

**USENIX Association  
Board of Directors Meeting  
June 11, 2012  
Sheraton Boston Hotel  
9/11/12**

**Attendance:**

**Board:**

Clem Cole, Chair  
Margo Seltzer  
Brian Noble  
David Blank-Edelman  
Alva Couch  
Niels Provos  
John Arrasjid  
Matt Blaze

Board Elect:

Sasha Fedorova  
Carolyn Rowland  
Dan Wallach

**Staff:**

Andrew Gustafson  
Anne Dickison  
Casey Henderson  
Jessica Horst  
Anthony Riley  
Toni Veglia - by telephone  
Dan Klein - by teleconference  
Rik Farrow

*9:00 a.m. - Meeting begins, all present except Klein, Seltzer, Blank-Edelman, Riley, and Horst*

**Noble moved and Provos seconded the motion to approve the April 13, 2012 minutes with the following changes: That USENIX's plans for a memorial for Ritchie are for an endowed chair in his name, rather than a booklet about him. Passed: 6 in favor; 2 absent (Seltzer and Blank-Edelman).**

**Action Items**

Arrasjid said the ;login: advisory committee has two new article authors. Couch said he'd provide a final draft revision of the bylaws by Friday, and Blaze said he'd help Couch with the section on electronic voting. Cole said to expect the bylaws amendment mailing to members in 2013.

Cole said there'd be no awards at FCW'12; work to locate contacts for equipment donations is in progress; and HotPar was a vibrant success, but that the folks there understand it may need a venue change to remain viable. Couch said he would attend the CRA Snowbird Conference in July.

Noble said that NSDR would not be repeated as such. He will form an ATC Steering committee, and wants to broaden the set of participants. Blaze said he would continue to liaise with IACR after he leaves the board, and follow up on possibilities for working together along with Henderson.

*9:31 a.m. Blank-Edelman joins the meeting*

Blank-Edelman said LISA'12 was doing well, and he was speaking with Riley about reconfiguring the alias file in preparation for moving USENIX email to Gmail.

Henderson said Staff was adding Board liaisons to the program chair aliases for events going forward, beginning with 2013 events. She and Dickison said they'd like to have a personal supporter fundraising campaign, and asked the Board to identify possible individual donors. Veglia researched the documentation needed for acknowledging donations. She said that income for ads on the website would be subject to UBIT, and is going to look into it further.

*9:50 a.m. – Seltzer joins the meeting*

Veglia said she was looking at ways to report on the monetary value of USENIX student subsidies. Cole asked for raw data on the cost to USENIX for discounting student services and events.

### **Liaisons & Committees**

Seltzer explained to the new incoming Board members that each USENIX conference has a liaison on the Board of Directors. That liaison is tasked with making sure all the steps involved in organizing the conferences happen when they're supposed to. The liaisons will be on the program chair aliases, will have accounts on HotCRP, will report about the events to the board, and should attend the events.

Seltzer said the Board needed a new position of Chief Academic Officer to deal with serious issues concerning the validity and authenticity of papers submitted to any USENIX event. Noble will serve in this capacity

Provos was added to the Audit Committee to replace Seltzer; Seltzer replaced Couch, and Henderson was added, to the Bylaws and Policies Review Committee; Cole left the Executive Committee, and said he'd remain chair of the Awards committee. The office systems upgrade committee was renamed the "Information Systems Committee"..

Seltzer volunteered to be the new CRA liaison. Blank-Edelman, current LOPSA liaison, said he'd attended PICC. Dickison said that Matt Simmons was volunteering to assist Dan Klein with tutorial topics, and that LOPSA had awarded a stipend for someone to attend the USENIX WiAC'12 Workshop.

### **Staffing**

Dickison said she'd hired a marketing communications manager, Julie Miller. Henderson said she'd rehired a former employee, Michele Nelson, as Production Manager. She said that Endsley will become managing editor of ;login: when Long retires at the end of July.

