



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

Sponsored by USENIX, the Advanced Computing Systems Association, in cooperation with LOPSA

November 9–14, 2014, Seattle, WA

Important Dates

Submissions due: **April 18, 2014, 11:59 p.m. PDT**
 Author review and response period: **May 9–15, 2014**
 Author notification: **May 23, 2014**
 Final reports and papers due: **August 19, 2014**
 Poster proposals due: **April 18, 2014, 11:59 p.m. PDT**
 Notification to poster presenters: **October 14, 2014**

Conference Organizers

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Nicole Forsgren Velasquez, *Utah State University*

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 Adele Shakal, Metacloud

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Research Committee

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Invited Talks Coordinators

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Invited Talks Committee

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LISA Lab Hack Space Chair

Paul Krizak, Qualcomm

LISA Lab Hack Space Coordinators

Chris McEniry
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Local Chair

Lee Damon, University of Washington

Overview

Publishing at USENIX LISA Means Industry Impact and Recognition

LISA is the premier conference for system administrators from all areas of technology to come together and exchange ideas. Papers published here get visibility and recognition from our reviewers and attendees, who are a unique group of researchers and practitioners, truly embedded in the building and operation of the systems that run the world. For a researcher, publishing at LISA proves that your work is relevant and applicable to industry. Many tools—such as CFEngine, which has transformed our approach to systems management—have had their key publications at USENIX LISA. There is no other conference where the potential for industry impact is as high!

USENIX Stands for Open Access and Moving the World Forward

USENIX has a clear stance on open access and strongly maintains that research is meant for the community as a whole. Your paper and your presentation will be available online at no charge, where it can have the most impact and reach the broadest possible audience. Your paper will also be part of the conference proceedings with its own ISBN.

Topics of Interest

LISA is interested in papers that cover everything related to the field and area of system administration. We welcome papers in several areas, including but not limited to:

- Cloud computing
 - Cloud infrastructure management
 - Cloud performance tuning
 - Cloud architectures
 - Cloud best practices
 - Cloud operating systems
- Systems engineering
 - Configuration management
 - Deployment automation
 - Continuous integration
 - Release engineering
 - Automated testing
- Software-defined networking (SDN)

- Large-scale computing
 - High-performance computing
- Security
 - Authentication
- Developer/operations (DevOps)
- Monitoring and analytics
 - Visualization of metrics
 - Metric analysis methods
 - Tools and approaches for metric collection
- IT management methods
- Creating a positive ops culture
 - System administration profession
 - Education and training
 - Interest organizations

Our refereed papers describe new techniques, tools, theories, inventions, and present case histories that extend our understanding of system and network administration. They present new ideas, backed by rigorous and repeatable methodology, in the context of previous related work, and can have a broad impact on operations and future research.

System administration is a broad topic, and good papers take a variety of approaches. A few examples include:

- Description/analysis of a new technique, tool, technology, or theory
- Applying an existing technique, tool, etc., in a novel or perhaps controversial way
- Critical analysis of the alternatives for solving a common problem, including new recommendations
- New lessons learned from a detailed and honest evaluation of a case study

The crucial component of all of these is something new or timely, perhaps controversial, and something that was not previously available, discussed, considered, or recognized.

Cash prizes will be awarded at the conference for the best refereed paper and the best refereed paper with a student as lead author.

Posters

The program committee realizes that potential authors may not be quite ready to submit their work as a refereed paper. This is where the poster session comes to the rescue. If you have been researching an idea but you haven't had the resources to construct a full paper or if you are working on an idea and would like feedback and insights from industry professionals, you should strongly consider submitting a poster. There are several advantages to presenting your work in this fashion:

- Your poster abstract (500 words or less) will be published in the LISA '14 Proceedings and your research site will be linked off the conference page.
- You will get valuable feedback from the community on the clarity and value of, and perceived obstacles to, your research in its current form, which will enable you to improve the quality of your future submission to LISA.
- An accepted paper primarily receives attention during a small question and answer window at the end of its presentation. Your poster will be a subject of conversation throughout the entire poster session period and probably beyond.
- Your poster is an immediate icebreaker that will help you make new friends and other contacts at one of the highest attended USENIX conferences.

