2022
Annual Review
60% of IT hiring managers surveyed say applicants with IT certifications are significantly more likely to be reviewed.
- Pearson VUE Value of IT Certification Report 2021

77% of those who were certified received a pay increase within 6 months.
- Pearson VUE Value of IT Certification Report 2021

The certifications that gained the most value over the past three months in the sysadmin space were all Linux-related: LPIC-2, LPIC-3, and Red Hat Certified Systems Administrator.
- Foote Research Group IT Skill & Pay Data Trends 2021

80% of employers now report that they provide online training courses for employees to learn open source software.
- Open Source Jobs Report 2020

63% feel that IT certification significantly increases employee work efficiency.
- Pearson VUE Value of IT Certification Report 2021

60% 63%

94% of decision makers worldwide said certified team members provide added value above and beyond the cost of certification.
- Pearson VUE Value of IT Certification Employer Report 2021

77% 94%

80%

60%
Welcome to the 2022 Annual Review for the Linux Professional Institute (LPI). This review represents a snapshot of our activities and accomplishments as we, the LPI community, volunteers, partners, and staff, cooperate and collaborate in furthering our shared interest in LPI’s mission to “promote the use of open source by supporting the people who work with it”.

As the 2022 Annual General Meeting (AGM) date approaches, we’re completing our first year with a full complement of Board members who were solely elected by LPI certification holders that have chosen to become formal Members. Things seem to be going well and, during this year’s AGM, Members will be electing three board positions to replace those directors whose term is ending.

We’re also continuing the development of the Essentials program with the release of the Web Development Essentials certificate and Learning Materials. Expect to see more Essentials level topics being released soon, too.

As always, there are numerous volunteer and partnering programs available to anyone interested in using, teaching, or advocating for the adoption of open source. If you have a local project with goals that are compatible with LPI’s missions and code of ethics, reach out and let us know. Perhaps we can help.

It takes the considerable efforts of the dedicated staff and Board members at LPI, as well as many exceptional volunteers from around the world, to create and maintain the high quality, utility, and availability of our programs. On behalf of everyone that you have helped, thank you.

Thanks for reading this review and feel free to let us know how we’re doing. Take care,

G. Matthew Rice
Executive Director
Linux Professional Institute
Table of Contents

08  LPI and Peopleing
10  Certifications
12  Web Development Essentials
13  WDE Learning Materials
14  Learning Materials
16  Online Exams
17  find.lpi.org
18  Partnership
19  Linux Trainers
20  Volunteer Projects
22  Events
23  Grant Programs
24  Inclusivity
26  Marketing and Social Media
28  Open Source Software Used at LPI
30  Membership
32  Board of Directors in 2021
36  History of LPI
Turning passion into profession for more than 20 years

Linux Professional Institute (LPI) is committed to addressing the needs of the professionals, community members, and users who have turned to open source technologies as the basis for their day-to-day lives. LPI seeks to support those who seek employment, education, and entrepreneurship working with open source technologies.

LPI sets itself apart from most IT certifications by emphasizing the needs of the people of open source. Committed to our members and community, we uphold these values by striving:

• **Accessible** by making our exams available around the world, in multiple languages, at prices adjusted to the relative ability to pay in different countries. Early 2022 saw the cost of LPI exams drop in 145 regions, fitted to the Inequality-adjusted Human Development Index. This helps improve accessibility in IT careers around the world, for the regions that need it most.

• **Neutral** regarding Linux vendors, distributions, and methods of training. This extends to our international projects and initiatives in 2021. LPI helped two young professionals explore cutting-edge open source technologies like cryptocurrency and NFTs, inviting community members to share their own thoughts and think critically on related issues.

• **Relevant** by listening to our global community. Our certification programs are continually being redesigned in order to meet the needs of open source professionals. In 2021 - 2022, LPI re-released the highest-level, vendor-neutral Linux certification available, Learning Materials and Certification for Web Development Essentials were released and translated into multiple languages, creating a path to study and certify skills in an increasingly relevant area of software development.

