

USENIX Board of Directors Meeting
Thursday, July 27, 2023, 11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. PDT/2:00-3:00 p.m. EDT
via Zoom video conference
Minutes

Attendance

Board:

Kurt Andersen
Fatema Boxwala
Will Enck
Lea Kissner
Arvind Krishnamurthy
Laura Nolan
Amy Rich

Staff:

Casey Henderson
Jessica Kim
Ginny Staubach

Not present:

Theophilus Benson

Rich called the meeting to order at 11:04 am PDT/2:04 pm EDT

Agenda

1. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Rich called for a motion to approve the minutes of the June meeting.

Boxwala moved to approve the June meeting minutes as presented. Andersen seconded the motion. All voted in favor; none opposed. Motion carried.

2. WOOT Proposal to Re-Join USENIX Security

Henderson presented a proposal from the Workshop on Offensive Technologies (WOOT) steering committee to rejoin USENIX in co-location with USENIX Security '24. WOOT was one of many events that USENIX discontinued supporting as a result of the pandemic and was one of the most well-attended co-located events. Discussion ensued.

Henderson requested that the Board endorse or reject the proposal.

Andersen moved that the Board support discussions to invite WOOT to return as a USENIX event. Krishnamurthy seconded the motion. All voted in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

Henderson thanked the Board and noted that USENIX's ability to bring WOOT back is not certain until both capacity at the venue is confirmed and then if the WOOT Steering Committee accepts a subsequent invitation from us.

3. Recent and Upcoming Conferences

Henderson shared updates on recent and upcoming conferences.

USENIX ATC '23 and OSDI '23 were very successful from an attendee perspective. Krishnamurthy added that his students enjoyed the ability to move freely between the two and see presentations from both. OSDI featured a preview of results from the All In Conference Climate and Harassment Survey, which will be fully available later this year and about which the Board plans to provide context to our constituents.

Henderson reported that a record 1100 people are registered so far for USENIX Security '23 and SOUPS 2023. USENIX Security has six tracks and will be very challenging to run as well as to attend, which may inform future format changes and venue selection.

PEPR '23 has a solid program but registrations and sponsorships are slow, again highlighting how restrictions in industry travel budgets are affecting events.

SREcon23 EMEA has launched. Nolan and Andersen shared some program details. Henderson noted that, in keeping with current trends, sponsorships have been more difficult to obtain.

Boxwala left the meeting at 11:50 am PDT/2:50 pm EDT.

Henderson informed the Board that the reserve fund is doing better. She reminded the Board that there will be no August meeting; the next meeting is being scheduled for September.

Rich called for a motion to adjourn.

Nolan moved to adjourn the meeting; Andersen seconded the motion. All voted in favor; none opposed. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 11:56 am PDT/2:56 EDT.

William H Enck