ABSTRACT

Increase your visibility in a tech community by giving a tech talk! You might want to educate, attract talent to your organization, or give back to the tech community. Join us in this exploratory workshop and discover what could make a great tech talk for you. Leave the room with a title for your tech talk, an abstract and bags of inspiration!

(Amerz, 2015). We hope to approach this from the speakers’ side by encouraging more women to deliver technical talks, at each stage of their careers. One of the main hurdles for first time speakers is finding a topic to talk about (Mann, 2014). This can be a challenging decision for seasoned presenters as well (Thompson, 2012). Imposter syndrome adds to this, and perceived lack of expertise, especially for people in early stages of industry and academia, can prevent them from taking the plunge. After identifying a good topic, commitment to deliver it is the next challenge. This is when people need more encouragement to commit to the next steps (Mayi, 2016).

AIMS

We will help attendees delve deeper into all their areas of knowledge and interest. Through peer-coaching and hands on exercises, we will help them find a topic they are confident and passionate about, discover new and unique angles on it, and commit to deliver it in the near future.

INTRODUCTION

The lack of female and minority representation in speakers at technical conferences is well-known (Danziger, 2016). This trickles down into meet-ups and tech events through industry and academia. Conferences, such as Grace Hopper, and different initiatives that can provide female speakers lists, such as the 50/50 Pledge, have made significant progress in balancing the conferences themselves
OUTCOMES/CONCLUSION
By the end of the workshop we expect that the participants will:

- Have a tech talk topic (title and abstract) that they feel passionate about.
- Have identified target audience and a venue to present their tech talk.
- Commit to a timeline for delivering the talk.
- Discover areas of expertise and interest that they might not otherwise consider.

We want the people in the room to feel empowered to shift the balance for diverse speakers at technical events.

PARTICIPATION STATEMENT
All facilitators will gladly attend the conference and served on the workshop if accepted.

REFERENCES/BIBLIOGRAPHY


Mitchell, O. 2010. How to write a presentation title that gets people flocking to your session. Speaking about Presenting. [Online]. https://tinyurl.com/2unegc7