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SAGE NEWS

USENIX & SAGE

The Advanced Computing Systems Association &
The System Administrators Guild

SAGE Update

by John Sellens,
SAGE Secretary

John Sellens is the General Manager for Certainty Solutions (formerly GNAC) in Canada, based in Toronto, a long-time system and network administrator, SAGE booklet author, and he is proud to be husband to one and father to three.



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The SAGE Executive Committee met in Chicago on February 1 for a very productive meeting. New SAGE Exec members took office, and the Committee officers were selected (as listed below). Departing Committee members Tim Gassaway and Josh Simon were thanked for their service and contributions.

The Exec also reviewed the current status of SAGE projects, in addition to holding a productive brainstorming session for plans, programs, and strategies for the coming year. The Exec paid special attention to optimizing member services and projects in addition to publicizing opportunities for SAGE members to volunteer for projects that interest them. Expect to see results of this session in the coming months.

This year's SAGE budget is very tight, reflecting the general downturn in the tech economy that we've all experienced. The 2002 SAGE Committee, working with its Executive Director, Rob Kolstad, and the USENIX staff, pared the budget for this year, ensuring that we don't overstep our financial reach. This means, however, that many of our programs have been scaled back, and some have been put on indefinite hold. We are, however, working on a number of fronts to increase our visibility, membership, and fund-raising, all of which will

help to improve our financial position and ability to offer services to our members.

One of the programs hit hardest by the financial cutbacks has, unfortunately, been the SAGE certification program. The existing contract with the testing provider was allowed to expire in January, and we are currently considering alternative test delivery plans that will enable us to continue offering the program in a more cost-effective manner.

In early February, a draft SAGE Code of Ethics was posted on SAGEwire for public comment. The results will be presented to the SAGE Committee at one of its weekly telephone meetings for final approval. Look for the results of this process by April.

Rob Kolstad has been updating and enhancing the annual SAGE Salary Survey and Sysadmin Work Profile, which should be available online by the time you read this. The salary survey has always been a very useful tool for sysadmins, and we encourage you to participate and to spread the word to your colleagues – the more the merrier (and the better the resulting data)!

The LISA 2003 Call for Participation has been issued with a submission deadline of April 21 (see it online at <http://www.usenix.org/lisa03/>). This year's conference will be in late October in sunny San Diego. Conference chair Aileen Frisch and the rest of the program committee are sure to put together an outstanding program. Get involved and help make this year's LISA program the best ever!

Finally, I must mention that the SAGE Committee exists to serve SAGE members and to work to provide programs and resources that reflect your needs and interests. We would love to hear from you as to your interests and your suggestions for programs. If you're interested in getting involved in SAGE pro-

grams and activities, many opportunities exist for you – just let us know that you're interested in being involved. We welcome your feedback to the SAGE Committee (sage-exec@sage.org) or to individual members of the Committee.

New officers:

President: Geoff Halprin

Vice-President: Trey Harris

Secretary: John Sellens

Treasurer: Bryan Andregg

Member: Gabe Krabbe

Member: David Parter

Member: Peg Schafer