <http://www.osdem.org/comm.html> . A mailing list (<http://www.raphinou.com/cgi-bin/mailman/listinfo/osdem/>) has been set up, and it is possible to register so we can evaluate the number of attendant (and print enough t-shirts so everyone can have one :-)

We hope to welcome lots of you in Brussels!

Thank you.

Raph.

--

Open Source and Free Software Developers Meeting
3rd and 4th february 2001, Brussels
Visit <http://www.osdem.com> and subscribe to the mailing list!

<https://www.sudo.ws/pipermail/sudo-users/2000-December/000455.html>

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- Free to attend
- Registration existed, but was optional
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- FOSDEM in 2002
- Always with volunteers



LET'S TALK ABOUT...

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<https://archive.fosdem.org/2002/about/1057.htm>
|

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What was 2001 like?

What was 2001 like – in the world?

- The population had just surpassed six billion
- We had the Euro (it was introduced in 1999)
- 'W' had just been elected
- NEAR Shoemaker landed on an asteroid
- End of life for Mir
- Billie Eilish was born, in December

What was 2001 like – in tech?

- No Facebook
- No Twitter
- No Stackoverflow
- No Uber
- Amazon was 7, and selling only books
- Google was 3
- Mac OS X was introduced, in March
- Microsoft released Windows XP, in October
- Dotcom bubble had just burst (1995-2001)

What was 2001 like – in (F)OSDEM?

Home	News	OSDEM In the News	Schedule	Topics	Speakers	Sign Up	Mailing List	Location	Links	Sponsors
Conference Schedule										
Here's the schedule for the talks to be given at OSDEM. If there is demand for it, we will organise workshops on requested topics in the Hacking room, which is a room with 20 computers running Debian GNU/Linux.										
Saturday	A: 250 places	B: 250 places	C: 50 places	Hacking room						
9:30-10:00	Welcome Talk by Raphael	-	-							
10:00-11:30	Richard Stallman: software patents dangers	-	-							
11:30-12:30	Werner Koch: GnuPG	Axel Hecht: Mozilla	Sascha Gresk: LDAP, SWIG							
12:30-14:00 Lunch, but discussion can continue	-	-	-							
14:00-15:00	Richard Morrell: Smoothwall	Open ACS web managing	Jorrit Tyberghein: Crystal Space							
15:00-16:30	Fyodor: network reconnaissance techniques	Amnon Barak: Mosix	-							
16:30-17:30	Renaud Deraison: Nessus	Quantum computing	Java Open source development							
17:30-18:30	Security Round Table	-	-							
Sunday	A: 250 places	B: 250 places	C: 50 places	Hacking room						
9:30-10:30	Marcus Brinkman: The Hurd	Mathieu Lacage: Gnome	Peter De Schrijver: Embedded Linux							
10:30-11:30	David Faure: KDE	Wichert Ackerman: Debian	Pulippe Biondi: Security at kernel level							
11:30-13:00	Free Software development strategies with RMS amongst others	Ami Ganguli: Midgard	Conrad Parker: Sweep Sound Editor							
13:00-14:00 Lunch, but discussion can continue	-	-	-							
14:00-15:30	Jeremy Allison: Samba	Stephane Fermigier: Zope	Renaud LArsen: Karl Popper Project							
15:30-17:00	Rasterman: Hardware accelerated image blending, rendering, scaling, anti-aliased text rendering - a reality on your desktop	Rasmus Lerdorf: PHP	Alexander Bokovoy: i18n							
17:00-18:30	Horms: Global Distribution System	Web content management round table	-							

- <https://archive.fosdem.org/2001/program/index.html>
- <http://fosdem.3ti.be/>

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The Early Years

- Long talks with deep dives



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The Early Years

- Long talks with deep dives
- Donations



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The Early Years

- Long talks with deep dives
- Donations
- Sponsorship without spam



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The Early Years

- Long talks with deep dives
- Donations
- Sponsorship without spam
- Growth of devrooms



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The Early Years

- Miguel de Icaza
 - Mono
 - Gnome
 - Xamarin
 - “This is Coca-cola” (!?!?!)



