CHAPEL RELEASE NOTES, 1.25.1 / 1.26.0: DOCUMENTATION UPDATES

Chapel Team
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DOCUMENTATION UPDATES

Background and This Effort

Background:

• Chapel’s documentation has been hosted online for many releases now
  – https://chapel-lang.org/docs/
• However, by nature, documentation can always benefit from improvements or reorganizations

This Effort:

• Made several improvements to content and organization
  – merged domain and array “built-in types and functions” sections into the language specification
  – moved contributor documentation online
  – categorized the language specification chapters and package modules
  – added the index to the sidebar
OUTLINE

• Domain / Array Docs
• Contributor Documentation
• Doc Categorizations
• Documentation Index
• Status and Next Steps
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DOMINCATION UPDATES
Domain and Array Documentation

**Background:** The language specification has overlapping content with “built-in types and functions”
  - the language specification is written and maintained manually
  - “built-in types and functions” is generated by ‘chpldoc’ from code, so is generally more accurate

**This Effort:** Moved ‘chpldoc’-generated domain/array docs into the spec, replacing redundant content

**Impact:** Less redundancy, improved accuracy

**Next Steps:** Do the same for the remaining seven sections
Contributor Documentation

**Background:** For years, we have had documentation targeting project contributors

- has only existed as text files within the GitHub repository

**This Effort:** Moved this contributor documentation online

**Impact:** Easier to find, read, search

**Next Steps:** Continue to improve content, organization
**Background:** Language specification chapters and package modules were simple lists

**This Effort:** Sorted each into categories

**Impact:** Table of contents and sidebar are more hierarchical, less of a laundry list
DOCUMENTATION UPDATES
Documentation Categorizations

Background: Language specification chapters and package modules were simple lists

This Effort: Sorted each into categories

Impact: Table of contents and sidebar are more hierarchical, less of a laundry list
**Background:** Online docs have an index, but it’s been somewhat difficult to find
- linked at the bottom of some pages, but not most

**This Effort:** Added it to the sidebar

**Next Steps:**
- Improve quality, utility of index
- Restore index entries to the language specification
- Support distinct indexes for spec, modules, etc.?
STATUS AND NEXT STEPS
DOCUMENTATION UPDATES
Status and Next Steps

Status:
• Documentation continues to improve in organization, quality, utility

Next Steps:
• Merge remaining “built-in types and functions” sections into the language specification
• Continue improving and refining contributor documentation and indexes
OTHER DOCUMENTATION IMPROVEMENTS
OTHER DOCUMENTATION IMPROVEMENTS

For a more complete list of documentation changes and improvements in the 1.25.1 and 1.26.0 releases, refer to the following sections in the CHANGES.md file:

- ‘Documentation’
- ‘Example Codes’
THANK YOU

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