

The Scala Center



Q 1 2021
Direction Report

Welcome!

SwissBorg and Databricks

FIVE BOLD STEPS

All changes saved

Sc

HISTORY OF

KEY

- KEY EVENTS
- PEOPLE
- PRODUCTS
- LEARNING

DATELINE 2004



make the compiler 2-3x faster

Metals reaches feature parity with IntelliJ

gather feedback from focus groups to test hypothesis

Create educational material for every target segment: new programmers, new Scala programmers, existing Scala

Advertise/Make noise about the fact that this is how we think Scala should be used

Design feedback loops to ensure efficacy of outreach

create a scala experience that works out of the box

"get rid" of the monopoly of build tools over dependencies

smoothen the set up experience

tooling is seamless

Scala is a widely used programming language from beginners to experts, from professional to hobbyist

Show examples on how scala can be used and is learn

Libraries and language make it easy to get things done

Advertise specific libraries that address common programming problems in simple ways

Improve the standard library

"influence" the community to promote the libraries of choice

VISION
Scala is a community focused PL, easy to learn, easy to use, easy to leverage

Standard library is very limited (Java)

SCALA libraries are community driven

SUPPORTS

CHALLENGES 11%

BOLD STEPS

- Show examples on how scala can be used and is easy to learn - Julien
- Improve the standard library (platform) - Julien
- create a scala experience that works out of the box - Sebastien
- "influence" the community to promote the libraries of choice - Darja
- Make the compiler faster - Martin

CRV

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Zoom settings

Scala Vision

The Scala language vision statement. Mainstream, community focused programming language, easy to learn, easy to use, easy to leverage.

Strategic areas

Learning: Scala is easy to learn

- An easy to approach documentation website
- MOOCs that teach fundamentals as well as practical skills
- Show examples of simple Scala code that solves problems

Tooling: Scala is easy to use

- Easy to install
- Easy to get to know the tools
- Tools help the developers, and do not get in the way

Ecosystem: Scala is easy to leverage

- Provide a set of simple libraries to solve concrete problems
- Libraries are easily discoverable
- Libraries work well together, and evolve well together

Scala and Scala Center Vision

The Scala language vision statement. Mainstream, **community** focused programming language, easy to learn, easy to use, easy to leverage.

The Scala Center vision statement. Central governing body in the Scala ecosystem, bringing major stakeholders and **community** together in creating a reliable and sustainable open source environment for Scala, and beyond, by building a state of the art software, education materials, and supporting **community** initiatives.

Strategic area 4: The Scala Community (Vision)

Happy, healthy, welcoming, inclusive and diverse community of users, contributors, teachers, learners, organizers, moderators and supporters at large.

Scala Center needs to act towards this goal.

We are perceived as leaders, we need to assume that role.

Immediate steps going forward

- We identified that “reporting process” is non-existent
- Without the proper “reporting process” and clear guidelines, misbehaviours continue to drive people away from the community
- We’ve been receiving reports that go from online harassment to predatory behaviour at the conferences, some ending in quite tragic cases (mental health issues and other)
- We have no capacity to deal with this as one should, so far
- Our organisation should establish it and onboard other orgs

Immediate steps going forward

Communication team to be tasked to lead the efforts

- Research about best practices
- Propose a couple of best processes
- Lead conversations with the team, then community (organizers first)
- Establish the reporting team
- Get support from EPFL legal team or another legal practice

Goals

- Create and publish the centralized reporting process
- Publish and promote the process
- Encourage community to participate and use it
- Train moderators, organizers, and other directly implicated

End goal: community participants feel welcome to call out unacceptable behaviour and have certainty that action will take place in appropriate time.

We will have to have solid answers to...

- Change culture vs Cancel culture
- Abusive effect of communication vs Free speech (legally acceptable vs morally acceptable)
- Clear scoping of Scala Center's influence vs Community at large
- Immediate action vs restorative justice
- And much more...

Going forward

- We are a predominantly tech team
- If we are to establish the processes, we need to form either a department or collaborate with wider community - either way, person on a payroll will be needed to ensure the process is ongoing and well taken care of
- There is no time to wait, in-person conferences are around the corner
- Communication team is about to be onboarded
- Tech team is alerted and ready to support

SPC-25 Use of inclusive language

Creating the Scala Center style-guide (or such)

- identify the areas that should be part of this guide
- provide digest overview on how it is done in other programming languages communities/organisations
- set up and facilitate all the team meetings to get the input with the goal of producing the style-guide collaboratively
- publish the guide and surrounding communication

Thank you!

And now: Q&A