



**Feedback & Suggestions  
from attendees of the  
YAPC::Europe 2011 Perl Conference**

# 1 Introduction

This document includes many fragments from comments that were received from attendees of the YAPC::Europe 2011 Perl Conference during a survey taken after the conference had completed. Each survey provided the attendee with the ability to provide suggestions for future events and feedback on the 2011 event.

It should be borne in mind while reading this report, that everyone's time and effort in putting on the conference was given freely. All the organisers have full time jobs and we are fortunate enough that they have partners and family who were willing to put up with losing them for several days and nights over the previous year, while they organised the conference for the benefit of the Perl community. A big thank you to everyone involved.

## 2 Suggestions and Feedback

### 2.1 Rating the Conference

#### Would you like to expand on any strong views?

- - Newsletters/updates were a bit last-minute. Having been in Riga for one of the Sunday workshops, many of them weren't sent until I was already there.
- - Content of talks could have been more broad. They seemed prone to being rather narrowly focused on a single case study or application of the topic.
- - So far as I'm aware, there were no BOFs.
- - No rating on accommodation as that was not arranged through the conference, so not your responsibility.
- At the first lunch, food was not marked being "Fish" or "Meat". Being allergic to ALL seafood, it is utterly important to know what food is fish or contains salmon/shrimp/seafood. So there was not much left to choose from: better safe than sorry - I had none. Almost the same at the attendee dinner. None of the food was marked and it was too busy to have someone explain, so I had to leave everything that looked like it could contain seafood.
- Better food labelling would have been nice. A lot of the food was booby trapped with things I can't eat.
- Even the non-English speakers with the least knowledge of English were better understandable than many of the Brits with their local accents/dialects/cockney. At least the sheets should reflect the basic ideas of a talk, not just one big phrase accompanied by minutes of speech. In countries like France or Germany it's considered impolite to confuse foreigners with strong accents.
- Excellent conference!
- Excellent food and venue.
- First time I've ever been to a conference with no wifi problems! Lunch was probably the best for any YAPC I've been to also. Riga was a great city for a convention - several excellent hotels blocks away, and everything within walking distance. The pre-convention info could have been better though - had difficulty finding info on the site.
- Flawlessly executed conference, not much more to add.
- hearing that the registration will be interrupted standing 2m away from the table after waiting for (subjectively) 30 minutes was a bit of a WTF? moment.
- I found the breaks to be not quite useful. Breaks between talks in one block often did not happen at all because speakers overrun their time. At the Chaos Communication Congress I had a much better experience with the tracks and breaks. I just had a look at the "Fahrplan" (schedule) [https://events.ccc.de/congress/2010/Fahrplan/day\\_2010-12-27.en.html](https://events.ccc.de/congress/2010/Fahrplan/day_2010-12-27.en.html) Their main advantage is that talks reach into the night. That's why they can have a 30min break after every talk and longer breaks for meals. Well, for me it would be okay to have a talks at YAPC going until 20:00 and expand the breaks. I found conversation between talks much more useful than evening activities after the last talk. But that's my personal experience, probably because I don't know many Perl guys yet and didn't gather with the most interesting groups at night:)
- IMHO quality of talks were very different - some of them were indeed unbeatable, others not so... I know it is terribly hard to do a speech (from own experience) though, so no anger here. Maybe even more help/aiming for speakers/beginners would help? (I am aware of pre-conference speakers training, but I guess day before is pretty late to change something.)
- It was excellent!
- just if it possible: it would be cool to spot vegetarian food
- No one present to enforce timings. Too many speakers went over time. There should be an

organiser for each room responsible for timings, helping with setup, and preventing people coming in half-way through.

- No soap in toilets? Come on!!!

**[editor's note: Not really the fault of the organisers, but did you ask them to mention it to the venue staff, or talk to them yourself?]**