We hope that you will consider sharing your ongoing research with the LISA community. Please note that the deadline for poster abstracts this year is April 18, 2014, the same as for paper submissions.

If you have any questions beyond this CFP, please contact lisa14posters@usenix.org.

Paper Submission Instructions

Authors must submit one of the following:

- Full papers, in draft form, 8–18 pages in length, including diagrams, figures, references, and appendices
- Extended abstracts of 4–8 pages in length
 - A brief outline of the final paper should be attached to extended abstract submissions.
 - Extended abstracts must contain sufficient technical detail for review.

Submissions must be in two-column format, using 10-point type on 12-point (single-spaced) leading, with a maximum text block of 6.5" wide x 9" deep, with .25" inter-column space, formatted for 8.5" x 11" paper. Papers not meeting these criteria will be rejected without review, and no deadline extensions will be granted for reformatting. Pages should be numbered, and figures and tables should be legible when printed, without requiring magnification.

General Submission Rules:

- All submissions must be electronic, in PDF only, via the Web form, which will be available soon on the Call for Papers Web page, <https://www.usenix.org/lisa14/cfp/papers-posters>. The Web form will ask for contact information for the paper and allows for the submission of your full paper file. **Please do not email submissions.**
- The first page of each submission must include the name, affiliation, and email address of the author(s). (LISA reviewing is single blind.)
- Authors should make sure that their submission prints properly on U.S.-style 8.5" x 11" paper.
- Submissions should include a list of appropriate topic keywords or tags above the body text of the draft paper, e.g. "Tags: security, research, IPv6." Suggested tags include DevOps, networking, infrastructure, security, research, case study, backups, configuration management, database, Web, printing, filesystem, authentication, and VMs. Authors may include additional tags as well.
- Submissions must include full references or they will not be considered. The author must also describe the differences between prior work and their own. Full references are strongly advised for draft papers.
- Submissions whose main purpose is to promote a commercial product or service will not be accepted.
- Submissions may be submitted only by an author of the paper. No third-party submissions will be accepted.
- All accepted papers must be presented at the LISA conference by at least one author. The author(s) will give a 20-minute presentation immediately followed by a 10-minute Q&A session.
- Authors should ensure that they have enough time to acquire the necessary approvals through their organizations' Institutional Review Board (IRB) or similar process in time for the final paper submission deadline (see below for deadline).
- One author per paper will receive a registration discount.
- The author(s) of an accepted paper must provide a final paper for publication in the conference proceedings. Final papers should be 8–18 pages long, including diagrams, figures, references, and appendices. Complete instructions will be sent to the authors of accepted papers. To aid authors in creating a paper suitable for the LISA audience, authors of accepted proposals will be assigned one or more shepherds to help with the process of completing the paper. The shepherds will read one or more intermediate drafts and provide advice and as-

sistance, as needed, before the authors complete the final draft. Accepted authors will be expected to make a dress rehearsal presentation with their shepherd prior to the conference.

- All accepted papers will be available online to registered attendees before the conference. If your paper should not be published prior to the event, please notify production@usenix.org. The papers will be available online to everyone beginning on November 9, 2014.
- Papers 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 for details. Questions? Contact your program chair, lisa14chair@usenix.org, or the USENIX office, submissions-policy@usenix.org.

Authors will be notified by May 23, 2014, whether their papers have been accepted. The final papers are due August 19, 2014.

If your paper is accepted and you need an invitation letter to apply for a visa to attend the conference, please contact conference@usenix.org as soon as possible. (Visa applications can take at least 30 working days to process.) Please identify yourself as a presenter and include your mailing address in your email.

Poster Submissions

Please email your one-page poster abstract (500 words or less) to lisa14posters@usenix.org. Completed posters will be required by the start of the conference.

All Paper and Poster submissions are due by 11:59 p.m. PDT on April 18, 2014.