In 2021, our commitment to supporting the people of open source took the form of a new internal team, as Community and Membership Services were expanded into “Peopling.”

“Peopling” means dedication to researching, planning, and implementing new projects to better support you, a valuable member of the open source community. The Peopling team currently focuses on the five initiatives:

• **Linux Clubs**: Facilitating open source learning within communities and schools.

• **Member Services**: Supporting the journey of LPI members from open source aficionados to well-rounded, globally-minded business professionals.

• **Incentives**: Encouraging the success of open source businesses, organizations, and projects.

• **Champions**: Developing international volunteers, advocates, and ambassadors as international representatives to promote open source.

• **Know-Your-Community**: Researching and implementing projects that support the needs of open source users around the world.

We look forward to this next stage of LPI and the new achievements “Peopling” can bring to professionals and community members.

“Thanks to LPI I was able to come closer to the community and contribute, so that communication was not a barrier between knowledge and the public in Brazil, especially those starting their careers in ICT.”

Read her story ...

Elayne Lemos, Brazil
DevOps Specialist at Sysvale
Certifications

Linux and open source certifications provide a tangible measurement to employers of knowledge and capability, allowing professionals to stand out against other job applicants and receive fair compensation for their valuable skill sets. For self-employed Linux and open source professionals, certification clearly signals knowledge and professionalism to clients. Becoming certified can improve upon existing skills and create a more thorough understanding of Linux. Linux Professional Institute offers vendor-neutral Linux certification, BSD certification, and open source certification.

**Linux Professional Institute Certifications**

- Virtualization and Containerization
- High Availability and Storage Clusters
- Mixed Environments

**Professional Certification Track**

- Educational Certificates
  - Open Technology
  - New Essentials Certificates

New Essentials certificates are in development. Objective and exam planning has begun for Security Essentials and IoT Essentials.

In 2021 and 2022, Linux Professional Institute (LPI) LPIC-3 and DevOps certifications were made available in Japanese. LPI will continue to translate exams in 2022, continuing our goal of supporting the people who work with open source software around the world.

**LPIC-3 Version 3.0**

In 2021, Linux Professional Institute (LPI) updated the entire LPIC-3 certification track to version 3.0. Beta testing began and finalized in late Q1, with all LPI-3 exams undergoing significant changes.

Updates to LPIC-300 and LPIC-303 were completed in Q2 of 2021, with translations available in English and Japanese. LPIC-305 (Virtualization and Containerization) and LPIC-306 (High Availability and Storage Clusters), are new exams which replaced LPIC-304 (Virtualization and High Availability). The update allows exam candidates to become certified in new areas of cutting-edge Linux technologies, with exam objectives grouped into more closely-related certifications for Linux skill specialization and mastery.

Old exam versions remained available for six months after the release their newer version to allow preparing candidates to transition gradually to new exam objectives.

For more information on recent updates to LPIC-3, visit: [https://www.lpi.org/LPIC-3-version-3-update](https://www.lpi.org/LPIC-3-version-3-update)

**Translations**

In 2021 and 2022, Linux Professional Institute (LPI) LPIC-3 and DevOps certifications were made available in Japanese. LPI will continue to translate exams in 2022, continuing our goal of supporting the people who work with open source software around the world.

"Thanks to the localization process I got to learn a lot more about command line tools and I’ve even incorporated some of this new knowledge to my other jobs.”

**Read her story...**

Julie Vidile, France
Ghostwriter and Copywriter; Learning Materials Author and Translator
WDE Learning Materials

Discover the Learning Materials

Web Development Essentials (WDE) Learning Materials were released prior to the WDE exam, giving exam candidates not only the opportunity to showcase their skills in a relevant and accessible field of computer technology, but the necessary study materials to learn the knowledge to do so. WDE Learning Materials are more than preparation for an LPI exam: They are a resource that opens the doors to the fundamentals of software development, and therefore computer science, to everyone.

