

iJUG Position Paper for the Executive Committee Elections 2016

About the iJUG

The iJUG is an umbrella user group, founded in 2009 by a handful of German JUGs, and to-date consisting of 30 JUGs, representing more than 20,000 Java enthusiasts in Germany, Austria, and Switzerland. A main objective of the iJUG is to represent the common interests of the Java user groups and their Java users especially in German speaking countries, particularly towards developers, manufacturers, distributors and the public.

All individual JUGs still have their own activities - and shall have. But iJUG members collaborate on various topics - ad-hoc as well as formally and on a regular basis. The joint activities are really what brings the iJUG to life, the two highlights being: "Java Aktuell", the iJUG's own Java magazine, with 4 issues per year and a total print circulation of 12,500. And the annual "JavaLand" conference. Located in theme park "Phantasialand" in Germany, the event is setting a new standard in Europe as a fully community-driven Java conference. In its third year in 2016, JavaLand already attracted more than 1200 Java enthusiasts, and the extensive community activities at the conference won the iJUG a JCP Award nomination in 2014 for "Outstanding Adopt-a-JSR Participant".

The basis for everything we are doing is our motto "From the community - for the community". For the Executive Committee, we have a couple of specific positions, which are explained below:

Our Key Positions

Openness and Transparency

Standards need to be developed in the open. Even with recent improvements in the JCP, there is still a lot to be done here. While we will support all actions working in this direction, we have specifically identified these three points that we would like to address:

- Improve repository access, particularly for Expert Group members.
- Publish TCKs. Secret TCKs do not help the standard, and at the same time there are solutions for the specific issues of public TCKs.
- Improve overview of and visibility into JSRs, either externally or by enhancing the JCP site itself.

Separate Standards from Commercial Interests

We believe that no relevant parts of the standard should be withheld by any party, including the Spec Leads. This includes license costs for TCKs.

In parallel to these rather legal and processual considerations, we will focus on encouraging and supporting more organizations or individuals sharing our ideals to engage as Spec Leads.

More Democracy

While some processual improvements have been done in this area recently, there is currently nothing either an EG or the EC can do if a Spec Lead completely refuses to either resume work on or hand over an inactive JSR. Hence Expert Groups (and the Executive Committee as well) should have improved means of re-vitalizing JSRs which have become inactive.

EC Committee & Representants

In order to ensure our commitment towards the EC as well as enable us internally, we have created an internal committee dedicated to the JCP / EC topics. From this round, we have selected the people to represent the iJUG on the EC:

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