Developer Experience: Because Coders are People Too

Barry Jaspan
Acquia, Inc.

User Experience

User Experience

- UX: "the overall experience and satisfaction a user has when using a product or system"

User Experience

- UX: "the overall experience and satisfaction a user has when using a product or system"
- Affects a user's interest, ability, and enjoyment when using a product.

User Experience

- UX: "the overall experience and satisfaction a user has when using a product or system"

- Affects a user's interest, ability, and enjoyment when using a product.

- If UX sucks, people will not use it if they have a choice or hate using it if they do not.

Developer Experience

Developer Experience

- Programmers are people, too!

Developer Experience

- Programmers are people, too!
- For a development platform, UX includes the developer's experience

Developer Experience

- Programmers are people, too!

- For a development platform, UX includes the developer's experience

- DX: "the overall experience, satisfaction, and efficiency a software developer has when using a software development platform"

Drupal's DX

Drupal's DX

- Drupal has a problem

Drupal's DX

- Drupal has a problem
  - Completely unlike everything else

Drupal's DX

- Drupal has a problem
  - Completely unlike everything else
    - See http://talks.php.net/show/drupal08/ slides 25 through 32

Drupal's DX

- Drupal has a problem
  - Completely unlike everything else
    - See http://talks.php.net/show/drupal08/ slides 25 through 32
  - Companies can't hire a "web developer," they need a "Drupal developer"

Drupal's DX

- Drupal has a problem
  - Completely unlike everything else
    - See http://talks.php.net/show/drupal08/ slides 25 through 32
  - Companies can't hire a "web developer," they need a "Drupal developer"
  - Developers do not want to use a system that is totally unlike everything else

Drupal's DX

- Drupal has a problem
  - Completely unlike everything else
    - See http://talks.php.net/show/drupal08/ slides 25 through 32
  - Companies can't hire a "web developer," they need a "Drupal developer"
  - Developers do not want to use a system that is totally unlike everything else
  - Many actually feel Drupal will harm their careers

Improving the situation

Improving the situation

- The DX Files:

Improving the situation

- The DX Files:
  - Eliminate string literals: Variable names

Improving the situation

- The DX Files:

  - Eliminate string literals: Variable names

  - Defined constants as API arguments

    ```
    // Quick!  Who knows what FALSE means?
    check_markup($body, $format, FALSE)
    ```

Improving the situation

- The DX Files:

  - Eliminate string literals: Variable names

  - Defined constants as API arguments

    ```
    // Quick!  Who knows what FALSE means?
    check_markup($body, $format, FALSE)
    ```

  - Abandon anonymous arrays of attributes

Improving the situation

- The DX Files:

  - Eliminate string literals: Variable names

  - Defined constants as API arguments

    ```
    // Quick!  Who knows what FALSE means?
    check_markup($body, $format, FALSE)
    ```

  - Abandon anonymous arrays of attributes

    - Schema API, Form API, Field API, ...

Improving the situation

- The DX Files:

  - Eliminate string literals: Variable names

  - Defined constants as API arguments

    ```
    // Quick!  Who knows what FALSE means?
    check_markup($body, $format, FALSE)
    ```

  - Abandon anonymous arrays of attributes

    - Schema API, Form API, Field API, ...

  - Form submit handlers vs. API functions

Improving the situation

- The DX Files:
  - Eliminate string literals: Variable names
  - Defined constants as API arguments

    ```
    // Quick!  Who knows what FALSE means?
    check_markup($body, $format, FALSE)
    ```

  - Abandon anonymous arrays of attributes
    - Schema API, Form API, Field API, ...
  - Form submit handlers vs. API functions
- And now, a word from YOU...