

NOTES

USENIX Member Benefits

Members of the USENIX Association receive the following benefits:

Free subscription to *login*, the Association's quarterly magazine, featuring technical articles, system administration articles, tips and techniques, practical columns on such topics as security, Perl, networks and operating systems, and book reviews

Access to *login*: online from December 1997 to the current issue: www.usenix.org/publications/login/

Discounts on registration fees for all USENIX conferences

Special discounts on a variety of products, books, software, and periodicals: www.usenix.org/member-services/discount-instructions

The right to vote on matters affecting the Association, its bylaws, and election of its directors and officers

For more information regarding membership or benefits, please see www.usenix.org/membership/or contact office@usenix.org. Phone: 510-528-8649.

USENIX Board of Directors

Communicate directly with the USENIX Board of Directors by writing to board@usenix.org.

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Results of the Election for the USENIX Board of Directors, 2018–2020

The newly elected Board will assume office on July 1, 2018.

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Kurt Andersen, *LinkedIn*

Angela Demke Brown, *University of Toronto*

Amy Rich, *Nuna, Inc.*

Notice of Annual Meeting

The USENIX Association's Annual Meeting with the membership and the Board of Directors will be held at 6:00 pm on Tuesday, July 10, in Boston, MA, during the 2018 USENIX Annual Technical Conference.



First Impressions on the Path to Community Engagement

Liz Markel, Community Engagement Manager

On Day 7 of my new job at USENIX this past March, I found myself wandering the hallways of the Hyatt Regency Santa Clara taking in the energy and excitement of SREcon18 Americas. I have planned and attended many large conferences before—some with upwards of 20,000 people—but always with program content that was already near and dear to my heart, including nonprofit leadership, literature, and librarianship. The experience of being a non-tech expert at a tech-focused conference was completely foreign to me, though I was determined to leverage my fresh perspective to my advantage.

SREs are one of the many communities USENIX serves, and that I will too in my new role as Community Engagement Manager. As the new kid in town—with a background in marketing and nonprofit management, and only slightly more knowledge of tech than the average person—I wondered how I would find common ground with this exceptionally smart, passionate group of people, as well as the many other communities represented at conferences like FAST, NSDI, USENIX Security and others.

As I listened in on workshops, presentations, “hallway track” conversations, and the lively exchanges at vendor booths, I did indeed discover that we have much in common! We are both, to quote USENIX Board of Directors member Cat Allman writing



SREcon18 Americas attendees built relationships and made connections in the Recharge Lounge sponsored by Twitter.

in the Winter 2016 issue of *login*, “honest, practical, problem solving-engineers.” The things I have built throughout my career differ significantly from what you, reader, are building with your daily work. However, I think these shared attributes are a fantastic foundation for good conversation.

Conversations about what, you ask? I’d like to talk about what we at USENIX can build for you.

Do you have ideas to help fuel our community engagement activities? What do you want to see brought to life that will enhance your experience as a part of the larger USENIX community? A few opportunities come to mind that build on existing frameworks:

- ◆ Enhance engagement activities at conferences through like-minded groups such as Birds-of-a-Feather sessions (BoFs);
- ◆ Take advantage of effective tools for thoughtful discussion and networking online between conferences;
- ◆ Create content for USENIX’s digital platforms or print publications that piques your interest and could spark lively conversation with your global colleagues.

This is a fascinating time to be part of an association staff as a team member focused on community engagement. The broadly observed trend for many professional associations shows interest in official membership waning among upcoming generations. This trend, coupled with natural shifts due to members’ retirements, has challenging implications for member recruitment and retention. My initial observations lead me to believe that USENIX may be defying this trend, and that the root cause of this success is the thoughtful, pragmatic, and considerate organizational leadership that includes both the Board of Directors and the USENIX staff. This effective leadership manifests itself in many ways including the Conference Code of Conduct; the well thought-out rationale for making changes to the LISA conference for 2018 in response to attendee feedback and changes in the industry; and the personal, daily experiences



Tammy Butow of Gremlin kicked off “Chaos Engineering Bootcamp” at SREcon18 Americas with some fun audience participation.



Attendees at “Chaos Engineering Bootcamp” took sides in a brief debate about the value of chaos engineering for a business.



Many SREcon18 Americas sessions involved peer-to-peer collaboration and problem-solving.



Lisa Carey of Google delivered important skills in her workshop, “Tech Writing 101 for SREs.”