- <https://www.flickr.com/photos/muktimages/6862585655/>

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The Early Years

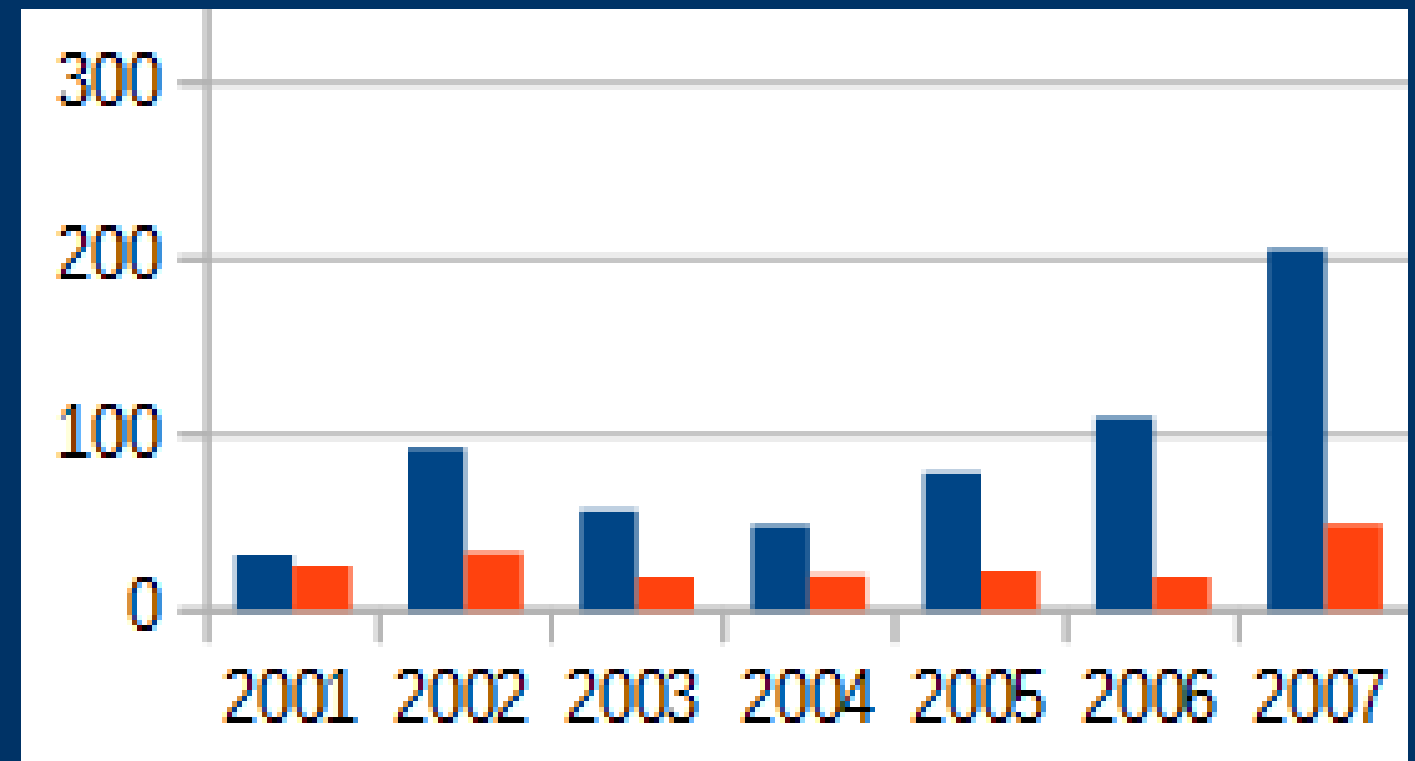
- Josette Garcia
 - O'Reilly book stall
 - 2nd Quadrant PostgreSQL
 - Now retired



The Early Years

- Some, probably erroneous, stats

<https://github.com/MarquisdeGeek/FOSDEM>



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Changes through the years - 2007

- 28 lightning talks
- 7 main tracks
- 15 devrooms
- 21 booths
- 3 Cornerstone sponsors + 11 main sponsors
- <https://archive.fosdem.org/2007/schedule.html>

The Early Years - milestones

2002 - Free Software Awards

- 2001 : Guido van Rossum
- 2002 : Lawrence Lessig
- 2003 : Alan Cox
- 2004 : Theo de Raadt
- 2005 : Andrew Tridgell