*10:25 a.m. – 10:40 a.m.: Break*

### **Conference Registration Fees**

Henderson said that the 2012 Conference and Workshop Fees report included in the meeting materials shows every version of registration fees possible for all 2012 conferences. Couch said this should be the official source of registration fees, and that it should exist outside of the Policies document.

Dickison revisited the decision to discontinue registration discounts for program committee members, and Seltzer suggested that discounts be reinstated as a gesture of thanks for the members' service to USENIX. **Seltzer moved and Provos seconded a motion to restructure the discounts for program committee members so the amount of the discount would be determined by the EDs. Passed: All in favor.**

*11:00 a.m. – Riley joins the meeting*

### **Information Systems & The Project**

Riley gave a status report on office systems. He said that mail would be moving to Gmail later this summer; DNS has moved to easyDNS; we're keeping the current firewall server; HotCRP will be moved to a VM machine; and the current Asterix phone system will be moved next year. He also said he'd looked at CrashPlan for backups, and it seemed pricey.

*11:12a.m. – Klein joins meeting by teleconference*

### **Education Report**

Klein said there were thirteen tutorial videos that will be displayable for USENIX online training. Cole suggested polling attendees about tutorials they'd like to take at LISA. Klein said he had a preliminary list of tutorials for LISA'12. The Board asked for more new, cutting edge tutorial topics.

*11:26 – Klein leaves the meeting*

### **Resume Information Systems & Project report**

Riley said he'll research more backup options and report to the Board. He said we planned to keep our website on a local machine.

Henderson gave a Project report. For the benefit of the Board Members Elect, she said that by launch date in February, the database had been moved from Sybase to Salesforce, Cvent conference registration had been (mostly) integrated with Salesforce, and the transition has been a big, expensive ordeal. She is collecting data from Staff, members, etc. about fixes needed, and again encouraged the Board to include comments on the shared Google Doc. Henderson said that Giant Rabbit will handle future website work.

*12:05 p.m. – 1:05 p.m. – Lunch break*

*1:05 p.m. – Jess joins the meeting*

*1:06 p.m. – Dan Appelman joins meeting via teleconference*

Appelman said that he'd been asked to give an orientation to the new Board members about the legal and ethical responsibilities of a Board director. He said these were the duties of loyalty, care, good faith, and full disclosure/fair dealing. He said that USENIX has 50(c)(3) non-profit status as an educational and scientific, rather than charitable, organization, and that USENIX function should be to offer benefits to a wide constituency of the public.

Loyalty, Appelman said, means working for the best interests of USENIX, within the Association's mission and charter. The duty of care includes fiduciary responsibilities, such as understanding the Association's finances, operations, and budget, as well as compliance with legal requirements. Faithful disclosure and fair dealing refers to transparency with the rest of the Board and Staff, disclosing possible conflicts of interest, and not working for one's own personal advantage.

It was pointed out that USENIX had Directors and Officers insurance to cover Board members should a lawsuit be brought against them. Cole said that Board members need to be aware of their commitment to USENIX, and the time involved.

*1:36 p.m. – Appelman left the teleconference*

### **Network Monitoring**

Seltzer said that at NSDI, a student had asked if he could monitor onsite conference network activity as part of his studies. Blaze asked about the exact information the student wanted, and said that privacy protection was not trivial. Wallach suggested speaking with the student's advisor. It was suggested that NSDI'13 might be a good venue for this. Noble said he'd get back to the student to tell him to come up with a proposal for the Board's review before the next meeting, and that he'd keep Riley in the loop.

### **Dennis Ritchie Chair at Harvard**

Seltzer said the board wanted to approach Harvard about establishing a junior faculty endowed chair in memory of Dennis Ritchie. Because this is at Harvard, she needed to leave the committee due to conflict of interest. Wallach said he would work on fundraising and making this happen. Cole said he'd remain on the committee after his term expired.

