

USENIX Board of Directors Meeting

Monday, May 5, 2025, 8:00 am–9:00 am PDT / 11:00 am–12:00 pm EDT

via Zoom video conference

Minutes

Attendance

BOD:

Amy Rich, President

Will Enck, Vice President

Kurt Andersen, Treasurer -- *joined at 8:35 am PDT / 11:35 am EDT*

Lea Kissner, Secretary

Sujata Banerjee, Director

Thorsten Holz, Director

Staff:

Casey Henderson-Ross

Jessica Kim -- *departed at 8:54 am PDT / 11:54 am PDT*

Guests:

Phillip Scott, Merrill Lynch -- *departed at 8:25 am PDT / 11:25 am PDT*

Jennifer Whalen, Merrill Lynch -- *departed at 8:25 am PDT / 11:25 am PDT*

Not Present:

Laura Nolan, Director

George Porter, Director

Rich called the meeting to order at 8:02 am PDT / 11:02 am EDT.

1. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Kissner moved to accept the minutes of the April 2025 meeting as presented. Holz seconded the motion. Seven voted in favor; one abstained; none opposed. Motion carried.

2. CECL Committee Meeting Report

Rich reported that the CECL Committee, composed of the Executive Committee, had met and voted unanimously to adopt the CECL Memo for the fourth quarter of 2024 and approve the recommended risk factor to be used in CECL calculations. Henderson-Ross noted that in the future, the CECL Committee will hold its quarterly meeting as part of the agenda of regularly scheduled Board meetings to review the memo and vote there.

3. Reserve Fund Overview, Update, and Discussion with Merrill Lynch

- a. USENIX Balances
- b. USENIX Portfolio Analysis

Henderson-Ross welcomed Scott and Whalen, noting USENIX's appreciation for their steady leadership in managing its assets and reserve fund. Whalen reviewed the reserve fund reports, portfolio analysis and performance, sector analysis, risk vs. return analysis, income generation, and bond summary. Discussion ensued. Whalen, Scott, and Henderson-Ross answered questions posed by the Directors.

Scott and Whalen departed at 8:25 am PDT/11:25 am EDT.

4. Recent and Upcoming Conferences

Henderson-Ross reported that NSDI '25 showed a significant drop in attendance from recent years, particularly by those with more seniority in the field, which is likely due to recent funding cuts in academia. However, the energy of the event remained strong and sessions were well attended, possibly due to recent scope-narrowing efforts. Discussion ensued.

Andersen joined the meeting at 8:35 am PDT/11:35 am EDT.

Requests for discounted registrations have increased significantly for all conferences. Funding and visa issues will likely continue to affect attendance at upcoming conferences. USENIX is opening registration systems earlier to give international attendees more time to apply for visas. Discussion ensued.

Henderson-Ross shared promising registration numbers for PEPR '25 and expressed hope that the positive trend would continue. Kissner added that the PEPR program shows growing diverse company representation.

Henderson-Ross reported that the technical sessions programs for USENIX ATC '25 and OSDI '25 were being finalized, and that both would be available on their respective websites soon. She noted that the public announcement about the conclusion of ATC would be released the next day. The announcement will invite community members to contribute their memories of ATC and USENIX. These will be featured at events during USENIX ATC '25 as tribute to the rich history of ATC and also to celebrate USENIX's 50th anniversary.

Andersen moved to enter the executive session. Enck seconded the motion. All voted in favor; none opposed. Motion carried.
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Kim departed at 8:54 am PDT / 11:54 am EDT.

Executive session began at 8:54 am PDT / 11:54 am EDT.

5. Executive Session





Andersen moved to end the executive session and the regular meeting. Enck seconded the motion. All voted in favor; none opposed. Motion carried.

Executive session and regular meeting adjourned at 9:02 am PDT / 12:02 pm EDT.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "L. Enck".

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