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/FSF_Free_Software_Awards

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2005 - Keysigning



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Key_signing_party

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2007 – Lightning talks

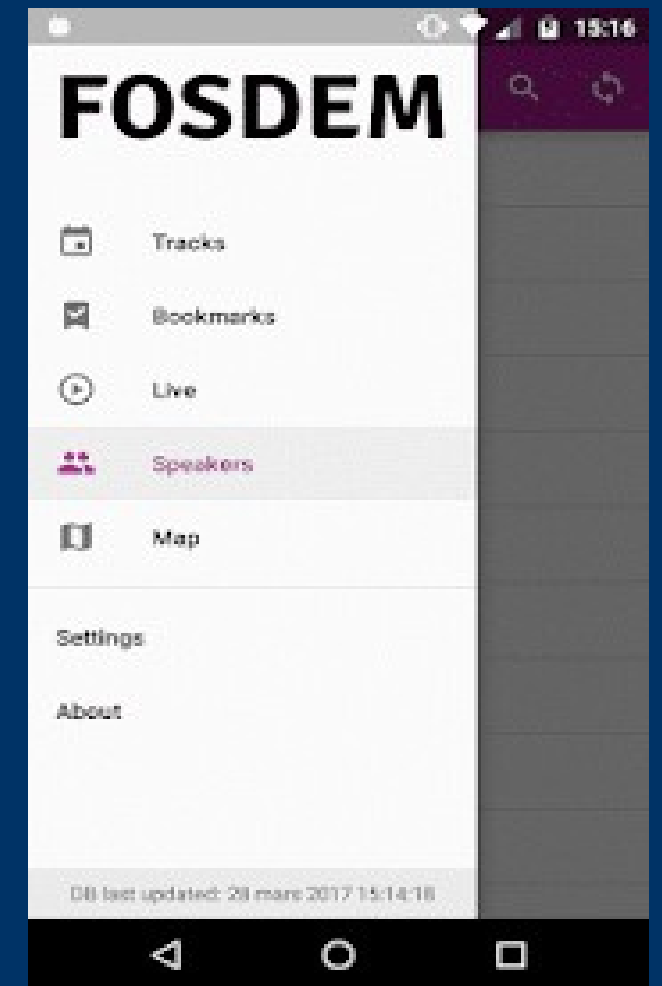
- In 2005 as “unofficial”
- On schedule in 2007
- Hosted in Ferrer
- 28 talks, over two days