The release of WDE Learning Materials and their translation into six languages within a few months of their initial launch is a testament not only to the mission of LPI, but to the broader philosophy of open source: Giving everyone access to and mastery of fields of IT is possible through open knowledge and education.


Linux Professional Institute released its latest exam in the Essentials series, Web Development Essentials (WDE), in Q1 of 2022. While LPI exams have previously focused on fields such as System Administration, Security and Virtualization, WDE steps forward to engage an entire new community. Because web development is accessible as a first step into computing for non-technical audiences, this exam supports not only the open source community by attracting new members, but anyone interested in learning more about the field of technology.

Software development is the major field in computer science next to system administration, and for many, languages used in web development and the WDE exams (such as HTML, JavaScript, and CSS) are the first forays into the industry's living the foundation for greater knowledge of programming. As the fields of software development merge more and more with classical knowledge in IT software, becomes more important in all areas of our daily lives. Understanding the basis of WDE is relevant, not only to enter the world of professional computing, but to understand the Internet-related tools and technology that accompany you wherever you go in the world. WDE allows LPI to cover more exam territory than ever before, stepping out toward a comprehensive coverage of the field of open source ICT.

Exam topics
031: Software Development and Web Technologies
032: HTML, Document Markup
033: CSS Content Styling
034: Javascript Programming
035: Node.js Server Programming

Exam code: 030-100 (Version 1.0)
Prerequisites: None, anyone can take the exam
Exam format: 40 questions/60 minutes
Validity period: Lifetime
More information: https://lpi.org

"Modern applications are usually delivered on the Web. That is why LPI decided to teach and test software development with a focus on Web technologies. That is also why we have chosen JavaScript as the programming language: It is the common denominator all Web applications use."

— Fabian Thorns, Director of Product Development

“See these resources not only as instruments for professional development, but as key knowledge in a world increasingly permeated by technology.”

Read his story...

Luciano Siqueira, Brazil
Author and Teacher in the field of IT Training and part of the LPI’s Learning Portal Team
Learning Materials

Linux Professional Institute’s Learning Materials break down objectives from LPI certification exams into 1-2 hour lessons. Each lesson includes relevant assignments and an answer guide. The format of LPI’s Learning Materials easily translates to classroom environments and provides structure for independent students.

Thanks to the efforts of more than 60 professionals from all over the world, free Learning Materials were made available for Linux Essentials, Web Development Essentials, and the entirety of the LPIC-1 certification. Further Learning Materials are currently in development for other certifications.

The Learning Materials are available online at https://learning.lpi.org/.

The Learning Materials for Linux Essentials have been translated into 11 languages so far: 2021 and 2022 saw the additions of Learning Materials in Ukrainian, Bosnian/Croatian, and Greek, with previous translations in German, Spanish, French, Italian, Japanese, Hungarian, Polish, and Portuguese. Additional translations are currently in development. Our focus on making the fundamentals of Linux freely accessible in as many languages as possible has improved international access to an education in open source.

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Videos

Videos to supplement the LPI Learning Materials are currently in development. These videos will be freely available on learning.lpi.org. Initial content will follow lessons provided from Linux Essentials in English.
Online Exams

Linux Professional Institute (LPI) now offers the complete LPIC-3 exam track and Web Development Essentials online via the Pearson VUE OnVUE testing system. Linux Essentials, LPIC-1 (101 and 102), and LPIC-2 (201 and 202) exams are also available. All exams can be taken in English and Japanese online, while Linux Essentials and LPIC-1 have been translated into additional languages.

LPI exams have traditionally been held physically on-site, and therefore are dependent on external factors and the ability of candidates to travel. With online proctoring, candidates can write their exams at home or in the office to get certified.

