

# Message from the Program Chair

Dear LISA Attendee,

Technology is advancing fast, and we all need to be on top of it. Our job is to design, build, and maintain it to serve business needs. Our job is a highly dynamic one, not only due to rapid changes in technology itself, but also because the way that technology is used or delivered changes as well. For example, new ways of computing mean that many of us are busily moving applications to the cloud or from machines that run multiple applications to virtualized boxes or appliances just running one task.

These developments have a huge impact on the sysadmin profession, both in a technical and a nontechnical fashion. It is important for us to have a venue to continuously learn, share experiences, and develop ourselves and our skills. LISA is there for you and by you to serve these needs. In addition to attending presentations, please get completely immersed and experience the hallway track and the Birds-of-a-Feather sessions. This is the place to discuss tech in general, as well as to present your issues in the workplace (tech and nontech alike) and help others with theirs.

LISA has come a long way from the small workshops of the 1980s. It has always been the place for sysadmins, but it has matured into one of the flagship conferences USENIX organizes. The week is packed full: 3 days of tech sessions, 6 days of training comprising 48 classes led by world experts, 7 workshops, 2 poster sessions, and numerous other sessions and events. Be proud that *you* are part of this event!

Organizing such a conference takes about a year and involves over 200 people. All have their own important parts to play in building the event. My job was just being one of those people. It happened to be labeled “Program Chair,” but the credit goes to all the others, who are just as important as “the chair.” Please give them a huge *thank you*.

This year we decided to add a second track, practice and experience reports, in addition to the regular refereed papers track. We did this because we want to encourage people to share experiences and best practices in a more formal way. We wanted the reports to include a small write-up, so that there would be a record of what was presented. Looking at the submission numbers, we find that this idea worked out quite well. Of the total of 63 submissions, we had 45 regular papers and 18 experience reports. In a day-long meeting the program committee accepted 18 papers and 9 experience reports. I hope you like the selection and take home some good experiences and practical ideas. Also, please think about submitting something yourself for next year!

As a last word, I would thank you all for coming. Be sure to enjoy yourselves and have as much fun at the conference as I did in helping organizing it.

**Rudi van Drunen, Competa IT and Xlexit Technology, The Netherlands**  
**Program Chair**

