USENIX Board of Directors Meeting

Thursday, March 28, 2019, 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.

Park Slope Room, New York Marriott at the Brooklyn Bridge

Brooklyn, New York

Minutes

Attendance

Board in Person:
Cat Allman
Kurt Andersen
Angela Demke Brown
Kurt Opsahl
Amy Rich
Carolyn Rowland

Board Remote:
Michael Bailey
Hakim Weatherspoon

Staff in Person:
Casey Henderson
Camille Mulligan -- AM only
Liz Markel -- AM only

Staff Remote:
Natalie DeJarlais
Toni Veglia
Mo Moreno -- AM only
Jessica Kim -- joined 10:15 a.m.

Rowland called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

1. Minutes of the Previous Meetings
      a. December 2018
      b. January 2019
      c. February 2019

Allman moved to approve the December, January, and February minutes as presented. Demke Brown seconded. All voted in favor; none opposed. Motion passed.

2. Changes to Regular and Consent Agenda

No changes were made to the consent agenda.

3. Potential Revived Collaboration with NLnet

Henderson and Allman proposed repurposing the code for the USENIX jobs board to create a matching website for NLnet and using USENIX communications resources to promote it.

Andersen moved to approve the proposal to repurpose USENIX jobs board code to create a matching NLnet website. Allman seconded. All voted in favor; none opposed. Motion passed.

4. Diversity and Inclusion

Markel presented the proposed Diversity and Inclusion Statement, which puts in writing USENIX's current standards. It is a living document which can be revisited, reconsidered, and revised as needed. It is posted on USENIX's current conference policies page with the Code of Conduct.

Andersen moved to accept for the Diversity and Inclusion Statement for publication as proposed. Seconded by Bailey. All voted in favor; none opposed. Motion passed.

5. 2018 Budget with Final Year End

Henderson, Veglia, and DeJarlais presented the 2018 Budget with final year end figures and responded to questions asked by the Directors.

6. Sponsorship/Sales Report

Mulligan and Moreno presented the Sponsorship/Sales Report. Mulligan, Moreno, and Henderson answered specific questions posed by Directors. Discussion ensued. Andersen asked that conferences be chronologically ordered in sponsorship reports and that more frequent reports be issued.

Weatherspoon departs for outside obligations until afternoon.

Break: 10:05-10:18 a.m.

7. Conferences

SREcons: Andersen reported on the SREcons. SREcon Asia/Australia has been re-named SREcon APAC (Asia/Pacific) to be more regionally inclusive. Co-Chairs for next year's SREcons have been provisionally identified. A fourth SREcon is being considered. Attendee representation at SREcon19 Americas increased in diversity of countries, companies, gender, and members of underrepresented populations.

Enigma: Henderson reported on Enigma. Program Co-Chairs have been confirmed. Attendance, growth, diversity, community needs, student grants, and revenue of this event were discussed.

OpML: Andersen reported on OpML. There will be two tracks of talks and a third track of tutorials. Registration is open. Henderson reported that Michael Jordan of UCB will be the first keynote speaker. Funding has been secured. There are 30 paper submissions and 33 talk proposals so far.

LISA: Rowland reported on LISA. Co-Chairs are in place, one of whom is an SREcon crossover. LISA will be a three-day event. Discussion about content ensued. LISA Build will be back this year. The CFP will be posted in mid-April.

Lunch: 12:04-1:00 p.m.

HW rejoins the call at 1:00pm
MB rejoins the call at 1:04pm

8. 2019 Final Budget

Henderson and Veglia presented the 2019 Final Budget and responded to questions posed by the Directors about specific line items, the health of the reserve fund, and investment decisions. Discussion ensued. Approval of the budget will occur after Executive Session.

9. Next Meetings

- July 8th in Renton, WA, in-person, co-located with ATC.
- December 12th in-person at USENIX office in Berkeley, CA.

10. Conferences (continued)

FAST/NSDI/Vault: Weatherspoon reported on FAST/NSDI/Vault. Co-locating the conferences enriched attendee experiences. Henderson stated that co-location was advantageous financially. FAST '20 will be held in Santa Clara with NSDI and in 2021 the events will separate. Future co-locations will be reviewed. Henderson stated that decisions about Vault are independent of FAST and NSDI. Hotel space for Vault in Santa Clara in 2020 is already procured.

Discussion about potential new events ensued.

ATC and Co-Located Events: Weatherspoon reported that ATC and co-located event planning is going well. There were 352 submissions this year (compared to 378 last year). There's a large PC and an ERC (PC members who don't go to the meeting and do less reviewing). Weatherspoon suggests providing recommendations for best practices for PCs and chairs. A Program Committee meeting will be held soon.

Security / SOUPS / PEPR: Henderson reported that things are moving along. PEPR and SOUPS integration is a work in progress. PEPR has a steering committee and a CFP. Most of the program will be via invited speakers. Security '20 CFP is open because the first deadline is May. Papers are published quarterly; the first publication is after Security. The vast majority of the community appears happy about this publishing model thus far.

Break: 2:25-2:45 p.m.

SREcon/LISA: Andersen stated there's a need for additional SREcon capacity. Discussion of membership/constituency issues and timing of SREcons and LISA ensued. Henderson presented the current LISA and SREcon schedules and options for the future. The Board encouraged Henderson to explore these options and pursue them as appropriate.

Break: 3:43 p.m.- 4:00 p.m.

11. Executive Session

Henderson and the Directors entered Executive Session.

Andersen moved to accept the current proposed final 2019 budget. Rich seconded the motion. All voted in favor; none opposed. Motion passed.

Andersen moved to adjourn the meeting. Demke Brown seconded the motion. All voted in favor; none opposed. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 6:17 p.m.

CONSENT AGENDA
Reserve Fund Performance and Projections (Samson)
January 2019 Finance Reports (Veglia)
Risk/Exposure Report (Veglia)