

# Linux Foundation Technical Advisory Board Candidates

Please send your candidate statement to [tech-board-discuss@lists.linuxfoundation.org](mailto:tech-board-discuss@lists.linuxfoundation.org) and [ksummit-discuss@lists.linuxfoundation.org](mailto:ksummit-discuss@lists.linuxfoundation.org)

## Tim Bird

As a long-time user and developer of Linux in the embedded space, and a kernel developer within my own company, I recognize the need to continually nurture and grow the kernel community and ecosystem. I would like to continue to serve on the Linux Foundation TAB and specifically work to achieve 2 goals: First, I would like to continue educating companies and individuals who are new to the community, to help them understand community principles and to help them decide to not just use, but to contribute (and keep contributing) to Linux. Second, I would like to initiate a project to make online resources more visible and usable for all Linux developers. We have a wealth of presentations and videos from events hosted by the Linux Foundation and other organizations. I would really like to see better organization of this material, specifically into topic areas, to augment the documentation that is available for all kernel developers (new or experienced).

## Steven Rostedt

I have been highly involved with the Linux kernel community since 2004, as a developer, a user, maintainer and educator. When I first came onto the board, my platform was to help bridge various parts of the Linux ecosystem. I've been working to help developers reach across their realms of expertise and unite with other developers in order to have better integration of the tools within the GNU and Linux systems. Being part of the advisory board to the Linux Foundation has facilitate this goal. I am also on the planning committee for Linux Plumbers and have become the Microconference Chair. As such I have succeeded in bringing in developers to host a Database microconference for the first time at Plumbers. The combination of being both on the TAB as well as a Plumbers committee member has be extremely useful in my goal of

bringing all those that interact with Linux closer together. I would like to continue this work for at least one more term.

## Greg Kroah-Hartman

I've been a long-time Linux kernel developer of many different parts of the kernel, and through that work over the years have had to deal with the interaction between the community and the corporate and legal worlds that make up the Linux kernel ecosystem. For the past 7 years, my job at the Linux Foundation has allowed me to be able to work directly with a large number of companies to help them learn what it is to be an integral part of the community, which enables the system as a whole to be stronger and grow together.

In my many years on the TAB, I have been involved in the Linux Driver statement, the GPLv3 statement, the Code of Conflict work, the Linux kernel Enforcement Statement, and most recently, the Code of Conduct work and creation of the Code of Conduct committee. Many years ago I also helped negotiate the current situation with the UEFI group, which allows individual Linux kernel developers to participate in the creation of the UEFI and ACPI specifications so that Linux will work properly on those types of systems.

If I am reelected to the TAB, I will continue to work on these types of issues, helping bridge the gap that occurs at times between the Linux community and companies that rely on Linux. For it is only by working together that Linux can continue to succeed.

## Jonathan Corbet

I'm the lead editor of LWN.net and the maintainer of the kernel's documentation "subsystem". Regardless of what I'm working on, my role in the kernel community (and beyond) seems to be focused on ensuring that we all know what we're up to. As part of that role, I am running to be re-elected to the Linux Foundation's Technical Advisory Board.

Like many in the TAB, I put a lot of effort during the last couple of years into the creation and adoption of the kernel's code of conduct. Other

areas of activity have included trying to improve the technical content at LF events, the management of the Linux Plumbers Conference, mentorship of applicants to the Community Bridge program, and the essential task of keeping spam off the tech-board list.

I remain concerned that the Linux Foundation appears to be less than fully transparent to the community, and that it fails to take full advantage of resources like the TAB when conceiving and executing its programs. This, I believe, is more a result of too much work and a lack of prioritization than any sign of a murky agenda, but I have been pushing for improvement in that area and intend to continue to do so. The LF and the TAB are valuable resources for our community; I think we can make them both better yet.

## Ted Ts'o

I've worked on the Linux Kernel since 1991, and have worked on the tty subsystem, serial driver, real-time linux, ext2/3/4 and e2fsprogs. I served on the board of the Free Standards Group (one of the predecessor organizations to the Linux Foundations), as well as Usenix, and have served on the program committee of many conferences including Usenix ATC, FAST, Vault, LinuxCon, and the Linux Kernel/Maintainer's Summit.