LPI partners can schedule their exams at a test center or online. During the online exam, a live proctor monitors candidates through the webcam on their workstations to provide a secure exam experience.

For more information, visit: https://www.lpi.org/online-testing

In 2021, Linux Professional Institute (LPI) implemented find.lpi.org to help open source professionals and organizations browse the global network of LPI partners. Community members will easily find relevant organizations for training and related needs. The site will offer filters for geographic location, language, course delivery method, exam topics, and terms chosen by the user. This tool also helps celebrate LPI partners and their role in supporting open source.

Further developments will include the ability to find LPI community members, helping employers find certified open source professionals who are looking for new opportunities.

You can test find.lpi.org for yourself by following one of the partner categories linked below:
Linux Trainers

Collaborating with LPI in writing completely free educational material was undoubtedly a great way to put into practice what I learned during my certification journey, while allowing me to further hone my Linux skills.

Read his story...

Marco Colombo, Italy
System Administrator and Protocol Manager,
Learning Materials Author and Translator

For more information on the prerequisites for both stages of our Trainer Partnership, and how you can apply, visit us at https://www.lpi.org/become-trainer

Linux Professional Institute (LPI) actively supports the educators who help cultivate and guide our FOSS community. Linux Trainers can register first through their partner organization, and then have the option of applying to become an LPI approved trainer.

Registered Trainer
Trainee who have been registered through their partner organization

Approved Trainer
Trainees approved by Linux Professional Institute

• Access to all member benefits
• Access to updates about certifications and materials
• Use of LPI Approved Trainer logo
• Welcome letter (includes link to downloadable certificate)
• Discounts available for their students
• Eligible to join the Academic Advisory Committee (AAC or AT specific)

"Collaborating with LPI in writing completely free educational material was undoubtedly a great way to put into practice what I learned during my certification journey, while allowing me to further hone my Linux skills."

Read his story...
Volunteer Programs

Authors
Volunteer authors from many different regions of the world share their open source success stories, experiences, and tips with the readers of the LPI blog at https://www.lpi.org/blog.

Booth Buddies
Our Booth Buddies act as important representatives of LPI and the Linux community. Booth volunteers provide assistance and support at community events. To help at community events, contact us at volunteer@lpi.org.

Translators
LPI’s translations are made possible through international volunteers. In 2022, thanks to community support, our website content was made available in seven languages. Our exams can now be taken in English, German, Japanese, Portuguese (Brazilian), Chinese, Dutch, and Spanish.

Translations are required for website content, technical articles, brochures, social media, our blog, news, and events. If you are interested in becoming a contributor, contact us at volunteer@lpi.org.

Exam Development Team Members
The exam development team is always looking for additional help in creating, reviewing, and translating the exam content to ensure that questions are correct, current, and fair. Your contributions can help challenge and improve the experience of future Linux users taking our exam.

Contact us at volunteer@lpi.org to become involved in the future of LPI certification.

Learning Materials Team Members
Learning Materials are continuously expanded and updated by a worldwide community of Linux and open-source users. Volunteers are needed to help author, review, and translate the Learning Materials.

Contact us at learning@lpi.org to help improve freely available education in Linux.

Committee Members
LPI has a variety of committees that give community members the opportunity to collaborate on projects with like-minded individuals and provide LPI with important feedback and guidance. Committee members have the opportunity to propose new projects that can be supported financially or developmentally by LPI.

For more information on how you can become involved, visit https://www.lpi.org/committees.

Many volunteers around the world are involved with the Linux Professional Institute. They are what makes LPI strong and firmly rooted in the community.
Throughout 2021, LPI continued to expand its engagement with developers in the FOSS community through events. LPI has experienced tremendous growth in virtual event hosting and partnership. Some successes from 2021-2022 include:

- In 2021, LPI extended our event reach to Europe, the Middle East, and Africa (EMEA) and Asia-Pacific (APAC).

