

Message from the Program Co-Chairs

Dear Colleagues,

We welcome you to the 10th USENIX Conference on File and Storage Technologies (FAST '12). This year we are proud to carry on the FAST tradition of presenting high-quality, innovative file and storage systems research. The program has a diverse set of papers on such topics as mobile and cloud storage systems, file system correctness, flash, deduplication, and the integration of new technologies such as GPUs. FAST continues to be a premier venue to bring together researchers and practitioners from the academic and industrial communities. This, too, is reflected in the program, which includes a balance of papers from universities and industry. Our community is increasingly an international one. This trend is reflected in the authors of this year's papers, whose affiliations come from nine countries and three continents.

FAST '12 received a record 137 submissions, of which 26 papers were selected, for an acceptance rate of 19%. Papers were reviewed using a two-round process. All papers received at least three reviews in the first round. Based on these reviews, 79 papers received two additional reviews. After vigorous electronic discussion, 56 of these papers were discussed at an all-day program committee meeting in Redmond, Washington. We used Eddie Kohler's excellent HotCRP software to handle paper submissions, reviews, PC discussion, and notifications.

This year, we introduced a new category of short papers to the program. Our intent was that such papers be held to the same high quality bar as regular submissions. Consequently, we did not separate such papers during the PC discussion, and we do not mark them separately in the program. We received 38 such submissions, of which 7 were accepted. The 18% acceptance rate was almost identical to the rate for full-length papers. We are hopeful that this format will prove to be a useful mechanism to report on results that may be inappropriate for a full-length submission.

We would like to thank everyone who contributed to this program. First and foremost, we are indebted to all the authors who submitted papers to FAST '12. We had a large body of high-quality work from which to select our program. We would also like to thank the attendees of FAST '12 and future readers of these papers. Together with the authors, you form the FAST community and make storage research vibrant and fun.

We would also like to recognize USENIX and the USENIX staff, who make all aspects of assembling a conference program easy. The USENIX staff provided outstanding support at all phases of this endeavor. They are largely responsible for the success of FAST this and every year. Thanks!

Finally, we would like to thank the Program Committee members for their countless hours and dedication. Due to the record number of papers we received, they had to put up with a heavier-than-anticipated review load. They, together with a few external reviewers, wrote 589 separate reviews comprising over 333,000 words of knowledgeable and insightful evaluation of the submitted work. In addition to writing reviews, the PC was very thoughtful during pre-meeting electronic discussions and at the PC meeting itself. We also thank our student scribe, Dutch Meyer, who took careful notes of the PC discussion so that we could report the content to authors.

We look forward to an interesting and enjoyable conference!

Bill Bolosky, Microsoft Research
Jason Flinn, University of Michigan
Program Co-Chairs

