



# 28th Large Installation System Administration Conference (LISA '14)

Sponsored by USENIX in cooperation with LOPSA

November 9–14, 2014, Seattle, WA

## Important Dates

Extended abstracts, papers, experience reports, and proposals for talks, workshops, and tutorials due: *April 14, 2014, 11:59 p.m. PDT*

Paper and experience report authors' review and response period: *May 9–15, 2014*

Notification to submitters: *May 23, 2014*

Final reports and papers due: *August 19, 2014*

Poster proposals due: *September 30, 2014*

Notification to poster submissions: *October 14, 2014*

## Conference Organizers

### Program Chair

Nicole Forsgren Velasquez, *Utah State University*

### Organizing Committee

TBA

## Overview

USENIX's Large Installation System Administration (LISA) conference—now in its 28th year—is the premier meeting place for professionals who make computing work across a variety of industries. If you're an IT operations professional, site-reliability engineer, system administrator, architect, software engineer, researcher, or otherwise involved in ensuring that IT services are effectively delivered to others—this is your conference, and we'd love to have you here.

At LISA, systems theory meets operational practice. This is the best environment for you to talk about what you've been working on with other professionals—both in industry and in academia. Giving a presentation at LISA is the path to real-world impact by highlighting your team's or project's achievements. We are actively soliciting talks in areas such as cloud computing, creating a positive ops culture, software-defined networking, large-scale computing, distributed systems, security, analytics, visualization, and IT management methods—but we will consider exciting, engaging talks on any topic relevant to LISA attendees.

Unsure if your idea is right for LISA? The conference organizers are happy to provide early feedback on ideas for papers, talks, or conference activities. Send your thoughts to [lisa14chair@usenix.org](mailto:lisa14chair@usenix.org).

## Participate!

This is your conference and an opportunity to give back to the community—share your experiences, your research, and your stories!

There are a wide range of ways to participate in LISA:

- **Prepare a talk.** Talks are 45- or 90-minute presentations by experts on a single topic of interest to system administrators. We are seeking suggestions from people who wish to give talks or to propose topics. Talks may focus on the emerging technologies or may be retrospective, be serious or funny, cover a spectrum of related issues or dive deeply into one specific topic.

We also accept proposals for panel discussions, especially when accompanied by a tentative slate of panelists. Send ideas to [lisa14it@usenix.org](mailto:lisa14it@usenix.org).

- **Be an expert.** The Guru Is In sessions allow attendees to interact with someone well-skilled in a particular area. From career advice to help with new tools, leading a Guru session gives you the opportunity to share your expertise with your peers. Submissions are in the form of a half-page description of the topic. Send ideas to [lisa14guru@usenix.org](mailto:lisa14guru@usenix.org).
- **Tell us what you learned.** Bring your favorite system administration story to LISA. These stories can include successes as well as failures, as long as there are useful lessons imparted to the audience. Initial submissions can be in the form of a 4–10 page report or a short (5–7 minute) video submission with slides. Your proposal should include a clear description of the problem you are addressing, its relevance, the approaches and trade-offs made, and the lessons learned. Please note that we are including video submissions to make it easier to create a proposal without the upfront effort of writing a report. Accepted video proposals still require a final written report for the conference. If accepted, the author(s) will give a 20-minute presentation followed by a 10-minute Q&A session.
- **Write—and get published!** LISA's research track highlights written papers, 8–18 pages long, that describe field-advancing work in the science or practice of system administration. These papers are held to high research standards and are evaluated based on their conceptual development, contribution to the field, or extension of previous work to new contexts. If accepted, the paper will be published in the proceedings and the author(s) will give a 25-minute presentation followed by a 5-minute Q&A session. A submission is a draft full paper. These are original works which must not be submitted concurrently to another publication venue in whole or in part.
- **Show us what is next.** Poster sessions are your chance to share an idea that could turn into something more formal at next year's conference. Posters are a good way to get feedback on research that may not be ready for formal publication. Submissions are in the form of a 1-page abstract. Send poster ideas to [lisa14posters@usenix.org](mailto:lisa14posters@usenix.org).
- **Give an elevator pitch.** Lightning talks give you an opportunity to talk about a recent success, energize people about a pressing issue, ask a question, and start a conversation! You'll have a 5-minute opportunity to get up and talk about what's on your mind. You can give several lightning talks if you have more than one topic. Send ideas to [lisa14lightning@usenix.org](mailto:lisa14lightning@usenix.org).

LISA also wants to hear your ideas for:

- **Workshops:** Workshops are half-day or full-day sessions for small groups (typically no more than 30 people) to share ideas and knowledge. Workshops are intended to be participatory, not instructional, and familiarity with the specific topic/area is expected of the attendees. Workshop organizers are expected to facilitate the discussions and provide a “syllabus” for participants, which lists prior experience or preparatory readings expected of participants (pre-requisites), an outline for the workshop discussion (to-do’s for the workshop), and takeaways that participants can expect. Proposals should include: workshop title, workshop description, intended audience, syllabus, and takeaways. Send ideas to [lisa14workshops@usenix.org](mailto:lisa14workshops@usenix.org).
- **The LISA Training Program:** Tutorials are also half-day or full-day sessions but, unlike workshops, are generally intended for an instructor to share knowledge, not to be open discussions. We welcome (and encourage!) suggestions or requests for new classes from anyone. Contact [tutorials@usenix.org](mailto:tutorials@usenix.org) with suggestions/requests.
- **Birds-of-a-Feather Sessions (BoFs):** Birds-of-a-Feather sessions are informal gatherings held in the evenings. BoF groups range from users of particular software packages or products, through those interested in discussing current problems or issues, to people interested in a particular aspect of computing. Time slots are assigned on a first-come, first-served basis before and during the conference. See the conference Web site in August 2014 for submitting your BoF topic and time slot.

## Submission Instructions

Submissions for the papers and reports tracks may not be simultaneously submitted to other venues. Writing must be original, not previously published online or otherwise. A major mission of the USENIX Association is to provide for the creation and dissemination of new knowledge. In order to facilitate this process, USENIX allows authors to retain ownership of the copyright to their works. See the USENIX Conference Submissions Policy at [www.usenix.org/submissionspolicy](http://www.usenix.org/submissionspolicy) for details. Questions? Contact your program chair, [lisa14chair@usenix.org](mailto:lisa14chair@usenix.org), or the USENIX office, [submissionspolicy@usenix.org](mailto:submissionspolicy@usenix.org).

## Final Program and Registration Information

Complete program and registration information will be available in August 2014 on the LISA '14 conference Web site.

The full Call for Papers will be available soon at [www.usenix.org/lisa14/cfp](http://www.usenix.org/lisa14/cfp). Join us!

