

# 13th Systems Administration Conference (LISA '99)

Sponsored by USENIX, The Advanced Computing Systems Association, and SAGE, the System Administrators Guild  
<http://www.usenix.org/events/lisa99>

November 7-12, 1999

Seattle Conference Center, Seattle, Washington

## Important Dates:

Extended abstracts due: May 25, 1999  
Invited Talk Proposals due: May 25, 1999  
Notification to authors: June 30, 1999  
Final papers/Invited Talks due: September 1, 1999

## Conference Organizers:

### Program Chair:

David Parter, *University of Wisconsin*

### Program Committee:

Eric Anderson, *University of California, Berkeley*  
Strata Rose Chalup, *VirtualNet Consulting*  
Xev Gittler, *Goldman Sachs & Co.*  
Trent Hein, *XOR Network Engineering, Inc.*  
Doug Kingston, *Deutsche Bank*  
Tom Limoncelli, *Lucent Technologies / Bell Labs*  
Bryan McDonald, *Global Networking And Computing, Inc.*  
Adam Moskowitz  
Evi Nemeth, *University of Colorado*  
Cat Okita, *Earthworks*  
Josh Simon, *Collective Technologies*  
Jeffrey A. Uphoff, *Transmeta Corporation*

### Invited Talks Coordinators

Jennifer Katinsky, *Silicon Graphics, Inc.*  
Phil Scarr, *Global Networking and Computing, Inc.*

### Practicum Chair

Bruce Alan Wynn, *Collective Technologies*

### The Guru Is In Coordinator

Lee Damon, *Qualcomm, Inc.*

### Conference Advisor

Rob Kolstad, *SANS Institute*

## The Only Conference By and For System Administrators

LISA, the Systems Administration Conference, is the largest and oldest conference for system administrators. The LISA experience is special because the entire program is assembled by veteran systems administrators who know first-hand the issues you face, and what factors are important in devising solutions. Participants are involved in all aspects of modern systems administration, including user support, workstation and server administration, network management, security and incident handling, and site-wide planning and design.

LISA offers the most comprehensive program for system administrators from sites of all sizes and at all levels of experience. The conference includes tutorials, refereed papers, invited talks, "Guru" and "Birds-of-a-Feather" sessions, and informal discussions with your peers and other experts in every area of Systems Administration.

## Conference Topics

The Program Committee invites you to join the contributors to the LISA XIII conference. Submissions of refereed papers or

other presentations which address any and all aspects of System Administration are acceptable. Here is a partial list of timely paper topics for potential authors:

### Technology, Tools, and Techniques

- Innovative system administration tools and techniques
- Tips and tricks: new uses for old tools
- Distributed or automated system administration
- High availability and disaster recovery
- Scaling support of "open source" systems for servers and desktops
- Designing, selecting, scaling, integrating and managing "enterprise" computing services.
- Security (all aspects)
- Authentication systems
- Applications of tools, techniques and methods from other disciplines
- Integration of new networking technologies, protocols and applications
- Integration of emerging technologies
- Performance analysis and monitoring

### Theory and Practice of System Administration

- Methodology, paradigms and models for system administration
- Analysis of "best practices" in systems administration
- Analysis and comparison of alternative systems for systems administration tasks
- Case studies
- Application of scientific methods to systems administration
- Metrics for systems administration

### The "Soft Science" of System Administration

- System administration management issues
- Support strategies
- Effective hiring techniques
- Effective training techniques for system administration
- Budgeting, cost analyses and project planning/management techniques for systems administration
- The System Administrator's role in the organization

## Tutorial Program

Gain mastery of complex techniques and technologies and you'll get immediate payoff within your organization. You can choose from up to 40 full- and half-day classes over three days.

Whether you are a novice or senior systems administrator, you will be able to find a tutorial to meet your needs. Tutorials cover important topics such as: performance tuning, administering Windows NT, Perl, TCP/IP troubleshooting, security, networking, network services, sendmail, Samba, legal issues, and professional development.

## Submitting A Tutorial Program Proposal

To provide the best possible tutorial offerings, USENIX continually solicits proposals for new tutorials. If you are interested in presenting a tutorial at this or other USENIX conferences, please contact the tutorial coordinator: Daniel V. Klein (Tel: 1.412.421.0285; Fax: 1.412.421.2332; Email: [dvk@usenix.org](mailto:dvk@usenix.org)).

## Workshops

For the past several years, the LISA conference has included a limited-attendance "Advanced Topics Workshop". For LISA '98, a second workshop was added, on "Global LISA" issues.

