



TPF: Google Summer of Code

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Google is once again running the Google Summer of Code, now in its second year. This excellent program is Google’s way of supporting open source by sponsoring the equivalent of summer internships for open source projects. The end results are some working code that adds a feature or solves a problem for an open source project and hopefully a young coder who will continue using and supporting open source projects.

This year, The Perl Foundation is the mentoring organization for five projects. You can follow the progress of these projects on the official project blog at <http://perlsoc2006.blogspot.com/>. At the end of a successful project, the student will have received a total \$4,500 US and the mentoring organization receives \$500 US. And, of course, there is some more useful code out there for all of us.

Perl 5 Parser and Perl 6 Output

Student: Sage LaTorra
Mentor: Larry Wall

This project seeks to continue Larry Wall’s work on adapting the Perl 5 parser to produce abstract syntax trees, with an eventual application to Perl 6 output. This should produce a tool that will make Perl 5 to Perl 6 conversion easier and it will enhance the Perl environment, facilitating future development.

Perl 6 DBI Module

Student: Szilakszi Balint
Mentor: Tim Bunce

This project aims to rewrite Perl 5’s DBI module in Perl 6, retaining the API, while radically redesigning

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and refactoring the internals to take advantage of Perl 6’s capabilities. The new module would be a drop-in replacement in Perl 6 for the Perl 5 DBI module and will also help Pugs development and future DBI development.

POE 1.0 Milestone

Student: Benjamin Smith
Mentor: Rocco Caputo

The primary goal of this project is to bring the POE framework to version 1.0. This project includes expanding test coverage, improving the documentation, and deprecating older code to require at least Perl version 5.6.2.

Pugs Self-hosting Bootstrap From Perl 5 and Rules

Student: Shu-chun Weng
Mentor: Patrick R. Michaud

This project seeks to implement the first two steps of the current four step plan for bootstrapping Perl 6. The goal is to write two new perl 5 modules: one to translate a very restrictive subset of Perl 6, MiniPerl6, to Haskell and another to translate the Perl 6 rules into Parsec (a Haskell parsing module) parsing code.

Software Transactional Memory for Parrot

Student: Charles Albert Reiss
Mentor: Leopold Tötsch

This project will work on adding Software Transactional Memory support to Parrot. STM provides better performance than traditional locking under most circumstances by optimistically assuming that there will be no resource contention between transactions.