- No.
- Not enough juice during the breaks. Stickers suck balls, I want a badge. Paper schedules can be rather useful too.
- Overall it was awesome and cheap. Nice work.
- Overall very good conference, the venue for the attendees dinner was particularly good.
- People appeared as quite a closed community. I know that's it's my responsibility in the first place to get in contact with others, but it appeared to me that there were many rather closed circles not really welcoming other people.
- Print nametags before the line forms. There should have been more stuff in the wiki and not hidden somewhere else in the website. There were talks at the same time that should have been back to back.
- publishing schedule changes on the website would be nice
- Some interesting talks clashed, some non-perl, uninteresting talks. However, you cannot please everyone.
- speakers including me should prepare more
- T.H.A.N.K.S. Thanks to Andy Shitov, thanks to the other organizers!
- The auction should always have someone in charge of assembling interesting things. Aside from Damian and Jose's push-ups, this year we only had boring articles (t-shirts and books). Allowing people to add things to the auction on the website was a very nice initiative, but clearly not enough; in the past we had people like Greg McCarrol going the extra mile trying to convince prominent people on the community to be part of the auction; we need someone to take that role again.
- The food was really excellent, and I'm a vegetarian. The organisation people could have been a bit more present... give a bit better explanations about what is when where how and why. Security of the venue was almost non-existent: people just walked in and out and everybody had to watch their stuff constantly (and most didn't do a good job, leaving computers, iPads, passports, bags etc everywhere). Schedules really should have been printed.
- What's a BOF?

**[editor's note: Birds of a Feather meetings. They allow small groups to get together and discuss a particular project informally. Sometimes these are to help newcomers feel more welcomed into a project, or they are for developers to set aside time to plan aspects of a project. They can also prove useful Q&A sessions for users to talk to developers directly.]**

- While talk-days were very good, the teaching classes have room for improvement. I hoped much more practical "hands on" classes, to get more robust experience and integration of new knowledge with real world examples. There could be some early requirements for people in classes (to read certain material and to prepare computers to have required soft installed). Maybe VM images available as training environment. Also, as classes are pretty expensive, they could include some food. Plate with some cookies is more like irritating, not food ;) Coffee breaks at venue were pretty satisfying. Something similar i missed at classes days.
- Wifi as usual was OK, but not great. Food could have been laid out a bit more efficiently, and the quality was fine, but not as good as eg Lisbon

- Wifi was difficult in the auditorium, though good every where else. And how about a category for 'venue' or 'venue location'. I was 'Very Satisfied' that it was in walking distance of the center.
- Women wash their hands after using the toilet. Was surprised there wasn't any soap! But, within the day staff had added soap after I alerted them, so ++ for them
- Would prefer to have seen more frequency of updates and newsletters. Although the schedule was previewed early, it felt like it was too much in flux as to make a decision of whether the talks warranted attending. Perhaps having an earlier deadline for speakers would have made the schedule more stable sooner.

## 2.2 Feedback

### For the Riga organisers

Do you have any feedback you would like to give specifically to this year's organisers?

- A great conference. Using identification stickers was a nice improvement:-)
- A paper sheet with current program of the day would be nice.
- All went smooth. Thanks for a fantastic YAPC
- An excellent addition this year was the speaker's training. Too bad it conflicted with lunch. I liked the idea of the beginner track on the first day.
- Best conference I've ever been to. All others have had problems with lunch, schedules, technical equipment and especially wifi. Here everything was just excellent.
- Big thanks!
- Congratulations, you all did a brilliant job. First rate!
- Especially impressed by conference dinner - was very well organized.
- Flawlessly executed conference, not much more to add.
- Great conference, I've made some comments for the future organisers about what was wrong in Riga, but let this not detract from the fact that this was a truly excellent conference. The power and WiFi arrangement were the best I've seen at any conference.
- Great job!
- Great job, everyone. Really well done.
- However talking in such a big and dark room was uncomfortable, as I could not see reactions. Less fun talking as in Pisa or Ashville or other LISP conferences I'm usually attending.
- I asked someone at the registration desk where the training classes on 18.8 take place. I was told that it would be in the speakers rooms at the YAPC Area (K. Valdemāra iela 5). So I was at 9:45 there and noticed, that there was no training class. Because of the information from the day before, I had no information where it was. Luckily there was a Internet Terminal, so I could look at the website, and ask someone around there. That was the reason why I was late at my training class. :-(
- I didn't get a chance to meet any of you, but I'll just have you know that this was my favourite YAPC::Europe thus far (having attended: Munich, Vienna, Lisbon). In a nutshell, this is because (1) there were no visible shortcomings on the organizational front, and (2) the venue itself was quite pleasant, and very importantly, (3) the location & surroundings were simply outstanding. Riga is (in my view) one of the most beautiful cities in Europe, and the general pleasantness of just being in that part of the world made the attendant stress and bother of getting out there much more manageable and digestible.
- I missed a printed schedule. There was not even one hanging on a wall somewhere. Having a Computer standing at the reg desk with the website of the schedule was poor, e.g. you needed to scroll to see the room numbers of the talks.
- I would like to express my overall satisfaction. Good choice of city, comfortable venue,

