

USENIX news

USENIX MEMBER BENEFITS

As a member of the USENIX Association, you receive the following benefits:

FREE SUBSCRIPTION TO ;login:, the Association's magazine, published six times a year, featuring technical articles, system administration articles, tips and techniques, practical columns on such topics as security, Tcl, Perl, Java, and operating systems, book reviews, and summaries of sessions at USENIX conferences.

ACCESS TO ;login: online from October 1997 to last month: www.usenix.org/publications/login/.

ACCESS TO PAPERS from the USENIX Conferences online starting with 1993 www.usenix.org/publications/library/proceedings/

THE RIGHT TO VOTE on matters affecting the Association, its bylaws, election of its directors and officers.

DISCOUNTS on registration fees for all USENIX conferences.

DISCOUNTS on the purchase of proceedings and CD-ROMS from USENIX conferences.

SPECIAL DISCOUNTS on a variety of products, books, software, and periodicals. See <http://www.usenix.org/membership/specialdisc.html> for details.

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<http://www.usenix.org/membership/>

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2004 USENIX Nominating Committee

by Dan Geer

Chair, Nominating Committee



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It is time for you to think about the next round of elections for the Board of Directors and for Officers of USENIX.

USENIX has eight board members: four are officers (President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary) and four are board members at large. All stand for election every two years.

Organizations like USENIX have a difficult trade-off: Renewing their leadership by officially recognizing the candidates most likely to build the organization versus the free-for-all. The risk of the former is self-perpetuation of the officers more than the organization; the risk

of the latter is election due to name recognition rather than skill, thus leading to irretrievable mistakes born of inexperience. In the case of the problem of self-perpetuation, the solution is term limits, and USENIX indeed has them (<http://www.usenix.org/about/bylaws.html#art4>). In the case of the problem of getting well known but inappropriate candidates, the solution is a Nominating Committee, and USENIX indeed has one of those (<http://www.usenix.org/about/bylaws.html#art7>). None of this is magic—democracy is messy, after all.

Having the right leaders for their time is hard to predict, but you have to try. More than anything else, it is short-term essential that there are enough good candidates to choose amongst: some new and some familiar, spread over all of USENIX's sub-specialties, a history of both devotion and delivery to the organization, and the room to maneuver their private life to make USENIX a priority. At the same time, it is long-term essential that the best potential officers be gotten onto the Board, so that next set of Officers can be chosen from those with prior experience at the Board level. In other words, some new Board members every two years is a good thing, along with a convincing set of Officers known for their prior accomplishment to be ready to take leadership roles.

USENIX BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Communicate directly with the USENIX Board of Directors by writing to board@usenix.org.

PRESIDENT:

Marshall Kirk McKusick, kirk@usenix.org

VICE PRESIDENT:

Michael B. Jones, mike@usenix.org

SECRETARY:

Peter Honeyman, honey@usenix.org

TREASURER:

Lois Bennett, lois@usenix.org

DIRECTORS:

Tina Darmohray, tina@usenix.org

John Gilmore, john@usenix.org

Jon "maddog" Hall, maddog@usenix.org

Avi Rubin, avi@usenix.org

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:

Ellie Young, ellie@usenix.org

The Nominating Committee Chair is appointed by the sitting Board. I am that Chair this time around. The Nominating Committee must be both knowledgeable and wise, and must be willing to forego office themselves. That Committee will be announced shortly. I will choose them and we will make recommendations both for Board members at large and for Officers. We will do our best and we will very much hope you follow our advice, as by the time we are done we will believe in our decisions.

If you are considering offering yourself for election by petition, please keep in mind that the Board of USENIX is real work, never trivial, and a great place to make a difference. You should have pluck, vision, the ability to work with others, and a thorough sense of some topic area that USENIX covers. You should be goal- rather than process-oriented, have a sense of humor, and be fond of the idea that you get more accomplished if you don't care who gets the credit.

Send suggestions for nominees, comments on existing Board members, or just plain questions to me: geer@usenix.org. Speaking as a former Board member and Officer, I can tell you that being on the Board of USENIX is absolutely, positively worth the effort.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

SAGE Dues

You may now join SAGE for \$40! While it is no longer required that you be a member of USENIX to be a member of SAGE, we hope you will remain or become a member of both organizations. Member support allows us to continue to offer some of the most highly respected conferences and publications in the industry.

Please review the benefits and dues structure listed below and on our Web site : <http://www.usenix.org/membership/>.

We will have an electronic membership renewal process in place by this Fall. Please look for renewal notices sent to you via email.

USENIX Membership Benefits

INDIVIDUALS AND STUDENTS MEMBERSHIP

- Access to the latest USENIX Conference Proceedings on the USENIX Web site: <http://www.usenix.org/publications/library/proceedings/>
- Free subscription to *login:* - the Association's magazine, published six times a year, bringing you technical features, summaries of USENIX conferences, system administration tips, reports on various Standards activities, and book reviews. *login:* is sent in print, and is available online a month later to all current USENIX members
- Discounts on technical sessions registration fees at all USENIX-sponsored and co-sponsored events
- Discounts on USENIX Conference Proceedings and CD-ROMs
- The right to vote on matters affecting the Association
- Savings on books, journals, and software from cooperating publishers
- 15% off subscription to *The Linux Journal*
- 20% off O'Reilly & Associates publications
- \$10 off subscription to *Sys Admin*
- 20% discount off No Starch Press books

INSTITUTIONAL MEMBERSHIP (EDUCATIONAL, CORPORATE, AND SUPPORTING)

- Includes all of the benefits of an Individual membership, plus:

- All USENIX Conference Proceedings in a downloadable format to your server, so that staff and students at your institution have anytime access to all papers from our events

Supporting Members also receive:

- A free ad in *login:* once during the membership term
- 10% discount on sponsorship and exhibit fees at USENIX events
- Ten member-priced conference registrations for your company staff during the membership term
- Your name and URL listed on our Supporting Members Web site, as well as acknowledgment in printed materials for events and in all issues of *login:*

SAGE Membership BENEFITS

- Access to the members-only area of SAGEweb, which offers Web-based services, including employment and job placement services, a speakers bureau, a mentoring program, and a discussion site: <http://www.sageweb.sage.org>
- The ability to join SAGE-only electronic mailing lists
- The Annual System Administration Salary Survey
- Discount on the registration fee for the annual LISA Conference
- The most recent "Short Topic in Systems Administration" series booklet – practical publications covering system administration issues and techniques, with online access to all booklets: http://sageweb.sage.org/resources/publications/short_topics.html
- The right to vote for the SAGE Executive Committee and on other SAGE matters
- A Code of Ethics for System Administrators, suitable for framing