

USENIX Association

Board of Directors Meeting

March 28, 2014

Minutes, 03/28/14

Attendance:

Board:

Carolyn Rowland

Margo Seltzer

David Blank-Edelman

Brian Noble

Dan Wallach

John Arrasjid - joined 9:30 am ET via GoTo Meeting

Sasha Fedorova - joined 1:32pm ET via GoTo Meeting

Staff:

Casey Henderson

Joining by Phone/GoToMeeting

Camille Mulligan

Toni Veglia

Glenn Samson - Joined 10:23am

Julie Miller - joined after morning break

Judy Bausch - joined 1:32pm ET

Arnold Gatilao - joined 1:32pm ET

Michele Nelson - joined 3:06pm ET

Guests:

Eric Riedel, EMC - joined 4:17pm ET

Called to order 9:02am ET

Agenda

Continental Breakfast: 8:15 a.m.-9:00 a.m.

1. Minutes of the Previous Meetings (5 minutes) (Seltzer)

a. December

Motion to approve, 5 in favor, 0 opposed.

b. February

Motion to approve, 5 in favor, 0 opposed.

2. Changes to Regular and Consent Agenda (5 minutes) (Seltzer)

Lunch will not be here until 12:30. No changes to the agenda or consent agenda thus far.

3. 2014 Final Budget (70 minutes) (Henderson and Veglia)

New budget draft put in front of the BOD with LISA changes including average of LISA '12 and '13 numbers and estimate for LISA '14. USENIX is re-negotiating contracts for LISA properties because they were made 4-5 years ago and LISA requirements have changed; room blocks and connectivity requirements do not meet our needs today.

Discussion of NSF proposal efforts. NSF program is similar to ours so it is a good match.

Henderson is planning to hire a Deputy within the next six weeks so the Deputy could be in the office by June.

Move to accept, seconded, 6 vote for the new budget (unanimous)

4. Reserve Fund Performance and Projections (20 minutes) (Samson)

Glenn Samson gave the BOD a rundown of the USENIX reserve fund performance and predictions for future performance. Statements for the fund's performance may be included in the consent agenda for June.

Glenn Samson leaves call at 10:36am ET

Break: 10:23-10:30 a.m.

Reconvened at 11:05am ET

5. Strategic Plan/Discussion for 2014-15, Part 2 (70 minutes) (Henderson)

a. Fundraising

Discussed fundraising strategy and plans for the new Deputy Director position as it relates to it. More will be discussed at the next in-person meeting in June, during which the new Board will convene.

The next BOD meeting is either the Thursday or the Friday of FCW depending on availability of the current and new BOD members.

Discussed USENIX branding and how other organizations have approached this. Structured branding within our communities is one option that might work well for us.

b. Defining Conferences and the Menu of Services

In December we talked about using the menu of services to engage with other organizations if there is some kind of return we are going to see. That's going to happen in 2015 because we had already scheduled some things in 2014. This has the potential to be a huge resource drain on the staff who are already trying to work on existing USENIX projects. We are at max capacity for our services for this year.

When we think about selling services, we have 1) Our events that we understand 2) Events for which we are willing to provide some visible branded sponsorship, 3) people for whom we are a fee-for-service organization. USENIX is in cooperation with other events (#2). We aren't saying that it's a USENIX conference but we're saying that USENIX is hanging out with them. It helps get the USENIX name out to other communities. The ED and staff do talk about these internally and make these decisions.

c. NSF Event Support

Discussed our work with the NSF. Being a non-profit and open access fits in with the mission of the Administration.

9. FAST '15 and NSDI '15 (30 minutes) (Henderson, Noble, and Seltzer)

Moved this item earlier in the agenda because of lunch timing.

Discussed strategic direction for both NSDI and FAST to ensure these events serve their communities.

Lunch: 12:34-1:32 p.m.
Sasha Fedorova joins 1:32pm ET
Judy Bausch joins 1:32pm ET

6. Information Systems (30 minutes) (Henderson and Riley)

Anthony Riley provides a report on the state of the organization's information systems. Because he will be leaving eventually (mid-May or June), he is working to prepare USENIX to operate without a full-time on-site system administrator. Part of this includes moving the paper submission system, HotCrp, to a managed provider. IT desktop support can be provided by the current ISP, LMI. They can do hands-on or remote support for machines in the office.

Talked about LISA networking challenges and plans for improving it for attendees in 2014. Tutorial rooms need the best network connectivity to allow for labs that use the network.

Anthony leaves the call

7. Web Site (30 minutes) (Gatilao, Henderson, and Nelson)

Arnold Gatilao presented usability challenges with the current website. We would like to improve the site to include an online store to include ;login:. We have submitted this issue to the site developer as a feature request. Their proposal to resolve this included other things we also want to fix with regard to the site.

Motion to approve funding work to fix the web site as proposed by Gatilao. Seconded. Approved by all present

Gatilao leaves the call 3:05pm ET
Michele Nelson joins the meeting 3:05pm ET

Michele Nelson discusses Digital Object Identifiers (DOI) relating to USENIX publications. The BOD had questions about DOIs.

Break: 3:25 - 3:32 p.m.

8. LISA Conference and SREcon (45 minutes) (Blank-Edelman, Henderson, and Rowland)

Discussed LISA '14 and '15 organization and challenges, including marketing plans. Need to document working parts of LISA '14 process for LISA '15.

Discussed SREcon marketing strategy and current state of the event.

10. Federated Conferences Week (60 minutes) (Henderson and Noble)

Eric Riedel joined the meeting to discuss HotStorage and FCW.

Discussed the modification of FCW after 2014 and what the future would hold for each of the current events at FCW. Eric Riedel weighed in on the HotStorage and HotCloud communities. Discussion of the potential overlap between HotStorage, ATC and HotCloud.

5:05 ended main Meeting

11. Next Meetings (5 minutes) (Seltzer)

June 19 or 20 of June (FCW in Philly)

Exec session (no notes)

Move to adjourn, seconded. 6 BOD members in favor, none against.

Adjourned 6:14pm ET

Dinner: 6:30 p.m. at [Gran Gusto](#), 90 Sherman Street, Cambridge, MA