- tasty food, smooth organization. Respect!
- in hindsight, having the auction on day 1 was maybe not such a good idea after all
  - It might have been nice to have had an official IRC presence.
  - It was fantastic. Lots of really nice touches, including the quiet rooms for speakers, the electricity sockets all over the place, and the fun closing ceremony with the music and disco lights.
  - It was great that the pre-conference meeting wasn't at an Irish pub - when I go to a different country, I want a more local experience. The conference dinner venue was ok - the music was really loud. The conference organization was excellent; I had a great time in Riga. Thank you!
  - Many talks were not attended by a organizer/seat, which resulted in confusion.
  - My first time, but it seemed very well organised.
  - my wife (attendee) selected t-shirt size on account information in ACT, only to find that women's size long gone when registering. I hope printing identifiers served some purpose - I as an attendee didn't find one. I usually keep badges as a souvenir and I don't have one from this great YAPC... :-/ Otherwise we had great fun, thank you for organizing!
  - nice YAPC, you did great job, thank you very much.
  - OMG POWER OUTLETS EVERYWHERE! \o/ wifi working nearly everywhere, woot! The only annoying thing was the lack of organizers in some rooms to guide the speakers and tell how much time they still had (I really missed that when I had to speak).
  - Outstanding job
  - Registration was slow, and the sticky labels did not really work. On the other hand the WiFi was the best I have ever seen.
  - Rock on!
  - Some of the speeches were really good, but some of them seemed to have been in the program just to fill in the gaps.
  - speaker rooms where a great idea the air conditioning in the big room was too cold
  - splendid job!! :)
  - Stickers instead of badges was a great idea
  - Sticking the nametag on a T-shirt was not very convenient. In my own case, fortunately I had brought a plastic nametag from another conference and I stuck the nametag on it. Buffet at the venue is far better than having to look for a restaurant. Even if food is better in restaurants (yet the buffet was good enough), the buffet is better for socializing with other people and to respect the schedule.
  - T.H.A.N.K.S.
  - Thank you - it was great
  - Thank you for a great conference!
  - Thank you for a very good time in Riga :)
  - Thank you for a wonderful conference in a beautiful city. We really enjoyed the whole week of our stay.
  - Thank you for fairly well organized event!
  - Thank you for the most well-organized YAPC I've been to. Everything really flowed smoothly, and it was only at the end when the organizers went up on stage that I realized that a large number of people had collaborated in the background to making it such a great conference.
  - Thank you for this well-organized conference.
  - Thank you so much for all your exertions to make it the great conference in the East Europe.
  - Thank you so much! :)
  - Thank you! Nice food, nice people, nice venue, nice city.
  - Thanks for all your hard work preparing this and congratulations for the results!
  - thanks for all, heavenly
  - thanks for providing so many power slots
  - Thanks for putting on a great conference! It was much better to have the auction on the first

- day. I'd still like to have a strict (1 hour) time limit on the auction though.
- Thanks for your hard work and effort.
  - Thanks guys, you are awesome!
  - Thanks! All in all it was a great conference and I really liked that you'd stopped Matt Trout from swearing.
  - The amount of electric plugs was fantastic!!
  - The quality of the conference was very high, especially when one considers the difficulties in remote managing the location due to visa issues. Andrew and the team did a fantastic job and I think that the conference was one of the best I have attended.
  - The reminders/updates before the conference were great! So were all the power outlets in all rooms.
  - there is not that much to improve, it was overall very good
  - There was no soap on the bathroom! :-) Also, it was kind of awkward to eat something resembling a sweet pastry and have it taste like meat.
  - They did a great job!
  - This YAPC was very well organised, thank you.
  - thumbs up
  - Very friendly and helpful staff, good choice of venue. REALLY liked the special speakers rooms. Would have been great if a secure room with a projector was available to help speakers test their laptops, but that's just a nice to have.
  - Very well organised. thanks
  - Well done!
  - well done. Interesting location, clearly an experienced organizer!
  - You could have arranged agreements with city hall to supply more information about the city (maps et al) and the official programme of the city celebrations.
  - You could have been more visible, a YAPC is a social event in the end
  - You did a wonderful job and your effort was definitely appreciated.
  - You guys are awesome.
  - you guys rock! really!