2012 - Pentabarf

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<schedule>
  <conference>
    <title>FOSDEM 2020</title>
    <subtitle/>
    <venue>ULB (Université Libre de Bruxelles)</venue>
    <city>Brussels</city>
    <start>2020-02-01</start>
    <end>2020-02-02</end>
    <days>2</days>
    <day_change>09:00:00</day_change>
    <timeslot_duration>00:05:00</timeslot_duration>
  </conference>
  <day index="1" date="2020-02-01">
    <room name="Janson">
      <event id="9025">
```

2014 - FOSDEM – there's an app for that!

- Released 2014
- Written by Christophe Beyls
- 3500-4000 active installations each year



<https://speakerdeck.com/cbeyls/developing-fosdem-companion>

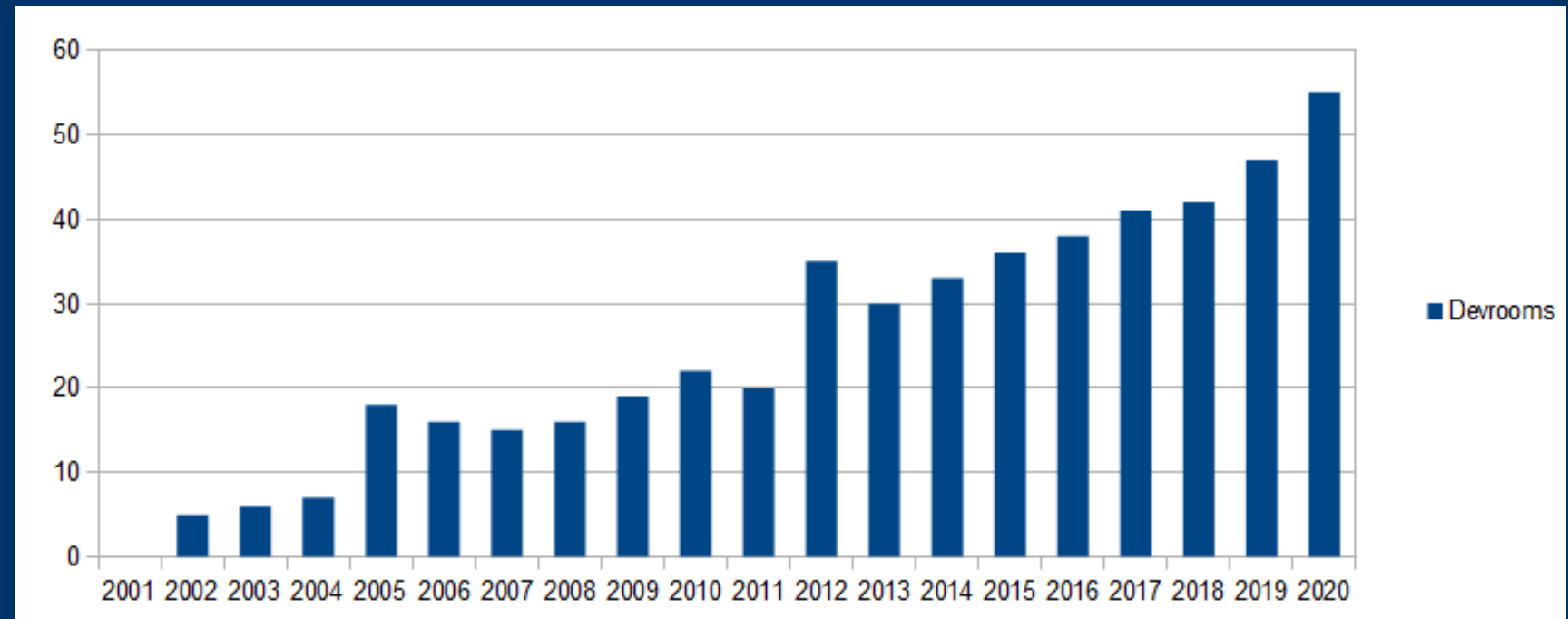
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2015 – Video boxes

2016 – Glossy brochures!

The cliché of constant change

- Devroom changes
- Stalls
- Dev room wins
- External dev events



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The cliché of constant change

- Devroom changes
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- Dev room wins – e.g. FreedomBox
- External dev events

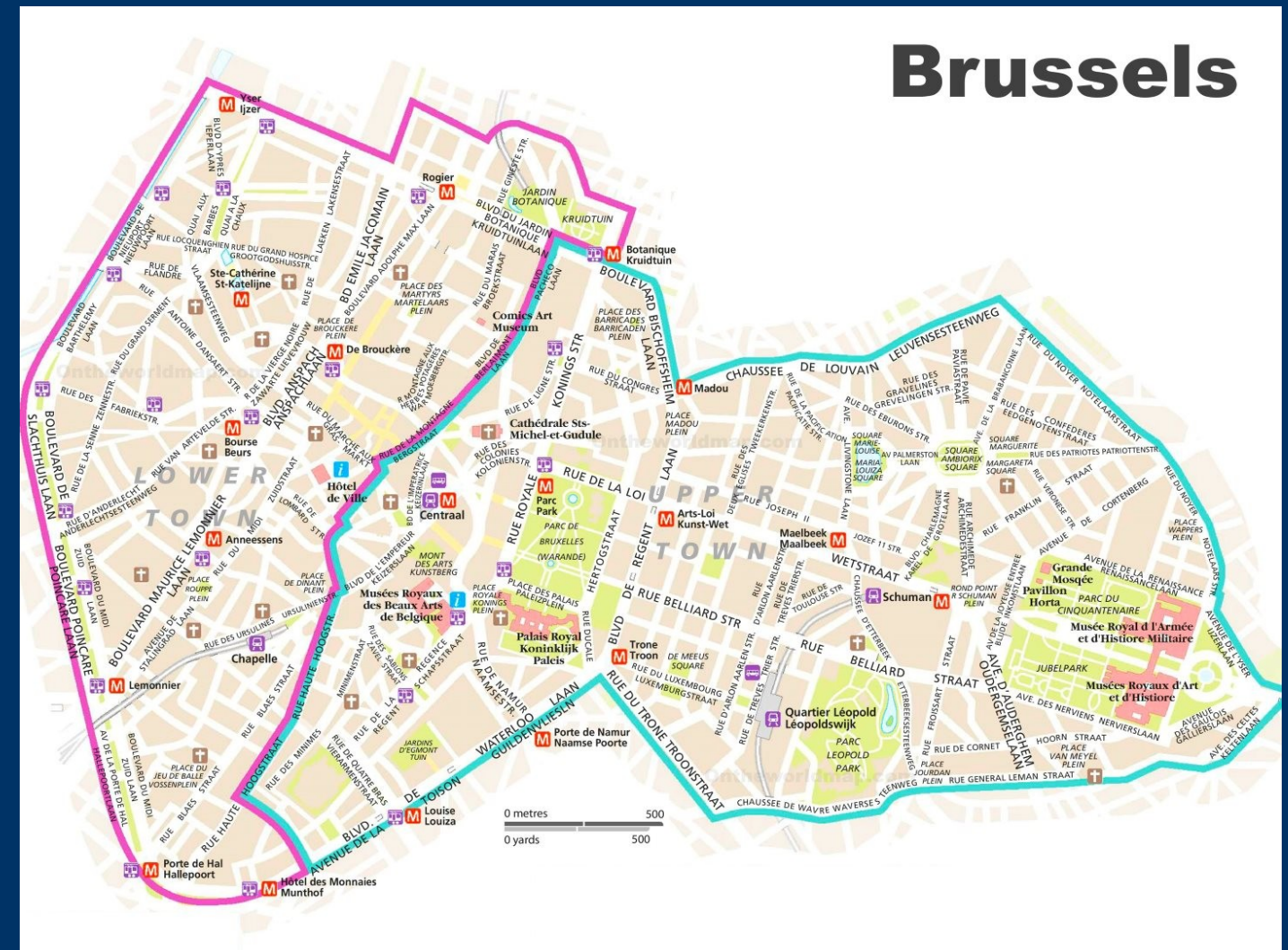


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The cliché of constant change

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Being Social

- It's not all work, work, work...

Being Social

- Photo by Brad Knowles



