



## PASS SQLRally 2012

Teleconference – Wednesday Jan. 19, 2012

4:00pm Pacific Standard Time

### Attendees:

Ryan	Adams
Jack	Corbett
Sean	McCown
Tim	Mitchell
Lana	Montgomery
Anika	Poliseno
Sri	Sridharan

- Anika reviewed the recent and upcoming critical dates with the team.
- Ryan asked whether there would be a reminder for the call for speakers which closes on Jan. 22. Lana confirmed that marketing had decided to review how many abstracts had been submitted on towards the end of this week and decide whether to send out an email blast then. Further promotion of the call for speakers will be taking place across social media outlets and it was also mentioned in the Jan. 11 Connector.
- Anika asked Sri about the status of an information session on SQLRally being coordinated for Chapter Leaders through Live Meeting. Lana confirmed that she had sent out the banners and attendee buttons to Chapter Leaders along with upcoming important dates. Sri also mentioned that Karla has covered a lot of information about Rally in the regional mentor meeting.
- **Sri to discuss information session with Karla to ensure key messages have been communicated to the CLs.**
- Anika confirmed with Sri the status of the planning for evening events and networking sessions. Anika confirmed that in Orlando as there is no budget item for these type of events that a venue is chosen where attendees can meet up after the day and have drinks/ snacks at their own expense.
- **Sri confirmed that he will look into venues and come up with ideas for the next call.**
- Sri put forward the idea for a WIT networking lunch to be held on the first day of Rally (10 May), potentially in one of the ballrooms next door. Anika said she would look into the logistics for this as it may not work to host the lunch there.

Sri said that with the growing number of WIT supporters they want to have enough room for all who want to attend. Anika suggested that given this that she asks the Convention Center if there are any additional rooms and that this far out from the event they may have rooms that haven't been sold.

- **Tim will write up the scheduled Jan. 20<sup>th</sup> blog post**
- Anika has postponed discussing food and beverage menus to February.
- Anika and Lana confirmed that planning on swag requirements has begun. Sri confirmed that both himself and Ryan are happy to have swag shipped directly to them to reduce costs.
- **Anika to confirm all vendor pricing to ensure that budget is up to date.**
- The timeline for the Community Vote process was confirmed as follows:
  - Jan 22 Call for Speakers Closes
  - Jan 23 Abstract Review begins
  - Feb 01 Pre-Con abstracts/speakers selected
  - Feb 03 Email selected pre-con speakers
  - Feb 15 Abstract Review ends
  - Feb 17 Email sent to selected speakers
  - Feb 17 Remaining sessions set up on a Community Voting page
  - Feb 22 Connector update and Community Voting starts (open for one week)
  - Feb 29 Community Vote ends
  - Mar 01 Community selected speakers notified
  - Mar 07 Public announcement of all selected sessions/speakers
- Team discussed session evals and whether the decision had been made to go with electronic or paper. Everyone agreed that the stats from Orlando and Nordic events confirmed that when paper evals are used far more people fill them out than online evals. It was pointed out that PASS is trying to move towards working entirely on electronic evals over the web and a specific app.

All agree that the idea of having terminals outside the session rooms wouldn't work as the cost would be too high to provide enough terminals for all attendees.

- Sri said that he has a contact list of college students who can enter the paper evals if needed and that for the last SQLSaturday he organized he was able to have this completed for \$200.
- Discussion moved to how the Volunteer process would work. Anika confirmed that there isn't a checkbox within the online registration for people to sign up to be a volunteer. The suggestion was made to see who is interested and during mid Feb, beginning of March start planning a timeline for Volunteers so that there is a plan for them, rather than leaving it up to the day of the event. Sri

confirmed that he definitely wants all volunteers to be accounted for and a plan in place before the event.

- Brief discussion took place on the session schedule. Sri has recommended an 1 ½ lunch break with the WIT lunch session and possible lightning sessions (2-5 minute speeches on a particular topic: speaking, career advice, etc.)

Anika asked Sri what his expectations were for the welcome between 8 and 8.30am. Sri confirmed that it wouldn't be a keynote, but rather a short introduction to set the tone for the day and brief attendees on what to expect plus help to build up the excitement for the event.

- Anika will review the session schedule for Tuesday Jan. 24.
- Anika to follow up with Al on his ideas for the sponsored evening event.

**Next Meeting – Wednesday, February 1<sup>st</sup> at 4:00pm PST.**