Talitarianism was the enormous effect exerted by messages... electronics communications technology.

But my favorite remarks are by Philip Hughes, co-founder in 1969 of Logica and unsung software hero: “I believe... the next 40 years will see much more dramatic change than the past 40 years.”

Hughes itemizes some of the advances:

- Optical fibre
- Communications satellites
- Electronic mail
- Video communications
- Mobile phones

Not at all shabby. In fact, I think Hughes is the only one in these two books who lands in the gold.

But I think it’s important to realize just how poorly we do at forecasting the future.

I’ve been hearing more and more about the “intelligent” home for the past 15 years. Yet every living room I’ve been in over the past year has a “blinking” VCR/DVD player. I can’t enumerate the number of cars I’ve been in with the wrong time. If folks can’t set/fix these, what good will more advanced features be?

When I was at Penguicon, I was asked how come I knew “this stuff” when “my parents can’t send email? And you’re older than they are.” I don’t know. But I know that Bill Gates’ recent talk about intelligent home appliances was just that: talk.

Heinlein talked of his work as “future history.” We’re making that history... but we don’t know what it will be.

Note: I went to my first USENIX Conference in Toronto in 1979.

Ú SACO TEAM BRINGS HOME THE GOLD XXXXXXXXXXXXI

ROB KOLSTAD,
USACO HEAD COACH
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Last issue, I wrote all about the USA Computing Olympiad and the USA Invitational Computer Olympiad. We chose four students to represent the U.S.A. at the International Olympiad on Informatics, the high school programming world championships, which were held in Nowy Sacz, Poland, August 18–25.

I am delighted to report that our four students excelled. Veterans Eric Price and Alex Schwendner joined with John Pardon and Matt McCutchen to garner four gold medals. Eric Price achieved the rare perfect score, earning 300 points on each day of the competition.

This is an extraordinary event, rarely achieved and almost never repeated. That being said, both China and the Slovak Republic also won four gold medals, leaving only 12 medals for the remaining 67 countries.

The 2005–2006 season is gearing up with contests scheduled for:

- December 9–12, 2005
- January 13–16, 2006
- February 10–13, 2006
- March 17–20, 2006
- April 27, 2006

If you know pre-college students who would enjoy competing, please send them to http://www.usaco.org to learn all about how it works.

Thanks to USENIX for their tremendous support over the years!

The USACO continues to strive to accomplish its mission with an expanding number of programs and qualifying events. If you’d like to assist or if your organization would like to support the USACO, please contact Rob Kolstad at kolstad@usenix.org.

THANKS TO OUR VOLUNTEERS

ELLIE YOUNG,
USENIX EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
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USENIX’s success would not be possible without the volunteers who lend their expertise and support for our conferences, publications, and member services. While there are many who serve on program committees, coordinate the various activities at the conferences, work on committees, and contribute to this magazine, I would like to make special mention of the following individuals who made significant contributions in 2005:

The program chairs for our 2005 conferences:

Vivek Pai, General Track at 2005 USENIX Annual Technical Conference
Niels Provos, FREENIX/Open Source Track at USENIX’05
Amin Vahdat and David Wetherall, 2nd NSDI
David Kotz and Brian Noble, program chairs, Third MobiSys
Kang G. Shin, general chair, Third MobiSys
Ron Ambrosio, Chatschik Biskipikian, Maria Papdopouli, and Dina Papagiannaki, program
As of December 2005

USENIX has been experi-
L O G I N:
B. Krishnamurthy for his efforts as '05 steering committee for MobiSys
Victor Bahl for his efforts on the SIG-Comm/USENIX Internet Measurement Conference

And:

Author for his efforts on the steering committee for MobiSys '05
B. Krishnamurthy for his efforts as liaison and his work on the steering committee for the SIG-Comm/USENIX Internet Measurement Conference
Peter Honeyman for his efforts in reaching out to other groups, international and domestic: the OpenAFS community, the SANE conference, What the Hack, and the Middleware conference
Jennifer Davis of BayLISA in helping USENIX organize the first SF Bay Area Super User Group meeting, held in November 2005

Michael B. Jones, Clem Cole, Alva Couch, Theodore Ts'o, Matt Blaze, Jon Hall, Geoff Halprin, and Kirk McKusick, for their service on the USENIX Board in 2005

Rob Kolstad and Don Piele for their efforts with the USA Computing Olympiad, sponsored by USENIX
Kirk McKusick and Dan Geer for serving on the USENIX 2006 Nominating Committee

Mike Jones for serving as liaison to the Computing Research Association

USENIX is grateful to all!

Invited Talk/Special Track Chairs and Coordinators:

USENIX '05:
Ethan Miller and Erez Zadok, Invited Talks
Atul Adya, Poster Session

Security '05:
Virgil Gligor and Gary McGraw, Invited Talks

LISA '05:
Adam Moskowitz and Bill LeFebvre, Invited Talks
Philip Kizer, Guru Is In Sessions
Luke Kanies, Workshops

And:

Victor Bahl for his efforts on the steering committee for MobiSys '05
B. Krishnamurthy for his efforts as liaison and his work on the steering committee for the SIG-Comm/USENIX Internet Measurement Conference

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