

15th Systems Administration Conference (LISA 2001)

Sponsored by USENIX, the Advanced Computing Systems Association, and SAGE, the System Administrators Guild
<http://www.usenix.org/events/lisa2001>

December 2-7, 2001

Town & Country Resort Hotel, San Diego, California

Important Dates:

Extended abstracts due: *June 5, 2001*
Invited Talk proposals due: *June 5, 2001*
Workshop proposals due: *June 5, 2001*
Notification to authors: *July 2001*
Final papers due: *October 1, 2001*

Conference Organizers:

Program Chair

Mark Burgess, *Oslo University College*

Program Committee

Eric Anderson, *Univ. California, Berkeley*
William Annis, *University of Wisconsin*
Alva Couch, *Tufts University*
Emmett Hogan, *Certainty Solutions*
Adam Moskowitz, *Consultant*
Phil Scarr, *Certainty Solutions*
John Sellens, *Certainty Solutions*
Jon Stearley, *Univ. New Mexico*
Sigmund Straumnsnes, *Oslo University College*

Ozan S. Yigit, *Sun Microsystems*

Invited Talks Coordinators

Esther Filderman, *Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center*

Tom Limoncelli, *Lumeta Corp*

Network/Security Track Coordinators

Cat Okita, *Global Crossing, Ltd.*

Tom Perrine, *San Diego Supercomputing Center*

Workshop Coordinator

Pat Wilson, *Univ. California, San Diego*

The Guru Is In Coordinator

Lee Damon, *University of Washington*

"Managing the virtual computer communities of the 21st century"

For fifteen years, LISA conferences have been the leading forum for system administrators to meet, learn, and exchange ideas on every aspect of computer and network management. Today, the need for LISA has never been clearer, as networks grow and large computer systems are ever more apparent, not in monolithic form, but as societies of smaller systems, cooperating towards common goals.

LISA's refereed technical sessions cover the latest developments, both in theory and in practice, while tutorials for beginners and experienced attendees cover all aspects of network and system administration. The Invited Talk and theme tracks provide a selection of broader overviews on timely and entertaining topics, while workshops allow small groups to work together on subjects of special interest. LISA is a major social event, where you will have the chance to meet some 2000 like-minded individuals from all over the planet (and perhaps beyond), chat with them in the hallways and parties, share expertise at a Guru Is In session, or re-group informally in small Birds-of-a-Feather (BoF) sessions on impromptu topics.

By attending LISA you are contributing to computer management *state-of-the-art*, spreading knowledge about one of the most important challenges of the next century: living with the machines!

Conference Topics

The Program Committee invites you to join the contributors to the LISA XV conference. Submissions of refereed papers or other presentations which address any and all aspects of system administration are acceptable. Here is a partial list of timely paper topics for potential authors:

Technologies

- Evaluations of innovative system administration tools and techniques (rehashes of old tools are not acceptable unless they clearly bring something new to the field).
- Distributed or automated system administration
- High availability and disaster recovery
- Designing, selecting, scaling, integrating and managing "enterprise" computing services.
- Security (all aspects)
- Applications of tools, techniques, and methods from other disciplines
- Integration of new networking technologies, protocols, and applications
- Integration of emerging technologies
- Performance analysis and monitoring

Education

- University teaching programmes
- Effective training techniques for system administration

Theory and Practice of System

Administration

- Methodology, paradigms, and models for system administration
- Analysis of "best practices" in systems administration
- Analysis and comparison of alternative systems for systems administration tasks
- Case studies
- Application of scientific methods to systems administration
- Metrics for systems administration
- Performance analysis and monitoring
- Budgeting, cost analyses, and project planning/management techniques for systems administration.

User-System Interaction

- System administration management issues
- User health and safety
- User psychology
- Support strategies
- The system administrator's role in the organization

Computer Immunology in System

Administration

- Host regulation
- Convergent automation in distributed systems
- Security and stability

Technical Track and Symposia

The Program Committee invites authors to submit papers for refereeing, or proposals for symposium presentations, on any aspect of network and system administration. Contributions will be judged for their clarity, technical content, timeliness, and originality.

Papers should be original works, reported in the context of 'the big picture', i.e. referring to past work, and suggesting directions for future research. The year 2001 is ripe with symbolism and we wish to celebrate this with a visionary LISA, which looks forward to new challenges,

possibilities, and technologies. We particularly encourage contributions which:

- Look forward to future technologies and methods
- Report impartially on experiments testing new ideas
- Develop testable hypotheses for future investigation
- Explore the plausibility of new approaches, and the longevity of established ones
- Deepen our understanding of interaction between humans and machine
- Protect systems from being overwhelmed by scale and diversity
- Protect systems for the onslaught of computer warfare
- Discuss how sysadmin roles are changing

Best Paper Awards

Cash prizes will be awarded at the conference for the best paper and for the best paper by a student. Prizes are for papers accepted to the refereed paper track.