Grant Programs

Employability Program

The Linux Professional Institute (LPI) Employability Program is designed to enable access to training, certification, and employment opportunities to candidates in need who are developing careers in open source, through the network of LPI Partners.

The LPI Employability Program:
- Improves employability globally through five training partners around the world – and counting!
- Lowers financial barriers to career-based education in communities from developing regions
- Supports community efforts in building knowledge and skills capacities
- Attracts employers to partner training organizations and improves their talent pool
- Helps communities see Partners as key supporters of development efforts in their region

General Grants

LPI provides General Grants for projects that we evaluate as aligning with LPI’s core mission: encouraging the use of open source by supporting the people who work with it. Examples include projects for open source software development and support for open source community activities.

Entrepreneur Program

Currently in development, the LPI Entrepreneur Program is designed to match up candidates’ knowledge and skills (i.e., IT knowledge, business experience, or project management) with entrepreneurial models and template that can transform their professional expertise into open source organizations and LPI Solution Providers.
In 2022, LPI participated in the International Girls in ICT Day. This day is in the United Nations official calendar and is organized by its agency, the International Telecommunications Union (ITU). Because LPI shares its work with its partners and the FOSS community, on April 28th we celebrated this day with women from Brazil, Mexico, Peru, Honduras, Ecuador, Costa Rica, and Portugal, where LPI was invited by the Superior Technical Institute of the University of Lisbon to join their Heroine’s Journey initiative.

After the event, we have come up with a growing list of initiatives LPI wants to get involved in, such as actively working with our communities, featuring events where inclusion is the main theme, and bringing inclusion into all events in which we participate. We also want to make our People Portal as inclusive as possible, working with partners with inclusive hiring programs, people management, and benefits. Last but not least, we want to work with our educational partners to promote free, inclusive, and open education. We are talking to the University of Lisbon to create Heroine’s Journeys based on our Essentials Learning Materials.

On January 1, 2022, LPI implemented global price changes to better reflect the organization’s mission and commitment to social responsibility. In addition to streamlining its number of price tiers from 14 to 4, we also adjusted exam prices to better reflect global economic realities. Basing our prices on the United Nations Development Program’s Inequality-Adjusted Human Development Index (IHDI), prices were nominally increased in 51 countries and territories but were decreased—often substantially—in 145. The largest decreases were in BRICS and developing economies (42% in South Africa, 56% in India, 25% in Brazil).

Most of the modest price increases were due to consolidation of currency policy:

- Japanese exam prices use JPY
- The Euro-zone uses EUR
- All others use the local equivalent of USD

The price changes followed a year-long review of LPI’s pricing structure, incorporating feedback from staff, partners, and the broader community.

The IHDI measures countries and territories based not only on their relative economic strength, but also on local levels of income inequality.

These pricing changes have been welcomed by partners and signal a commitment to make LPI programs more accessible worldwide.

“Your learning is the best investment that you can ever make in your career.”

Read his story ...
Linux Professional Institute has shifted marketing from paid promotions to organic growth. This means creating content that is more relevant, helpful, and entertaining for open-source communities.

With the team of authors, LPI marketing published more than 70 blog posts and news articles that got over 100,000 page views in 2021. The posting that received the most views was "Eleven reasons to switch from Windows to Linux", published on the release day of Windows 11:

https://www.lpi.org/blog/2021/10/05/eleven-reasons-switch-windows-linux

The Editorial Board meets monthly. A blog posting team collects ideas about stories that involve LPI’s partners in our communications to give them a stage. In 2022 partners will be informed about upcoming topics on Mattermost and with the partner newsletter and will be encouraged to participate:

https://twitter.com/lpiconnect
https://www.facebook.com/LPIConnect
https://www.linkedin.com/company/linux-professional-institute/
https://www.instagram.com/lpi_org/