Up to three limited-attendance, special-topic workshops will be offered alongside the Tutorial Program at LISA '99. If you are interested in organizing a LISA '99 workshop, please submit a workshop proposal.

The proposal should address the following questions/issues:

- 1) workshop organizers
- 2) topic/goals
- 3) format
- 4) projected attendance (we have one room, with a capacity of up to 60 people in a "classroom" configuration, a smaller number in a "round table" configuration )
- 5) target audience
- 6) how you will recruit participants
- 7) special needs, if any
- 8) anything else we should know

Please submit proposals via email to [lisa99chair@usenix.org](mailto:lisa99chair@usenix.org) no later than May 1, 1999.

## Technical Sessions

Three days of technical sessions feature parallel tracks of refereed papers, invited talks, the Practicum track, and "The Guru is In" sessions for individual consultation with experts on specific topics. Refereed papers are published in the Proceedings (provided free to Technical Sessions attendees). Invited Talk and Practicum track materials are made available online.

The refereed papers will provide the latest on cutting-edge technologies. Refereed papers might be academic in nature, designed to advance the field of systems administration, or they may report practical solutions to specific problems. Papers that analyze problem areas and draw important conclusions from practical experience are especially welcome.

## Cash Prizes

Cash prizes will be awarded at the conference for the best paper and for the best paper by a student. Prizes are for papers accepted to the refereed paper track.

## Submitting an Invited Talk Track Proposal

If you have a topic of interest to systems administrators that is suitable for an invited talk, please submit a proposal to the Invited Talk coordinators. Please email your proposal to: [itlisa@usenix.org](mailto:itlisa@usenix.org).

## Submitting a Practicum Track Proposal

The Practicum track includes a variety of presentation types and focuses on discussion of practical solutions to System Administration issues. If you have a topic that fits the Practicum track, please email a proposal to: [lisa99practicum@usenix.org](mailto:lisa99practicum@usenix.org).

## Works-in-Progress Reports

Do you have interesting work you would like to share, or a cool idea that is not yet ready to be published? The USENIX audience provides valuable discussion and feedback. We are particularly interested in presentation of student work. To schedule your short report, send email to: [lisa99wips@usenix.org](mailto:lisa99wips@usenix.org).

## Birds-of-a-Feather Sessions

Birds-of-a-Feather sessions (BoFs) are very informal gatherings organized by attendees interested in a particular topic. BoFs are held Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday evenings. BoFs may be scheduled in advance by phoning the Conference Office at 1.949.588.8649 or via email to: [conference@usenix.org](mailto:conference@usenix.org). BoFs may also be scheduled at the conference.

## How and Where to Submit a Paper to the Refereed Track

An extended abstract of two to five pages is required for the paper selection process. Full papers are not acceptable at this stage; if you send a full paper, you must also include an extended abstract.

Include appropriate references to establish that you are familiar with related work, and, where possible, provide detailed data to establish that you have a working implementation or measurement tool.

Submissions will be judged on the quality of the written submission, and whether or not the work advances the state-of-the-art of system administration. More detailed author instructions, including sample extended abstracts and final papers, are available on the conference web site at:

<http://www.usenix.org/events/lisa99/cfp/guidelines.html>

Note that LISA, like most conferences and journals, requires that papers not be submitted simultaneously to more than one conference or publication, and that submitted papers not be previously or subsequently published elsewhere for a certain period of time. Papers accompanied by non-disclosure agreement forms are not acceptable and will be returned unread. All submissions are held in the highest confidence prior to publication in the conference proceedings, both as a matter of policy and as protected by the U.S. Copyright Act of 1976.

Every accepted paper must be presented at the conference by at least one author. Authors of an accepted paper must provide a final paper for publication in the conference proceedings. One author of each accepted paper receives complimentary technical session registration. Final papers are limited to 20 pages, including diagrams, figures and appendices. Complete instructions will be sent to authors of accepted papers.

To discuss potential submissions and for inquiries regarding the content of the conference program, contact any member of the program committee or the program chair: David Parter (Email: [lisa99chair@usenix.org](mailto:lisa99chair@usenix.org); Tel: 1.608.262.0608)

All submissions for LISA '99 will be electronic. A web form for submissions is available on the conference web site at: <http://www.usenix.org/events/lisa99/cfp/submit.html>.

## Program and Registration Information

Complete program and registration information will be available by September 1999 at the conference website at: <http://www.usenix.org/events/lisa99>. The information will be printable from a PDF file.

If you would like to receive the program booklet in print, please email your request, including your postal address, to [conference@usenix.org](mailto:conference@usenix.org).