## For future organisers

Do you have any suggestions for improvement (please give examples where possible)?

- up to five tracks in parallel is "much" too much :-)
- 1. If users are asked to select t-shirt sizes then please make sure they can get what they asked. My wife (an attendee) selected hers size in account info only to find that size long gone when we got to registration - this was unfortunate. Please keep separate guaranteed supply for people who selected their size and separate pool for those without one. Would help to get some real dimensions from t-shirt manufacturer to allow users to choose size correctly.
- 2. When designing t-shirt please keep it simple, white borders on this years t-shirts (riga) are awful IMO. YAPC in Vienna had \*Excellent\* t-shirt design and I'd love to have another one like this instead of rather uninspired Copenhagen or Lisbon designs (and awful Riga)
- 3. Hope that yapc web page design would be better than this years, which was pretty chaotic. Would be great to do what YAPC::NA is doing at <http://blog.yapcna.org/> (see <http://perlbuzz.com/2011/07/yapcna-2012-gets-away-from-rtfm-marketing.html>). Basically YAPC organizers blog is very active since 11 months before the conference! Seems like a great idea to market the event
- Allowing registration the evening before helps, if it's possible. The quiet rooms for speakers to prepare and practice were really handy, so it'd be good to have those again. It was fantastic to have so many electricity sockets all over the place. A printer would be useful, if

one could be provided on the information desk or somewhere -- for speakers to print out copies of their notes, and for anybody leaving soon to print out boarding passes for return flights. I would've preferred fewer tracks, with fewer total talks -- the idea being that the average talk quality is higher, and more attendees have seen the same talks as each other. I'm not sure it's necessary to have a completely independent beginners track, rather than simply some beginner-labelled talks as part of the normal schedule. Please discourage 40-minute talks, especially those which are introductory on some topic. Having some lightning talks each day was fun. Each variant in how the auction is run seems to make things worse! At least with the old-style Greg or Marty auctions they were frantic and there was entertainment value in that, plus a few cheaper items allowed mortals to bid occasionally.

- An additional label printer for registration would be helpful.
- As a father I noticed that there was few families present too. I am considering doing the same next year in Germany. It would be nice to give non-Perl parts of families some hints of children-friendly places around, and provide some mean of "connection" so they can get organized by themselves (e.g. Twitter channel etc.). Of course anyone can do this, but it takes time until someone realizes it would be a good idea. So if conference organizers would do this in advance, everyone would profit.
- As an extension to my comment about venue location, it's important to stress that it's not just the surrounding city which needs to be awesome; the location of the venue within the city matters a great deal, also. Vienna and Lisbon were fantastic also, of course, BUT in both cases the conference venue was a bit off the beaten path (and more than a bit of a hike to the parts of these cities one would most likely want to just be and hang out in). In fact in Lisbon you had to risk getting killed just to get to the nearby park, or find a place for coffee... In Riga, it was the exact opposite -- as soon as you stepped out of the venue grounds, you were exactly in the most desirable part of the town (for casual visitors), and you could get to pretty much everything you needed to get to by foot, and within just a few minutes. This is quite a huge plus, I find. A couple of other small suggestions: (1) while the decision to go paperless is by and large a very good one, it would have been nice to have a few printed schedules (in color) as a backup, for those of us who had technical issues that prevented us from using our various gadgets. (there can even be a small box suggesting a 1-2 euro donation per copy, to defray the cost). (2) as to accommodations: while we all love booking.com (or at least the people working for it), and while the UI someone put together for their listings was pretty nifty also, the fact is that their selections are, at the end of the day, not only limited, but definitely biased towards the higher end. In particular (having just looked again at the conference site), I didn't see any attention devoted to lower cost accommodations (such as hostels), which Riga actually has quite a lot of (and which compared to the hotels, are obscenely cheap). I'm only stating this because it's probably cost of accommodation (rather than the conference fee itself) which is the higher cost barrier for attendance to some people (especially students, and folks from the former Eastern bloc countries).
- Classes more practical!
- Clearly mark the vegetarian food.
- Consider not having an auction at all
- Do more promotion, more regular updates!
- Does anyone really enjoy the auction? Do we need one at all?
- during registration, add a check box, ticked by default but can be unticked to add automatically \$5 or something like that to some Perl Foundation grant at the same time as the registration. Small amount for each attendee (those not deselecting it) but overall may be nice amount + provide a way to add another amount for those wishing it or instead of the Perl foundation, for the YAPC meetings (current & future).
- First of all, I wasn't counting on attending YAPC::EU::2012, but it seems Max's presentation renewed my interest and I'll probably end up going after all. I urge you to have someone like Max doing the opening and closing sessions. And now, an important note regarding this