More than 1K new subscribers on YouTube

Launched @LPIEurope channels as part of a global social media strategy

2,033,946 pageviews on lpi.org

Continued improving the design and UX of the lpi.org website

Published more than 70+ blog and news articles on lpi.org

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12,000+ Followers (+ 20%)

143,000+ Likes (- 1.4%)

63,000+ Followers (+ 26%)

3,000+ Subscribers (+ 57%)

Google Ads: 14,005,925 impressions, 41,871 clicks, 2,341 conversions

Ad Grants: 836,363 impressions, 68,181 clicks, 4,102 conversions

Month Posts
January 59
February 73
March 95
April 83
May 67
June 78
July 80
August 82
September 94
October 99
November 81
December 64

In 2021 Linux Professional Institute published 287 posts on Facebook, 291 posts on Twitter, 396 posts on LinkedIn, and 81 posts on Instagram.
Open Source Software Used at LPI

**Discourse**

**Odoo**
ERP platform that LPI operations rely on.

**Bluespice**
A derivative of MediaWiki, the basis of Wikipedia. Wiki platform used at LPI to run our intranet operatives.

**Weblate**
Used for internal infrastructure and tools development.

**OBS Software**
Streams meetings and webinars on platforms such as Facebook and YouTube.

**MariaDB**
Open source database management with options for high availability and cloud support.

**GitLab**
An open source DevOps platform. Used for projects completed by our Product Development team.

**Nextcloud**
Cloud storage. Securely share documents with your team.

**Debian**
A distribution of Linux OS used throughout the internal infrastructure at LPI.

**OpenVPN**
Secure Virtual Private Network software.

**Mattermost**
Chat client software for internal and partner communication.

"The common denominator here is that when all is said and done, we’re simply folks eager to share our passion and our competence with the community."

**Mailman**
Manages electronic mail discussion and e-newsletter lists.

**Linpad**
Questionnaire and survey builder.

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"The common denominator here is that when all is said and done, we’re simply folks eager to share our passion and our competence with the community."

Read his story... Nicolas Kovacs, France Linux & Free Software Author & Trainer, Microlinux Founder and part of the LPI’s Learning Portal Team.
The first issue of my #LPIMemberJourney diary was issued on January 28th, 2021. It has been a great ride altogether.

Simone "Simo" Bertulli, Italy
Cyber Security Expert and a Linux Enterprise Specialist

Interested in Membership?

join the huddle!

The Membership Program

While studying for a new certification is recommended to keep skills up-to-date on the latest open source technologies, members now also have the option of accruing Professional Development Units (PDUs) as an alternative way to maintain the active status of their certification. This allows members to use work and volunteer experience as proof of an understanding of recent changes and additions to Linux. Examples include publishing FOSS content, contributing to community projects, or working as an open-source educator.

Additional benefits of the Membership Program include:

- Discounts on LPI exams.
- Membership certificate and usage of the LPI Membership logo for use online and in print.
- Subsidies for training materials, software, and hardware.
- Access to exclusive articles and webinars covering topics in technology and soft skills.

To learn more about our LPI Membership Program, visit: https://www.lpi.org/member.
Jon “maddog” Hall

Jon “maddog” Hall is the Chairman of the Board of the Linux Professional Institute. Since 1969, Hall has been a programmer, systems designer, systems administrator, product manager, technical marketing manager, author, and educator currently working as an independent consultant.

Hall helped formulate some of the concepts of LPI and donated personal money to allow the first 200 tests to be administered for psychometric purposes. He has traveled the world speaking on the benefits of open source software. Hall received his BS in Commerce and Engineering from Drexel University, and his MSCS from RPI.

VM (Vicky) Brasseur

VM (aka Vicky) is a corporate strategist specializing in free and open source software in the business. She is the author of “Forge Your Future with Open Source” the first and only book to detail how individuals can contribute to free and open source software projects.