- <http://fosdem.3ti.be/s/view.php?r=/brad.knowles/20020215&p=6&res=2&m=resize>

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Being Social

- Friday night beer event
- Photo by Philip Paeps



- <http://fosdem.3ti.be/s/view.php?r=/Philip.Paeps/2006-02-24&p=29&m=resize&res=2>

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Being Social

- Friday night beer event
- Saturday parties and dinners
- Photo by agk



- <http://fosdem.3ti.be/s/view.php?r=/alasdair.g.kergon&p=19&m=resize&res=2>

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Being Social

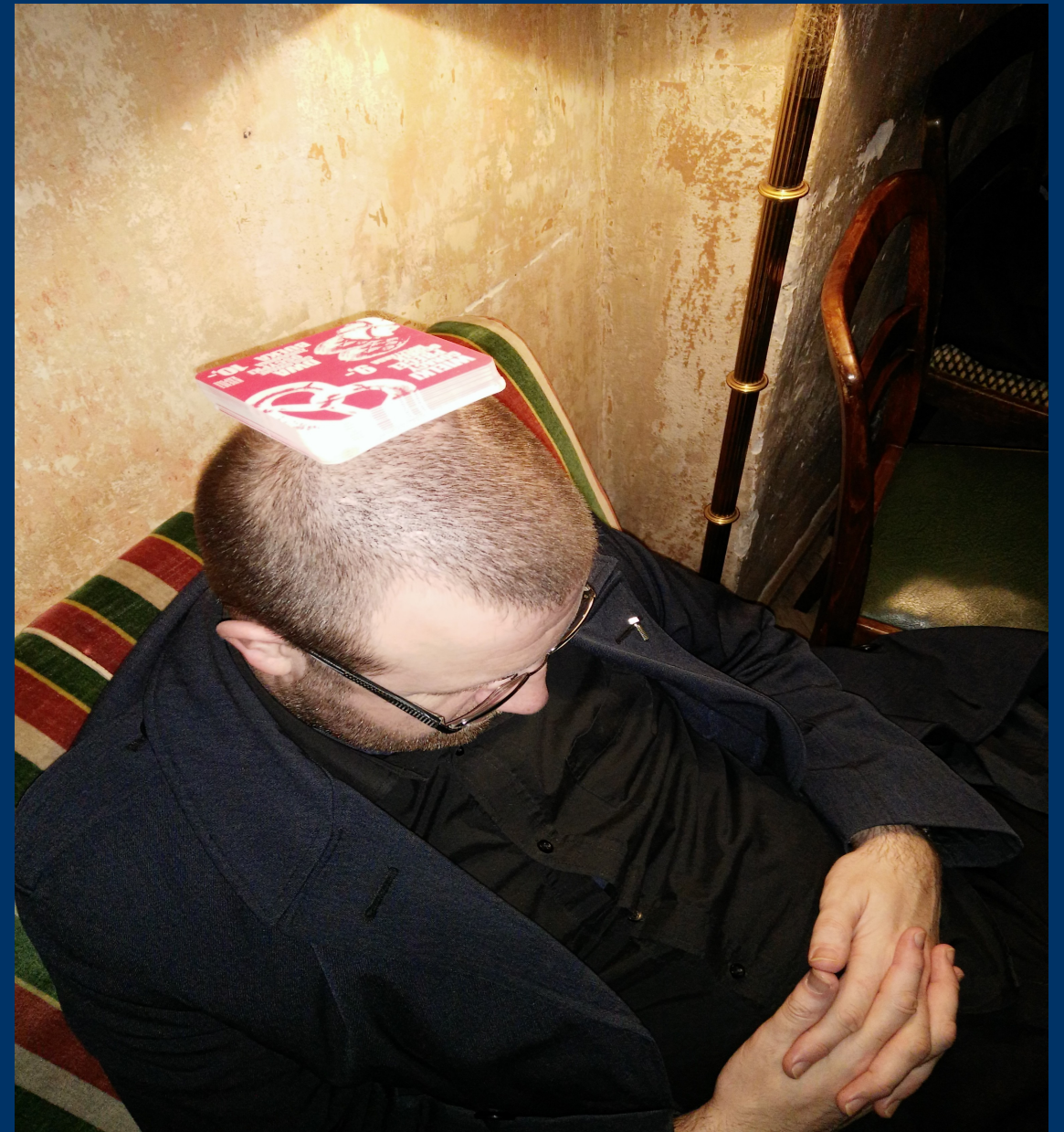
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The conference today

The conference today

