

## Message from the Program Co-Chairs

Welcome to the 2009 USENIX Annual Technical Conference!

Once again USENIX Annual Tech continues its tradition of high-quality papers that both break new ground and provide practical insight into modern computer systems. The program committee accepted 32 excellent papers—28 long and 4 short—selected from 191 submissions. The topics range from tolerating file system errors, tracking data provenance, and reprogramming sensor networks to breathing new life into UNIX artifacts. The program also features two engaging plenary talks. James Hamilton from Amazon opens the conference with a keynote on the critical issue of power in large-scale datacenters, and Hugo Award–winning author David Brin closes the conference with a plenary on new tools for problem solving in the information age and their policy implications in the near future.

We had an excellent program committee of 26 members drawn from both industry and academia. As with other conferences receiving a large number of submissions, the PC reviewed the submitted papers in two rounds. In the first round, every paper received at least three reviews. Based on these reviews, we assigned at least one additional review for 10 short papers and two additional reviews for 80 long papers. During the process, we also relied upon the specific expertise of 52 external reviewers. In total, the 191 submitted papers received 743 reviews. The program committee then met on March 12, 2009, for a lively full-day discussion that resulted in the final conference program. The PC shepherded all accepted papers, and the authors produced the polished final papers that constitute these proceedings.

As program co-chairs, we stand on the shoulders of many who did a tremendous amount of hard work. First, and most importantly, we thank all of the authors for their creative and compelling research—the conference and the community around which it forms would not exist without it. We thank the program committee for their diligence and commitment—each PC member reviewed nearly 30 papers, a dedicated undertaking. We thank our external reviewers for contributing much-needed reviews on short notice, Microsoft for hosting the PC meeting in Redmond, and Eddie Kohler for his tireless efforts supporting the HotCRP conference management software. Finally, we thank the USENIX staff—Ellie, Jane-Ellen, Devon, Casey, and many others—for all the tremendous behind-the-scenes work that makes the conference both a success and a reality.

Finally, we would like to thank our industry sponsors for their support in making the 2009 USENIX Annual Technical Conference possible and enjoyable. In particular we thank VMware, Google, Hewlett-Packard, Microsoft Research, NetApp, and Berkeley Communications for their generous support.

We hope you enjoy the program and the conference!

**Alec Wolman, Microsoft Research**  
**Geoffrey M. Voelker, University of California, San Diego**  
**2009 USENIX Annual Technical Conference Co-Chairs**