Message from the
11th USENIX Symposium on Networked Systems
Design and Implementation
Program Co-Chairs

Welcome to NSDI '14!

Over the years, NSDI has established itself as the top venue for work on networked and distributed systems. This year's iteration is no exception, and we have an excellent program that spans the gamut from novel wireless technologies to debugging complex systems to data analytics.

We are particularly excited about the Operation Systems Track. It is new this year and is intended for a different breed of papers. Rather than pure research results, these papers describe the design and experience with large-scale, operational systems and networks. They offer a behind-the-scenes look at real networked and distributed systems, which is otherwise hard to come by. This year's session includes papers that describe the design of VMWare's network virtualization system, experience with disk imaging in a multi-tenant data center, and design and experience with operating a VPN-based peer-to-peer system to bypass government censors.

We received a record number of 223 submissions (not counting those that violated submission guidelines). This number represents a sharp increase compared to last year (170) and the previous record (175 in 2010). We accepted 38 papers, a number that is identical to last year. Our program committee had 34 members, including the co-chairs, with diverse expertise and experiences.

The review process included two rounds of reviews, plenty of online discussion, and an in-person PC meeting. In the first round, each paper received three independent reviews. Erring on the side of inclusion, we advanced to the second round any paper with at least one positive review. 142 papers made the cut. In the second round, each paper received at least two additional reviews. Based on the reviews and online discussions, 76 papers were selected for discussion at the PC meeting. We sought external reviews sparingly, mostly in cases where the PC did not have sufficient expertise. Consequently, the PC members bore a significant reviewing load, with 27.4 papers on average.

A conference like NSDI cannot succeed without the collective effort and support of many individuals and organizations. This effort starts with the authors, and we thank them for submitting the product of their hard work. Our PC members were heroic in the face of the sharp jump in the number of submissions, and we are grateful for their reviews, online discussions, and meeting participation. Special thanks to Nikolaos Laoutaris for managing papers with which both chairs were conflicted. We are also grateful to our external reviewers for lending their expertise, often on short notice. We thank Eugene Ng and Amar Phanishayee for serving as Poster and Demo chairs. USENIX does a remarkable job of managing all non-technical aspects of the conference. USENIX does a remarkable job at managing all non-technical aspects of the conference. Working with their staff, including Garrett Johnson, Casey Henderson, and Michele Nelson, was a pleasure. They were always accommodating toward the many special-case requests we made. Kirstie Magness of Microsoft Research helped organize the PC meeting.

Finally, we thank you—the NSDI '14 attendees. It is your participation and interest that sustains and nourishes the conference and our community.

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NSDI '14 Program Co-Chairs