year's conference: The auction should always have someone in charge of assembling interesting things. Aside from Damian and Jose's push-ups, this year we only had boring articles (t-shirts and books). Allowing people to add things to the auction on the website was a very nice initiative, but clearly not enough; in the past we had people like Greg McCarroll going the extra mile trying to convince prominent people on the community to be part of the auction; we need someone to take that role again. The YAPC::NA auction even used to auction the possibility of having lunch with Larry/Damian/Randal; if the auction takes place on the first day again, this should be considered.

- Have better areas around the rooms where people can mingle. Have soap in the bath rooms.
- I (better said, my wife) missed a partner program. It would be really nice to have that reinstated in future YAPC's.
- I presented a talk as a hands-on tutorial. What I discovered is that a large portion of the attendees hadn't read the description so they spent a lot of time doing the preparatory cpan installation which I'd requested that they do before the talk. On reflection I should have announced it at the previous night's lightning session that attendees should prepare their laptops. I also discovered that a terminal with white text on a black background is hard to read with the projector. It might be worth having guidelines containing the points above for people who will give a presentation. Anyway, in spite of the points above I got some very positive feedback from the attendees, which was nice!

**[editor's note: This is a very good idea, and I'm sure many speakers would benefit from it. Will look at putting together a checklist for the wiki, which everyone can then contribute their ideas to.]**

- I think it would be better to end the YAPC before the weekend (on Friday), rather than start it after the weekend.
- Ich würde mir auf alle Fälle einen ausgedruckten Schedule und evtl. eine Tasche (z.B. wie beim Deutschen Perlworkshop 2009) wünschen.
- If you have to move a talk - please let the speaker know! It was sheer luck that I found my talk had been moved this year (not good for anxiety management and preparation)
- Improve Wifi! Also do what the Riga organisers did with regards to the number of electrical plugs -- that was fantastic.
- In Riga there really was too much food in the breaks, at lunch and at the diner. If we could have traded off some of the food and the dinner for more drink (especially soft drink). Better labelling of the food would have been good, as a lot of people got some nasty surprises. Also an explanation that there were multiple parallel threads would have eased congestion. Coffee/tea available from the first thing is good and was lacking in Riga. A "widows" program even if it's just a recommended meeting place/time so that they can self-organise would be good particularly for first time WAGs. Maybe pre-populate a Wiki page with links to suggestions and publicise it in the newsletters.
- It can be a little intimidating being at your first YAPC. Everybody else seems to know each other (because we have a great community). I talked to a monger, who was at his first YAPC, and he felt a little overwhelmed by this - I could totally relate, as I had the same feeling when I went to my first YAPC. I'm not sure how to "fix this", but obviously it should be done in the beginning of the conference. Please arrange some kind of Partner Program, we are many who bring our partners. It doesn't need to be pre-planned. It could be arranged using twitter, just like most of the social meeting during the YAPC. Shopping, sightseeing and eating lunch together could all be arranged like this.
- Just-in-time upload of videos for missed talks. Screen-capture including micro voice for all talks. Blending screencast with video. One online board per talk.
- Keep it up!
- Label the food!
- Max to the max! :-)