### **Conferences**

Dickison said FCW was doing well with 493 attendees registered to date. She asked if HotCloud should expand, possibly into its own event with invited talks, etc. Seltzer said HotCloud seems limited to academics, and needs to grow and include more industry involvement. Arrasjid said that HotCloud could provide a new avenue for vendors to participate. Provos said that industry would be more willing to participate if there were non-academic invited and submitted talks. Cole suggested getting in touch with the Open Stack community. Dickison said the EDs would speak with the HotCloud Steering Committee about industry participation and get back to Cole.

Dickison said the recently added workshops, WiAC, Cyberlaw, and UCMS, all had about 30 attendees registered to date. Noble said that ATC needed to be more than just a place to get papers published. Wallach suggested identifying papers from ATC that could factor off into their own tracks. Noble will work on forming an ATC steering committee, and asked the Board to give him suggestions for committee members with varied interests.

Dickison said that HotPar will move to FCW'13 because it didn't have enough attendees to be a stand-alone event. She and Cole will let the HotPar steering committee know about this. Provos said he'd like to discuss LEET and WOOT at the next Board meeting concerning ways to attract more attendees.

*2:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m. – Break*

Henderson said she'd like to institute an award in recognition of the program chair who generates the highest amount of sponsorships. **Seltzer moved, Noble seconded a direction to the Staff to figure out and start giving an award for the "program chair of the year"**. **Passed: All in favor.**

Dickison said she's spoken with Matt Simmons about working with USENIX on a joint anti-discrimination policy which will describe standards for behavior at conferences. This is in response to a few serious, isolated incidents. **Blank-Edelman moved and Provos seconded a motion to form a committee with LOPSA and any other interested organization to create a joint anti-discrimination policy that applies to attendees' behavior at conferences.** **Passed: All in favor.**

Seltzer said that NSDI had been great, and she thought the 2013 program committee should work on increasing industry participation. After a brief discussion on HotICE, **Noble moved and Provos seconded a motion to discontinue the HotICE Workshop.** **Passed: All in favor.** Couch said he would notify the organizers about this decision.

Henderson said there would be three workshops at OSDI'12: HotDep, HotPower, and MAD. Blank-Edelman said he'd been helping to figure out what to do with the LISA'12 schedule after 3:30 each day, when we have to clear the rooms so the hotel can turn them for evening activities. Dickison said that on Wednesday the quiz show and happy hour will happen on the show floor. On Thursday there'll be a plenary session in the exhibit space. Plans for Friday are in progress. Rowland said there might be an un-conference IT track on Friday, and that it may expand to many rooms in the afternoon; those rooms will be free because no tutorials will be held on Friday.

Dickison asked about sponsoring EuroBSDCon; Cole and Provos were in favor of this. Dickison also said that USENIX is now the sponsor of the Vail Computer Elements Workshop.

*4:32 p.m. - Regular meeting ends*

*4:37 p.m. - 4:50 p.m. - Executive Session*

*4:50 p.m. - Regular meeting begins with new board members in office.*

Henderson outlined the contents of the handbooks given to the new Board members. Committees and Liaisons were assigned, as shown in the appended "USENIX Committees & Board Liaisons" document.

Seltzer, as new president, asked that each Board member spend five minutes each day thinking about USENIX, and how to increase membership. She said directors should be more engaged in the Board, and complete action items. She asked that board members notify the rest of the Board about times when they will be out of email contact.

Noble gave a short talk for the new Board members about USENIX's revenue & expenses and budget. He said USENIX operating revenue came from membership, conference registrations, and sponsorships, and operating expenses were direct conference, membership, and project costs, plus allocated expenses from personnel and general & administrative costs. Seltzer said that the Board sets the policies for the reserve fund investments

Noble said that USENIX was forgoing a large revenue stream by allowing open access to all USENIX conference proceedings. Dickison said she was working on publicizing USENIX's open access policy.

**Next Meeting**

Will be held on October 11, 2012 at OSDI in Hollywood.

**Provos moved, Noble seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting. Passed: All in favor.**

*6:08 p.m. - Meeting adjourned*

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Toni Veglia". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Toni Veglia, HR & Finance Manager, Note-Taker  
September 18, 2012