Vicky has been a moderator and author for opensource.com, an author for Linux Journal and FOSSlife, the Vice President of the Open Source Initiative, and is a frequent and popular speaker at open source conferences. She is the proud winner of the Perl White Camel Award (2014), the O’Reilly Open Source Award (2016), and two Opensource.com Moderator’s Choice Awards (2018, 2019).

Christopher (Duffy) Fron

Duffy Fron is a business leader with over 20 years of experience in the high tech and telecommunications industries. Duffy is known for turning around underperforming businesses and growing ecosystems in emerging markets.

Duffy holds a Master of Business Administration from Arizona State University and a Master of International Management from the Thunderbird School of Global Management. He spent 18 years in marketing leadership roles at IBM, several years leading sales teams in the telecommunications sector, and is currently the Chief Commercial Officer at Asponte Technology.

Dorothy Gordon

Dorothy is the current Chair of the Inter-Governmental Council for UNESCO’s Information for All Programme. She is a member of the Global Partnership on Artificial Intelligence expert working group on innovation and commercialization. Previously she served on the Global Commission on Internet Governance and worked for many years as a manager with the United Nations Development Programme.

As the founding Director-General of the Ghana-India Kofi Annan Centre of Excellence in ICT, she ensured that the backend systems ran exclusively on open source technology.

Klaus Knopper

Klaus Knopper is an Electrical Engineer with a history of three decades of Unix (different brands) and especially Linux system administration and developer of customized Linux-based operating systems, passionate hardware/software tinkers.

He is a regular professor for Software Engineering, IT Security and Information in the programs of Business Informatics / Information Management (Bachelor + Master) in the faculty of Business Economics and Vice President for Digitalization at the University of Applied Sciences Kaiserslautern / Germany. He is also self-employed software developer and consultant.
Prof. Uirá Ribeiro is a Senior C-Level Executive with solid Information Technology background, Software Developer and Internet Architect Engineer. As an educator, he has reached the top, as headmaster of a Brazilian University for more than 15 years. He holds a Master in Informatics and Bachelor in Data Processing, among other fifteen IT certifications. He is the author of 11 books, published in English, Portuguese, Spanish and Italian, as an LPI Publishing Partner. CEO and founder of Linux Certification Edutech, for 15 years he has taught Linux online classes, with more than 14,000 certified students.

Torsten Scheck works as a software engineer for SAP, a market leader in enterprise application software. As member of the SAP HANA core team, he is in charge of the toolchain for an innovative, large-scale C++ development environment on Linux. He drives regional LUG activities and spreads the word through articles and talks. He holds a degree in Computer Engineering from the University of Cooperative Education Mosbach and an MSc Management from the University of Glamorgan Business School.

Bryan J Smith’s enterprise experience has focused on open source-based infrastructure in large-scale (10K+ instance) data centers. His work in the Americas includes some of the first and largest OOS storage, VDI, and related IaaS, PaaS, and DevOps solutions on behalf of several industry leaders.

Mark Phillips is an engineer with 40 years in Defense and Aerospace spanning Australia and the US. He has consulted in multiple countries including France, UK, Singapore, Canada, Sweden, and Germany. Mark is an Engineering Fellow at Raytheon Missiles and Defense mentoring professionals and conducting fundamental and applied research into Defense and Aerospace. Mark has a Bachelor of Electrical Engineering (Honours) from the University of New South Wales, a Master’s in Engineering (Modelling and simulation) from Old Dominion University and a PhD candidate in Engineering Management at Old Dominion University.

Thiago Sobral works with Linux, Free, and Open Source software since 1998. He has worked with infrastructure to applications covering networks, security and all the issues that come up in customer environments and is a former employee of Conectiva, Red Hat and SUSE. He is part of the Digital Law Commission in Sao Paulo, was a lecturer and trainer created FOSYS events and participated in hundreds. Today he is Global Offering Manager for Open Source at IBM. He is heavily involved in various communities around the world and has a holistic view of all the needs of the communities, businesses, professionals and early career developers.
Back in 1998, Apple had released the iMac and Microsoft had withdrawn. Linux was still a force on server computers, but Linux was rapidly becoming mature and common, less attention had been paid to the world would be able to use it once understanding its benefits.

