

# The Road to PyCon India 2009

Noufal Ibrahim

PyCon India, 2009

# Outline

- 1 Introduction
- 2 The months leading to PyCon
- 3 Lessons learnt
- 4 Ending note

# Who am I?

- Noufal Ibrahim.
- Python programmer and enthusiast.
- *Primus inter pares* of the PyCon India organising committee.

# Origins

- BangPypers meeting on a warm and rainy afternoon at ThoughtWorks.
- A gathering for Pythonistas to meet and exchange ideas/network.

# Outline

- 1 Introduction
- 2 The months leading to PyCon
- 3 Lessons learnt
- 4 Ending note

# May

- Suggestions for a 'mini-pycon' in Pune.
- Meeting to fix the date, venue and initial plans.
- Logo contest.
- New mailing list.
- Site work started.
- Focus is always a good thing.

## June

- “Call for proposals” and sponsorship brochures created.
- Logo decided. **Democracy is slow.**
- Site went live at the end of June and admin assigned.
- Sponsorship drive started around then.
- Publicity work, mailing lists, blogs, twitter, word of mouth.

# July

- CFP publicly announced.
- Contact addresses readied.
- Mentioned event on pycon.org.
- Met ZeOmega at end of July.
- Sponsor coordinators assigned.
- T-shirt design/talk started.



# August

- ZeOmega officially became our first sponsor.
- ThoughtWorks almost confirmed.
- CFP and early bird registration closed.
- Id cards designed and page put up.
- T-shirt quotations.
- Keynote decided.
- Treasurers assigned.

# September

- Started off with an F2F.
- Some more new assoc. sponsors (Dux, Strand, TenXperts, Navisite).
- T-shirts vendor decided and ordered.
- Caterer decided and booked.
- A/V recorder decided and booked.
- Talks filtered/scheduled and announced.
- Money flow increased.
- *Conference!*

# Outline

- 1 Introduction
- 2 The months leading to PyCon
- 3 Lessons learnt**
- 4 Ending note

## Operational lessons

- Need more time - Atleast 8 to 10 months.
- Too many ad hoc decisions - Need to stick with a plan.
- Democracy is not always a good thing.
- Volunteers are volunteers - not employees.
- Clear cut off dates needed.
- Money matters - we *should* have our own account.
- People skills.
- Community involvement.
  - Slow.
  - Necessary.
  - need more time.
  - More/regular F2F meetings.

## Operational lessons

- Need more time - Atleast 8 to 10 months.
- Too many ad hoc decisions - Need to stick with a plan.
- Democracy is not always a good thing.
- Volunteers are volunteers - not employees.
- Clear cut off dates needed.
- Money matters - we *should* have our own account.
- People skills.
- Community involvement.
  - Slow.
  - Necessary.
  - need more time.
  - More/regular F2F meetings.

## Operational lessons

- Need more time - Atleast 8 to 10 months.
- Too many ad hoc decisions - Need to stick with a plan.
- Democracy is not always a good thing.
- Volunteers are volunteers - not employees.
- Clear cut off dates needed.
- Money matters - we *should* have our own account.
- People skills.
- Community involvement.
  - Slow.
  - Necessary.
  - need more time.
  - More/regular F2F meetings.

## Operational lessons

- Need more time - Atleast 8 to 10 months.
- Too many ad hoc decisions - Need to stick with a plan.
- Democracy is not always a good thing.
- Volunteers are volunteers - not employees.
- Clear cut off dates needed.
- Money matters - we *should* have our own account.
- People skills.
- Community involvement.
  - Slow.
  - Necessary.
  - need more time.
  - More/regular F2F meetings.

## Operational lessons

- Need more time - Atleast 8 to 10 months.
- Too many ad hoc decisions - Need to stick with a plan.
- Democracy is not always a good thing.
- Volunteers are volunteers - not employees.
- Clear cut off dates needed.
- Money matters - we *should* have our own account.
- People skills.
- Community involvement.
  - Slow.
  - Necessary.
  - need more time.
  - More/regular F2F meetings.



## Operational lessons

- Need more time - Atleast 8 to 10 months.
- Too many ad hoc decisions - Need to stick with a plan.
- Democracy is not always a good thing.
- Volunteers are volunteers - not employees.
- Clear cut off dates needed.
- Money matters - we *should* have our own account.
- People skills.
- Community involvement.
  - Slow.
  - Necessary.
  - need more time.
  - More/regular F2F meetings.

## Operational lessons

- Need more time - Atleast 8 to 10 months.
- Too many ad hoc decisions - Need to stick with a plan.
- Democracy is not always a good thing.
- Volunteers are volunteers - not employees.
- Clear cut off dates needed.
- Money matters - we *should* have our own account.
- People skills.
- Community involvement.
  - Slow.
  - Necessary.
  - need more time.
  - More/regular F2F meetings.

## Operational lessons

- Need more time - Atleast 8 to 10 months.
- Too many ad hoc decisions - Need to stick with a plan.
- Democracy is not always a good thing.
- Volunteers are volunteers - not employees.
- Clear cut off dates needed.
- Money matters - we *should* have our own account.
- People skills.
- Community involvement.
  - Slow.
  - Necessary.
  - need more time.
  - More/regular F2F meetings.

# Larger considerations

- The “Python” part didn’t play much of a role.
- Volunteering involves sacrifice.
- Keep things simple and people connected.
- Keep user group meetings regular.

# Larger considerations

- The “Python” part didn’t play much of a role.
- Volunteering involves sacrifice.
- Keep things simple and people connected.
- Keep user group meetings regular.

# Larger considerations

- The “Python” part didn’t play much of a role.
- Volunteering involves sacrifice.
- Keep things simple and people connected.
- Keep user group meetings regular.

# Larger considerations

- The “Python” part didn’t play much of a role.
- Volunteering involves sacrifice.
- Keep things simple and people connected.
- Keep user group meetings regular.

# Outline

- 1 Introduction
- 2 The months leading to PyCon
- 3 Lessons learnt
- 4 Ending note



- We did it.
- Need to keep this going.
- Start planning for 2010 in a few months.
- Enthusiasm was heart warming.
- Apologies for screw ups and and thanks for the ride.
- “Always look on the bright side of life”.

- We did it.
- Need to keep this going.
- Start planning for 2010 in a few months.
- Enthusiasm was heart warming.
- Apologies for screw ups and and thanks for the ride.
- “Always look on the bright side of life”.

- We did it.
- Need to keep this going.
- Start planning for 2010 in a few months.
- Enthusiasm was heart warming.
- Apologies for screw ups and and thanks for the ride.
- “Always look on the bright side of life”.

- We did it.
- Need to keep this going.
- Start planning for 2010 in a few months.
- Enthusiasm was heart warming.
- Apologies for screw ups and and thanks for the ride.
- “Always look on the bright side of life”.

- We did it.
- Need to keep this going.
- Start planning for 2010 in a few months.
- Enthusiasm was heart warming.
- Apologies for screw ups and and thanks for the ride.
- “Always look on the bright side of life”.

- We did it.
- Need to keep this going.
- Start planning for 2010 in a few months.
- Enthusiasm was heart warming.
- Apologies for screw ups and and thanks for the ride.
- “Always look on the bright side of life”.