Collaboration extended beyond the programs at SREcon18 Americas--teams could often be found problem-solving in other areas of the hotel.



Kate Taggart of HashiCorp promoted the benefits of newbies in her SREcon18 Americas program "Junior Engineers Are Features, Not Bugs."



Thomas Limoncelli delivered a humorous closing keynote for SREcon18 Americas: "Operational Excellence in April Fools' Pranks."



Following her presentation with Jez Humble at SREcon18 Americas, Nicole Forsgren signed copies of her new book *Accelerate: The Science of DevOps*.

of USENIX staff—myself included. All-encompassing leadership of this caliber is extremely rare in the nonprofit sector, and it bodes extremely well for the organization's sustainability and continued relevance to the communities it serves.

The highly relevant mission of USENIX is another primary reason for the association's strength. Through our work, we are committed to:

- ◆ Fostering technical excellence and innovation
- ◆ Supporting and disseminate research with a practical bias
- ◆ Providing a neutral forum for discussion of technical issues
- ◆ Encouraging computing outreach into the community at large.

I spent much of my time at SREcon engaging attendees in conversations about their professional priorities, their impressions of USENIX, and their thoughts about trends in the field, all in relation to our mission. There were lots of interesting insights, but I was most impressed by the passionate support for USENIX's commitment to open access and the role this plays in fostering technical innovation and education. It's a passion that I am looking forward to exploring, understanding, and enhancing in the months and years to come.



SREcon18 Americas program co-chairs Kurt Andersen (LinkedIn) and Betsy Beyer (Google) offered an appreciative shout-out to their fellow program committee members.

I reflected on the importance of this shared passion as I browsed the Spring 2016 issue of this magazine, in which Board of Directors member Dan Klein described the glue that binds USENIX together and has kept it relevant for more than 35 years: "Magic, wonder, and play."

Where have you felt the magic, wonder, and play at work in your USENIX experiences? How can we scale it, share it with others across the country and around the globe, and grow the breadth and depth of our communities?

I would love to hear from you. Drop me a line (liz@usenix.org) so that we can start the conversation and build some amazing new things together.



Attendees enjoyed the beautiful northern California weather during evening receptions at SREcon18 Americas.

SAVE THE DATES!

SRE CON[®] — ASIA AUSTRALIA

JUNE 6-8, 2018 • SINGAPORE
www.usenix.org/srecon18asia

SRE CON[®] — EUROPE MIDDLE EAST AFRICA

AUGUST 29-31, 2018 • DUSSELDORF, GERMANY
www.usenix.org/srecon18europe

SRE CON[®] — AMERICAS

MARCH 25-27, 2019 • BROOKLYN, NY, USA
www.usenix.org/srecon19americas

SREcon is a gathering of engineers who care deeply about site reliability, systems engineering, and working with complex distributed systems at scale. It strives to challenge both those new to the profession as well as those who have been involved in it for decades. The conference has a culture of critical thought, deep technical insights, continuous improvement, and innovation.

Follow us at @SREcon



Register Now!



Fourteenth Symposium on Usable Privacy and Security

Co-located with USENIX Security '18
August 12–14, 2018 • Baltimore, MD, USA

The Fourteenth Symposium on Usable Privacy and Security (SOUPS 2018) will bring together an interdisciplinary group of researchers and practitioners in human computer interaction, security, and privacy. The program will feature technical papers, including replication papers, workshops and tutorials, a poster session, and lightning talks.

Workshops include:

- Workshop on Security Information Workers (WSIW)
- Workshop on Inclusion Privacy and Security (WIPS)
- Workshop on the Human Aspects of Smarthome Security Privacy (WSSP)
- Designing Privacy and Security Tools for Children and Teenagers
- Who Are You?! Adventures in Authentication (WAY)

Register by July 23 and save!

www.usenix.org/soups2018

Save the Date!



18 13th USENIX Symposium on Operating Systems Design and Implementation

October 8–10, 2018 • Carlsbad, CA, USA

OSDI brings together professionals from academic and industrial backgrounds in what has become a premier forum for discussing the design, implementation, and implications of systems software. The OSDI Symposium emphasizes innovative research as well as quantified or insightful experiences in systems design and implementation.

Program Co-Chairs:

Andrea Arpaci-Dusseau, *University of Wisconsin—Madison*
and Geoff Voelker, *University of California, San Diego*

The full program and registration will be available in August.

www.usenix.org/osdi18