Tutorial Program

LISA offers state-of-the-art tutorials from top experts in their fields. Topics range from introductory skills to advanced topics, updates on developments and news. You can choose from over 40 full and half-day tutorials, covering everything from performance tuning, Linux, Solaris, Windows, Perl, TCP/IP troubleshooting, security, networking, network services, sendmail, Samba, legal issues, and professional development.

To provide the best possible tutorial offerings, USENIX continually solicits proposals for new tutorials. If you are interested in presenting a tutorial at this or other USENIX conferences, please contact the tutorial coordinator:

Daniel V. Klein
Tel: 1.412.422.0285
Fax: 1.412.421.2332
Email: dvk@usenix.org

Invited Talks

The Invited Talks track range from the highly technical, to the highly informative, to the highly entertaining!

Some example speaker topics:

- The latest security "hot topics"
- The next step in "Unified Messaging"
- Building wireless network infrastructures.
- Managing your stock options.
- Building a digital house.

Panels on these topics:

- Decoding industry buzzwords.
- The BOFH issue.
- How government policy affects sysadmins.

If you have a topic of interest to systems administrators that is suitable for an Invited Talk, please submit a proposal to the Invited Talk coordinators. Proposals of a business development or marketing nature are not appropriate for submittal. Please email your proposal to: lisa01it@usenix.org.
Invited Talk proposals due: June 5th, 2001.

Workshops

For the past several years, the LISA conferences have included workshops on Advanced Topics, Global LISA, Teaching Sys Admin, AFS, and others.

Limited-attendance, special-topic workshops will be offered alongside the Tutorial Program at LISA 2001. If you are interested in organizing one, please submit a workshop proposal. The proposal should address the following questions/issues:

- 1) workshop organizers
- 2) topic/goals
- 3) format
- 4) projected attendance (we have one room, with a capacity of up to 60 people in a "classroom" configuration, a smaller number in a "roundtable" configuration)
- 5) target audience
- 6) how you will recruit participants
- 7) special needs, if any
- 8) anything else we should know

Please submit proposals via email to lisa01workshops@usenix.org no later than June 5, 2001.

Work-in-Progress Reports

Do you have interesting work you would like to share, or a cool idea that is not yet ready to be published? The USENIX audience provides valuable discussion and feedback. We are particularly interested in presentation of student work. To schedule your short report, send email to: lisa01wips@usenix.org.

Birds-of-a-Feather Sessions

Birds-of-a-Feather sessions (BoFs) are very informal gatherings organized by attendees interested in a particular topic. BoFs are held Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday evenings. BoFs may be scheduled in

advance by phoning 1.510.528.8649 or via email to: conference@usenix.org. BoFs may also be scheduled at the conference.

Submissions

An extended abstract of two to five pages is required for the paper selection process. Full papers are not acceptable at this stage; if you send a full paper, you must also include an extended abstract.

Include appropriate references to establish that you are familiar with related work, and, where possible, provide detailed data to establish that you have a working implementation or measurement tool.

Submissions will be judged on the quality of the written submission, and whether or not the work advances the state-of-the-art of system administration. For more information, please consult the detailed author guidelines at: <http://www.usenix.org/events/lisa2001/cfp/guidelines.html>.

Note that LISA, like most conferences and journals, requires that papers not be submitted simultaneously to more than one conference or publication, and that submitted papers not be previously or subsequently published elsewhere for a certain period of time. Papers accompanied by non-disclosure agreement forms are not acceptable and will be returned unread. All submissions are held in the highest confidence prior to publication in the conference proceedings, both as a matter of policy and as protected by the U.S. Copyright Act of 1976.

All submissions will be electronic, in ASCII, PDF, or PostScript format. Please use the Web form located on the LISA 2001 Web site. For administrative reasons, every submission should include one additional page containing: (i) paper title and authors, indicating any who are full time students, and (ii) for the author who will act as the contact to the program committee, his or her name, paper mail address, daytime and evening phone numbers, e-mail address and fax number, if available.

Every accepted paper must be presented at the conference by at least one author. Authors of an accepted paper must provide a final paper for publication in the conference proceedings. One author of each accepted paper receives complimentary technical session registration. Final papers

are limited to 20 pages, including diagrams, figures and appendices. Complete instructions will be sent to authors of accepted papers.

Writing a paper is a time consuming and often painful struggle from start to finish. It is recommended that you start now in order to finish on time. Authors should browse previous proceedings of LISA conferences for reference, and use the online bibliography and resource page at Oslo University College (<http://www.iu.hio.no/SystemAdmin>) to find references to related work.

Submissions may be of any length, up to a maximum of about 20 printed pages. The program committee is particularly interested in contributions from research students and younger contributors.

Program and Registration Information

Complete program and registration information will be available in September 2001 at the conference website at: <http://www.usenix.org/events/lisa2001>. The information will be in a printable PDF file.

If you would like to receive the program booklet in print, please email your request, including your postal address, to conference@usenix.org.