

## Documentation: state of the Union

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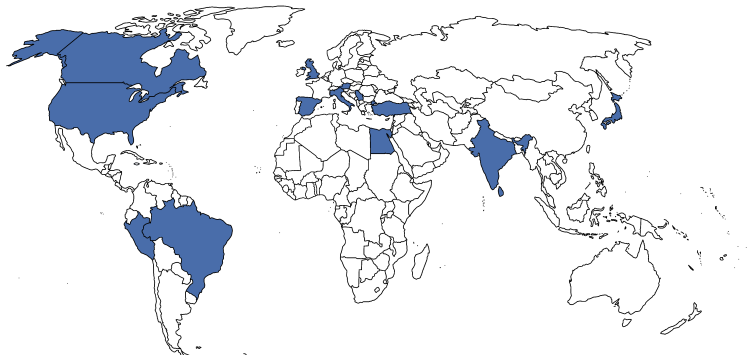
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GUADEC 2013

# In the beginning...

- First came into existence around 1999
- Previously led by
  - Dave Mason
  - Dan Mueth
  - John Fleck
- Shaun McCance became the benevolent dictator in 2003
- ...and then came GNOME 3

# Who are the Docs Team?



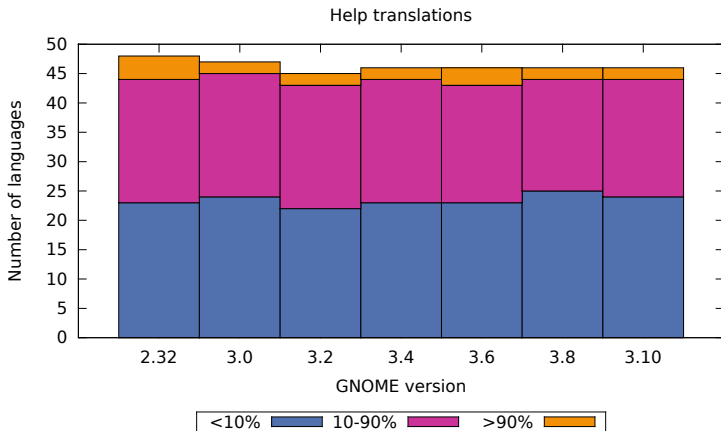
# Outreach Program for Women

- 5 mentors
- 12 interns over four years
- 6 interns became Foundation members

# Writing documentation?

- Mallard, an XML language
- Task-oriented with overview topics
- Simple English

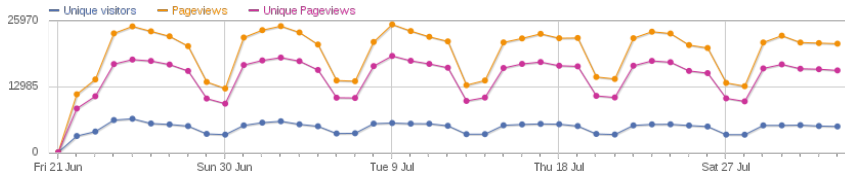
# Translations



# Who are our users?

- Not possible to track desktop help users directly
- Bug reports from translators often come in 1-7 days after the change
- Users report bugs 3-9 months after a release

# library.gnome.org





# How can designers help?

- Use tooltips
- Talk about the interactions

# How can developers help?

- Help us test
- File bugs against docs when UI and functionality change
- Help us find hidden functionality

# How can we help?

- Full UI testing
- Usability testing

# Summary

## Outlook

- Developer documentation and platform overview
- System administrator's guide
- Documentation style guide
- Ongoing maintenance of user help

## High score board

- Ryan Lortie
- Christian Persch
- Adam Dingle
- Ray Strobe
- David King
- Andre Klapper

# What to do at GUADEC

- <https://wiki.gnome.org/GUADEC/2013/BOFs>
- Documentation hackfest - Mon Aug 05 - Thu Aug 08
- "Getting Started" videos - Today, Sat Aug 03, 18:00, D105
- Developer Documentation talk - Sun Aug 04, 14:00, D0206
- Translating Documentation BoF - Tue Aug 06, morning, A112

# Resources I



Information:

<https://wiki.gnome.org/DocumentationProject/>



IRC:

docs on [irc.gnome.org](http://irc.gnome.org)



Email:

[gnome-user-docs@gnome.org](mailto:gnome-user-docs@gnome.org)