- Maybe some discussion panels instead of all presentations?
- maybe to have some hackathon track/booth. that people can let other know about problems they want to solve and maybe even set bounties. some device that gets people to discuss about recent problems and find solutions. may open discussions in smaller rooms
- more presentation on <http://www.slideshare.net>
- My only criticism of this conference was the new "call for speakers" process. In previous years, the talk submissions were private while the call for speakers was open, and the schedule was only published after the call for speakers had closed. This year, the draft schedule was published before the call for speakers had closed. I really don't like this approach. Aside from keynotes, how can the organisers choose before they have seen all the submissions? This is why I didn't submit a talk this year. Even before the deadline, I could see that a talks on a similar topic had been accepted, so I didn't think there was any point in putting together a proposal. I hope that the Frankfurt organisers revert to the standard approach of a closed call for speakers process followed by publication of the full schedule.
- name stickers are a bad idea, use wearable badges instead
- No auction except fun stuff (like the pushups)
- Optimize for fun!
- Pay attention to A/V setup. I had to reformat some of my slides because the projector cut off the left 5% of the image I was sending it. It would be very nice to have a proper organised attempt at video recording of the talks. (The Riga team did this better than previous years, but haven't got it all right.) This probably needs to be undertaken by a dedicated team who do not have other conference-organisation duties at the same time. It is vital to capture audio near the speaker, by giving them a microphone to wear or hold, rather than relying on a mic on the camera. You should capture a video feed from the VGA signal going to the projector, rather than relying on the camera to adequately show screen content: the final edited video should show both sources of video side-by-side. Camera angles should be much narrower than has been previous practice, to avoid wasting resolution; if capturing the VGA feed then the camera is free to be close on the speaker most of the time. A live camera operator, to maintain correct framing and to pan as the speaker moves, would be better than an unattended camera.
- please keep the speakers room
- Please remember to print out schedules.
- Some organizers watching the clock in all rooms would have been nice, since there was some chaos when speakers didn't finish in time
- Start the conference later on days 2 and 3 when people have been out the night before. Finish the conference earlier in the evening. Please remind all Linux users who are giving presentations to figure out in advance how to send video output to a projector. Although this has improved in recent years, many Linux users still do not know how to do this properly, wasting time.
- Suggesting a conference hotel and getting group booking rates as was done in Lisbon is nice.
- Take care of security better. Inform people about more stuff. When do things happen, schedule changes, dinner event (how to get back, where does bus leave again). Please maintain the beginner track, excellent series of talks. More room for bof's. More announcements on paper about events. Printed schedules!!!
- The bar has been set insanely high - watch out!
- The speaker's training track was an excellent addition. The introduction/brainstorming could probably be quicker, and more time reserved for speaker's show and tell, to show slides and collect other speakers' feedback.
- think of a cheap and easy way to speed up the registration process. maybe this: one guy with the scanner and label printer, scans and hands out the label-nametags while communicating the tshirt size to the tshirt guy who gets the shirt(s) ready. a third guy with a second computer handles time consuming guests (ticket not scanable, lost ticket,..). and benchmark

the setup. in guests per minute.  $\langle \text{number of guests} \rangle / 60$  is too slow. you should be able to handle all guests in 15-20 minutes.

- This should set a high standard for how a YAPC should be. Note that they had two committee members solely responsible for network and wifi, which for the first time in human history just worked out of the box. Also, having the convention in a small city where everything was within walking distance was great.
- Timekeeping was very haphazard. Where possible employ students to sit in the rooms and provide assistance. The time cards were fine, but no-one was watching the time. Several speakers ran over and refused to stop. Staff should be able to step and cut-off over-running speakers.
- When people stay in the same hotels, there is more social activity. So, suggest fewer hotels or have a special deal with some hotel.
- Yes! I think it would be wise to connect to universities locally at a much bigger level. 1) Venue - could be sponsored by university. 2) attendants - allow free entrance (excluding meals) for local students interested in the topic. They don't have other opportunities to learn about Perl, so this could get some new brainpower to the project. I think since YAPC is moving around this aspect is widely neglected. If you need any more ideas on how I think this should be approached - feel free to contact me.

## Summation

Thank you to all the attendees who completed their surveys. These comments and suggestions have been passed to the organisers, both to the current and next year's hosts. They are also used to help supplement thoughts and suggestions for the book "Perl Jam – how to organise a conference and live to tell the tale" (<http://perljam.info>).

Thank you too, to all the organisers and their staff for putting on the event. Without their efforts the conference wouldn't have taken place.

While there are always common factors that receive complaints within the surveys, it is worth noting that while the organisers may have taken great pains to negotiate sponsorship or technical support, it is sometimes beyond their resources to provide everything that you expect of a conference.

At its heart the conference is about bring people together to discuss a common interest. In our case this is Perl and all the many projects that it has inspired. It is also about bringing new people into the community and providing a supportive and inspirational event to which they will return and/or encourage others to attend. Anything additional that organisers can provide for attendees is a bonus.

If you are interested in running a YAPC::Europe event in the future, read the book to get a feel what is involved, talk to previous organisers or read previous proposals online. See if you can possibly organise a small technical event or even a Perl Workshop to give you some experience. If you do submit a proposal to host a future YAPC, don't feel too disheartened if you don't get the chance to host straight away, you can always submit again the following year.