

## Message from the 2013 USENIX Annual Technical Conference Program Co-Chairs

Welcome to the 2013 USENIX Annual Technical Conference.

Once again, we received a record number of submissions to the conference. Authors registered 321 abstracts, of which 233 were submitted as complete papers. Of the submitted papers, 38 were submitted as short papers (no longer than six pages), and the rest were traditional full-length papers (up to 12 pages, including references). The program co-chairs rejected 10 papers without review for serious violations of the formatting rules (incorrect formatting that increased the effective available space by 5% or more).

Reviewing was single-blind, done almost entirely by the program committee, with some assistance from outsiders with special expertise. The reviewing was done in three rounds. In the first round, every paper received two reviews. Based on these reviews, 69 of the papers were tentatively rejected, because both reviews had overall merit scores of one or two (on a scale of one through five) with adequate confidence levels. In round two, the remaining 154 papers each received one more review. Finally, the 47 papers from round two that had at least one overall merit score less than three, and at least one higher than three, were each given two additional reviews in the third round. Altogether, we produced 700 reviews.

The program committee meeting was held in April in scenic Lombard, Illinois. Most of the committee was present in person. In a 10-hour session, we discussed 76 of the papers, including a few low-ranked ones that individual PC members thought merited more consideration. We accepted a total of 33 papers. Of these, six were accepted as short papers. Three of the short papers had originally been submitted as full-length papers. Each accepted paper was shepherded by a PC member in preparing revisions for the final published versions that you see here.

Our committee had 30 members, plus the two co-chairs. Nine of the committee and one co-chair were from industrial institutions. The committee members were allowed to submit papers; the chairs chose not to submit anything. We followed conventional rules for conflict of interest, with conflicted members (or co-chair) leaving the room during discussion of the conflicted papers.

The papers you see in this year's program represent a broad diversity of current systems work. In keeping with the goals and tradition of USENIX ATC, there is strong representation of papers with a very practical orientation, in addition to papers with pure novel research contributions.

Besides the paper authors and reviewers, we would like to thank the USENIX staff who actually do the organization here; without their support, our jobs would have been much harder. They made it possible for us to focus on creating the conference program, without worrying about the endless details of conference organization and proceedings publication.

Thank you for participating in the USENIX ATC community, and enjoy the conference.

**Andrew Birrell, *Microsoft Research Silicon Valley***  
**Emin Gün Sirer, *Cornell University***  
**ATC '13 Program Co-Chairs**