In October 1998, Microsoft trainer Dan York published in the Linux Gazette an article calling for a community Linux certification program, resulting in an active community discussion group. Meanwhile, a separate discussion led by Evan Leibovitch at the Canadian Linux Users Exchange discussion group. Meanwhile, a separate discussion led by Evan Leibovitch at the Canadian Linux Users Exchange was promoting a similar initiative. Jon “maddog” Hall knew that year, two separate community efforts were tracking 1400 participants. The agreed objective was to take a different path from most IT certifications of the day by being:

- Non-profit
- Neutral with regard to vendors, open source operating systems, and software distributions
- Opposed to using certification as a tool to sell training
- Psychometrically validated
- Multilingual and globally accessible

By the spring of 1999, the certification effort caught building momentum to try to address one of the perceived deep gaps in Linux support: If a manager be able to find qualified people to install, maintain, and support it? While software development and commercial sale of Linux were becoming mature and common, less attention had been paid to the world would be able to use it once understanding its benefits.

The慧恩特oration of Benoy Tamang at Linux and became LPI’s first corporate sponsor. Other developers, distributors and Linux vendors SUSE and TurboLinux, came on board soon after. With a structure and preliminary funding in place, a team needed to be formed Dan and Evan were joined by community members Charles “Scudder” Mead and Tom Peters. Rounding out the initial team was Scott Murray, a psychometrician who would ensure that the effort’s exams could be scientifically validated and upheld a high standard of quality.
History

from the very start. These five were the original incorporators of LPI. The non-profit was incorporated in the province of New Brunswick, Canada, because it was one of the few jurisdictions that allowed virtual board meetings in 1999, and because Canada was considered to be politically neutral.

After the first Level 1 exams were launched in 2000, followed by Level 2 in 2001, LPI gained international acceptance and community support. In November 2003, LPI hosted more than 500 people at its exam lab at LinuxWorld Hong Kong, the largest of many such events we have held. Level 3, focusing on enterprise-level systems, followed in 2007. LPI launched the introductory Linux Essentials program in 2012 and DevOps certification in 2017. Together with the BSD Certification Group, in 2019 we launched the BSD Specialist program. In 2019 we introduced learning.lpi.org, a portal for learning materials that offered the first in a series of free study guides aimed at assisting students and trainers alike.

Over time, the LPI network of partners has expanded in both numbers and geographic reach. And last year (2020) we formalized a relationship with Network Development Group (NDG) that had made LPI programs more available to the thousands of institutions and millions of students in the Cisco Networking Academy.

For its 20th anniversary in 2019, the LPI Board introduced membership, as part of a substantial change in the organization’s governance and direction. This change has enabled LPI-certified individuals to become Members of LPI elect its Board, and help shape its direction. Our first-ever Board election was held at its Annual General Meeting in June 2021 (held virtually because of the pandemic). As part of governance changes, LPI also introduced a Code of Ethics and committed to promoting professional conduct and personal development within its community of certified open source practitioners.

As it passes through the worst of the COVID years, now offering at-home certification exams, LPI’s history continues to be written. New partnerships, certification programs, languages, accessibility initiatives, community outreach initiatives, and free training materials are in the works. Online portals, introduced in 2022, have simplified the way both LPI partners and exam candidates can work with us.

All of us at LPI want to thank everyone who has helped it grow from a couple of mailing lists into the world’s largest open source skills certification program. Special recognition is due to the companies Linuxcare and Starnix for keeping Dan and Evan on their payrolls while they worked on LPI during its early formation: Starnix, now headed by Kevin Ganderen, continues to provide IT services to LPI.

Thank you.