- 1 minute reflection

The conference today

- 1 minute reflection



Pieter Hintjens (IP)



Lars Kurth (Xen)



Gervase Markham (Mozilla)

The conference today

The conference today

- `#include <caveats.h>`

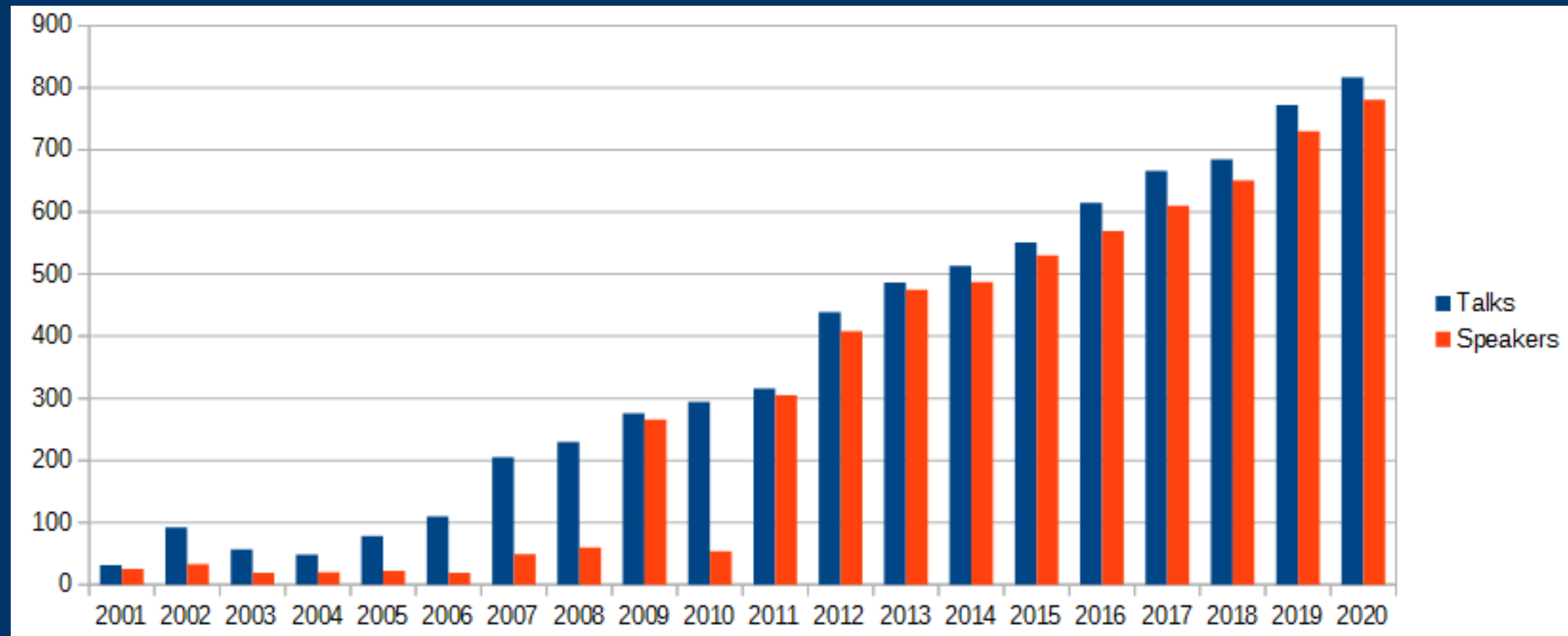
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- `#include <caveats.h>`
- Pull requests welcome...

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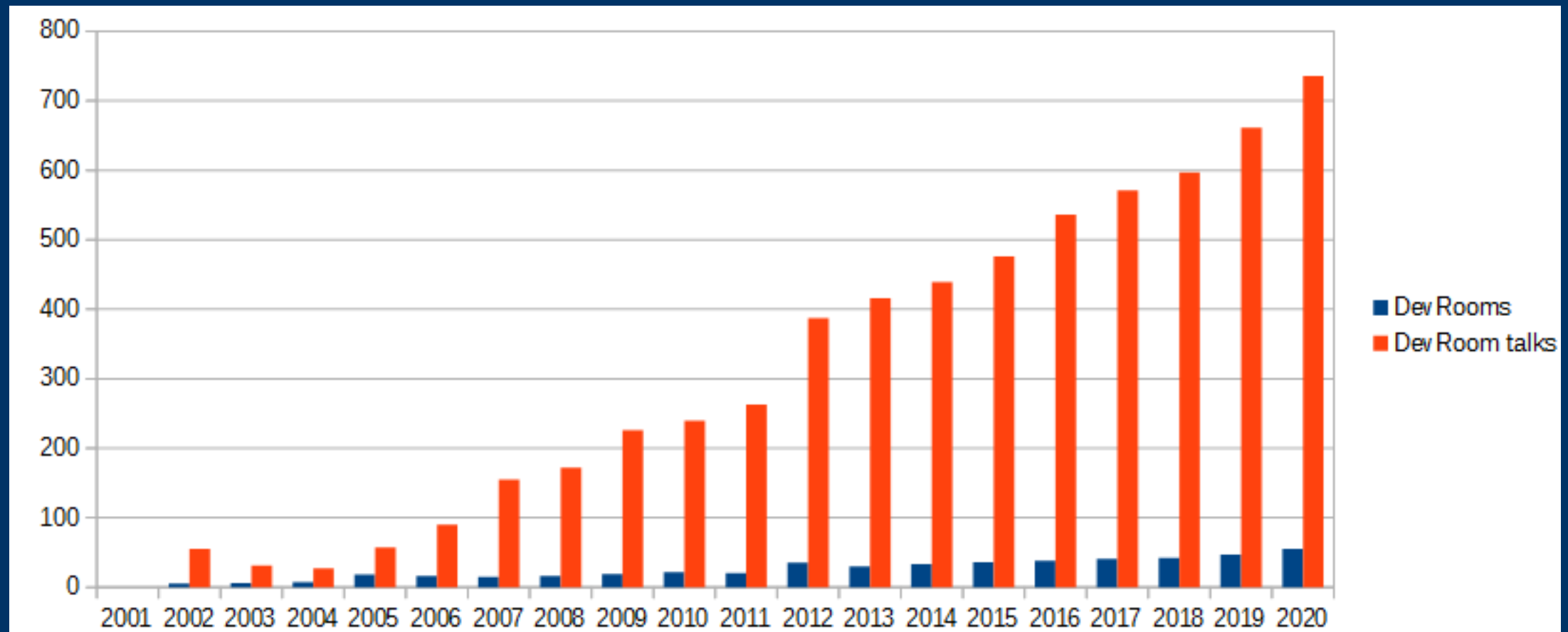
The conference today

- In 2020, we have 817 talks, by 781 different speakers

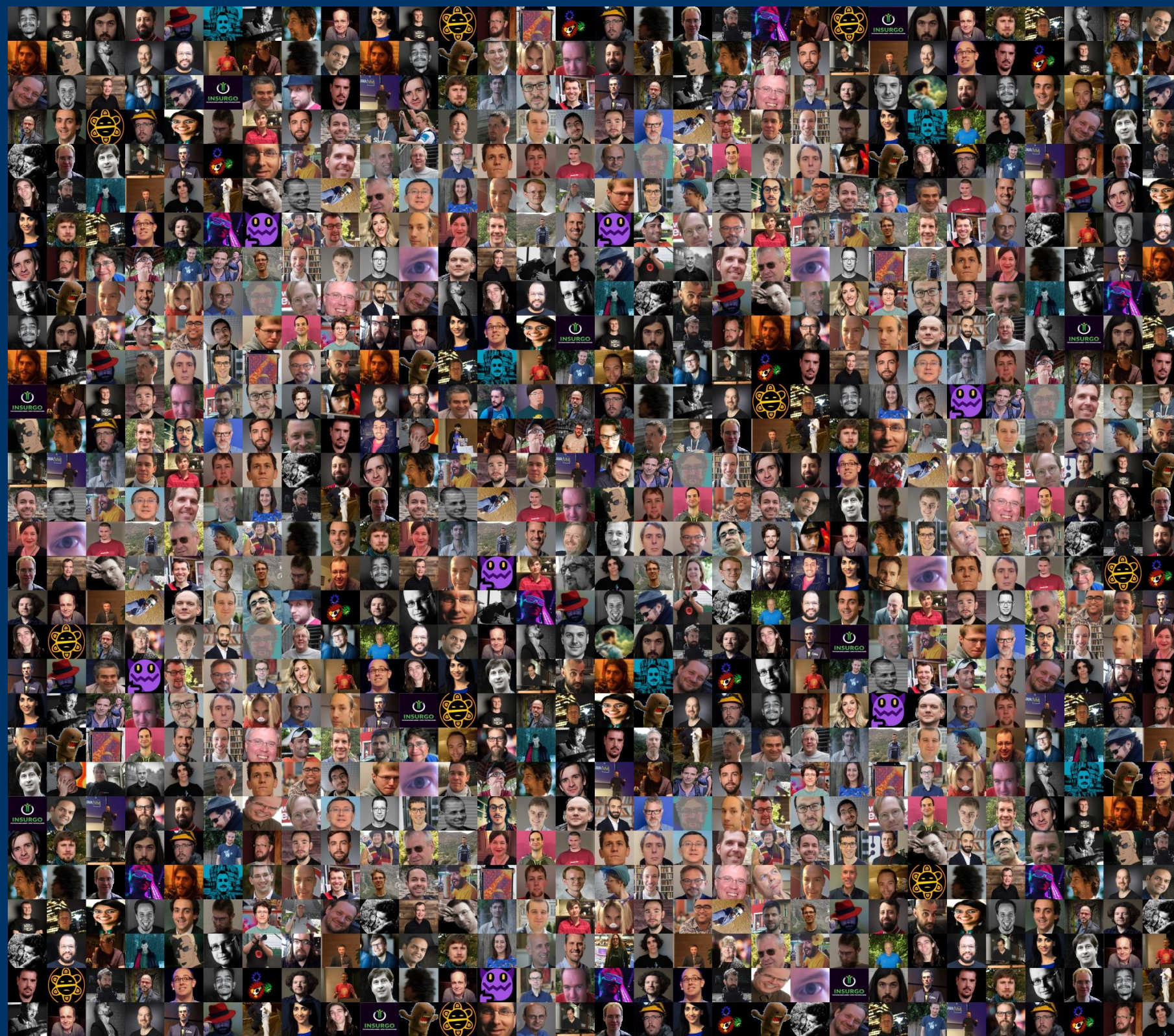


The conference today

- In 2020, we have 55 devrooms, with 736 different talks



Today



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In total – the numbers

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- 7281 talks

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- 7281 talks
- 4001 unique speakers

In total – the numbers

- 7281 talks
- 4001 unique speakers
- 149 dev rooms (providing 6135 talks)

In total – the words

Conclusions

- Start small
- The ethos hasn't changed – being free is good!
- Devrooms are now biggest draw
- But what happens now?



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Any Questions?

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FOSDEM Scorecard:

Attended: 19

Diaries written: 17

Talks given: 16 (on 14 different topics)

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