

Message from the Program Co-Chairs

As Program Co-Chairs, we are pleased to welcome you to NSDI '13. This year's conference presents the best work in the area of networked systems. Our technical program contains papers spanning leading-edge topics ranging from wireless networking to big data and data center networking.

We received 170 paper submissions, close to the high-water mark of 175 submissions in 2010. Following the lead of some recent conferences, we allowed an unlimited number of pages of references, in addition to 12 pages for all other content. All submissions that met the formatting and basic quality standards were reviewed by the Program Committee, and in a small number of cases we used external reviewers to complement the expertise of the PC. Our review process included two full rounds of reviews, extensive online discussions after each round, and face-to-face discussion at the Program Committee meeting itself. During the first round of reviewing, all papers received three reviews. We then selected 84 papers for a second round of three reviews, of which 9 received additional reviews in a third round. Overall, we gathered 775 reviews[a], with an average load of 25.8 reviews per PC member. (An additional 6 papers, for which both co-chairs had conflicts, were reviewed outside our system, and we lack statistics for these papers.)

We selected 64 papers for consideration at the PC meeting. 28 of the 30 PC members attended the meeting at HP Labs on December 3, 2012, and the other two members, who were unable to travel, attended by telephone. At the meeting, the PC accepted 38 papers, including one for which both chairs were conflicted. (Neither chair was an author of an accepted paper.) We strongly encouraged the PC members to accept a larger number of papers than in the past, based on our wish not to exclude any good papers merely for reasons of space, and on our belief that the review process can skew towards excessive negativity. We also encouraged the PC to prefer the risk of mistakenly accepting papers rather than mistakenly rejecting them, in a few cases where the PC members could not agree.

Because of the special role that conferences play in our field, all accepted papers were shepherded by a Program Committee member. 13 papers were granted extra pages to address reviewers' comments, based on the approval of their shepherds. We also asked the shepherds to write short "public summaries" of the accepted papers, in order to provide some context for readers, and to explain the PC's view of the significance of the papers.

We are grateful to everyone whose hard work made this conference possible. Most of all, we are indebted to all of the authors who submitted their work to this conference. We thank the Program Committee for their dedication, timeliness, and hard work in reviewing papers and participating in the extensive discussions at the PC meeting, as well as for their efforts in the shepherding process. We also thank our external reviewers for lending their expertise on short notice. We thank Matt Caesar for acting as Poster/Demo Program Chair, and his Poster/Demo Program Committee members for their work. We also thank Richard Mortier for chairing the subcommittee to choose award-winning papers. We extend special thanks to Jessica Cheung and Alesha Cater for their help in organizing the logistics of the PC meeting at HP Labs, and HP Labs for funding the meals during the meeting.

We are grateful to the conference sponsors for their support and to the USENIX staff for handling the conference logistics, marketing, and proceedings publication; as always, it is a pleasure to work with them. We relied heavily on the HotCRP reviewing software, and we thank Eddie Kohler for his continuing willingness to support and embellish it. We thank Geoff Voelker for the Banal format checker, which reduced our load in enforcing format compliance. Finally, we thank the NSDI '13 attendees and future readers of these papers: in the end, it is your participation in our field and interest in the work that makes NSDI, and our community, a success.

Nick Feamster, *Georgia Tech*
Jeff Mogul, *HP Labs*
NSDI '13 Program Co-Chairs