If I am re-elected to the TAB, I'd like to work with the various conferences and workshops to better balance the technical work that gets done at these events, so that members of our community can meet with the people they need to meet, in a product setting, without certain conferences --- such as the Linux Plumbers Conference --- becoming heavily oversubscribed and over-crowded. In my opinion, this means we need to create or strengthen a strong technical conference which meets in the first half the year, which can serve as a Linux Systems Conference as vital and as exciting as the LPC is in the second half of the year. Clearly, we have a lot more technical work that we would like to do that can be accommodated by having a single really great conference once a year!

I am also interested in helping to reinvigorate the Linux Foundation's Core Infrastructure Initiative (CII). No, it's not completely dead, in that even in 2019, it's still funding some great work, but it certainly has the appearance of "Pining for the Fjords". We need to improve its fund-raising capacity, remove cobwebs from its web site,

and make sure it can be more responsive to proposals sent to it. While this isn't a TAB function, I think there are opportunities for the TAB as a body, and for individual TAB members, to help the CII be as successful as it was when it first started.

## Christian Brauner

Hey, I'm Christian. I've been involved in the container and namespace area of the kernel which spans across multiple subsystems for some time. I maintain the Android binderfs filesystem and the new pidfd api while being active in various other areas of the kernel. I also I maintain several large userspace projects and co-organized a few conferences over the years including this year's All Systems Go in Berlin and the container's microconference at the Linux Plumbers conference the last couple of years.

I constantly try to lower the barrier for getting into kernel development, supervising Linux-focussed bachelor theses and functioning as a mentor.

Even though it's slightly scary, stepping up for TAB nomination to help maintain, defend, and grow Linux and especially the community around it is a great way of giving back to a project that has proved invaluable not just to me personally but to a great deal of people and companies. The last couple of years I've worked together with various companies across the industry focusing on container related technologies and security. Serving on the TAB I intend to use this experience. I also want to grow the community by helping with projects and programs such as CommunityBridge that try to bring in new developers and ideas which is vital to every open source project.

I also hope that stepping up for TAB nomination will encourage more people to do so in the future and I thank everyone who encouraged me to do so. :)

## Sasha Levin

While it is true that many eyeballs make all bugs shallow, we are short on eyeballs. Our current development methodology doesn't work well when we don't have enough developers reviewing the code: it takes longer for code to be reviewed and merged upstream, it allows more bugs to sneak into the upstream kernel, and even more bugs into stable kernels - which our users rely on. The kernel sees continued growth year after year, and

extensive efforts are made to introduce "new blood", but I believe it is not enough: the way forward is not only to get more eyeballs in the game, but also to enable our existing eyeballs to be even more effective and to allow them to focus on what matters most - the code.

If elected, I would work to promote and encourage LF projects and initiatives that make our existing developers more effective:

- Better kernel infrastructure, such as the work being done on [lore.kernel.org](https://lore.kernel.org) or [pgpkeys.git](https://pgpkeys.git).
- Better testing infrastructure, such as the recently founded kernelci project.
- New initiatives to reduce developer overhead, such as AUTOSEL or the pull-tracker bot.
- Great conferences: LPC is a great tool to help developers, but right now it's at capacity and we need to find ways to address that.

In short, as a TAB member I would like to focus more on the day to day work we all do, and work with the the Linux Foundation to make it a more hospitable home for us - Linux Kernel developers.

About me: I maintain the stable/LTS kernel trees and liblockdep. I'm currently employed by Microsoft where I maintain the internal kernel tree for our various products, maintain the upstream Hyper-V subsystem, support developers making the switch from Windows to Linux, and advise on various technical topics not directly related to the kernel.

## Wolfram Sang

I am hacking on the Linux Kernel since 2008 mostly in the embedded space and maintain the I2C subsystem since 2012. I have spoken at various conferences around the globe about technical and workflow topics ever since. I care for a vibrant and healthy community.

I have not been on the TAB before. I'd like to figure out for myself which possibilities it offers to keep the Linux community going strong. I am currently most concerned about the lack of maintainers and reviewers. I'd like to see if this is a place which can spark initiatives here and there.

Also, while I see the TAB has become more transparent and visible in the last two years, I think there is more potential there. I want to contribute to that, too.

I work as a consultant, so views of an individual developer are known to me as well as views of larger companies. I'd call myself an experienced Kernel developer, but I haven't been around since the beginning. I'd like to bring this mix to the table of the TAB.