Message from the
USENIX ATC '16 Program Co-Chairs

Welcome to the 2016 USENIX Annual Technical Conference.

This year's program committee has put together a program of 47 refereed papers and four practitioner talks. These papers and talks span a wide range of topics, covering both novel research contributions and practical ideas in storage systems, networking, memory management, data analytics, parallel and distributed systems, mobile computing and consumer electronics, security, reliability, and virtualization.

For the traditional refereed papers track, we received a near-record number of paper registrations and submissions this year. Authors registered 297 abstracts, of which 248 were submitted as complete papers. The program co-chairs rejected 11 papers up front due to serious format violations. Of the submitted papers, 35 were short papers, which had to be at most 5 pages long plus references, and the other 213 were full-length papers, which had to be at most 11 pages long plus references.

Reviewing was single-blind, done by the program committee in two rounds, with a few external reviews. In the first round, each of the 248 submitted papers received two reviews. Papers receiving at least one "weak accept" or better (i.e., "accept" or "strong accept") review moved on to the second round. In total, 166 papers moved on, and 82 papers were tentatively rejected. In the second round, each paper received at least two more reviews. After round two, 61 papers were tentatively rejected. Next, we discussed the remaining papers online; a total of 105 papers were discussed online after round two.

Altogether, more than 820 reviews were completed.

After two phases of review, an online discussion was conducted among reviewers, during which the program committee decided to accept 17 highly-ranked papers, reject 16 more papers, and to further discuss 72 papers during the in-person program committee meeting. The meeting was held on 7th and 8th April at the Facebook campus in Menlo Park, California. Four PC members called in; one of them could not attend; the other members all attended in person. Over a period of one and half days, the committee decided to accept 47 papers, including the 17 papers that were accepted earlier. Among these 47 papers, one was a short paper.

We continued the track for industrial practitioners talks and accepted five talks. We also continued the tradition of inviting best of the rest talks from the best papers at other USENIX-sponsored conferences and invited talks from FAST, NSDI, LISA, and SOSP.

The program committee was comprised of 36 members, including the two co-chairs. Fifteen of them were affiliated with industrial organizations and 21 were affiliated with academic organizations. The committee represented three continents and seven countries. Program committee members were allowed to submit papers. One of the co-chairs also submitted one paper and was conflicted on a few of them. All of the co-chairs' papers and conflicts were handled using a token-based review process to guarantee complete anonymity. We followed conventional rules for handling conflicts of interest: conflicted members (or co-chairs) left the room during discussion of conflicted papers.

In addition to the authors that submitted their work for consideration, the program committee, and the external reviewers, we would like to thank the USENIX staff that took care of all organizational details. Their help made our jobs a lot easier and allowed us to focus on reviewing papers and putting together the technical program. We would also like to thank Facebook for their generosity in hosting the PC meeting.

We hope that you enjoy the conference, and thank you for participating in the USENIX ATC community.

USENIX ATC '16 Program Co-Chairs
Hakim Weatherspoon, *Cornell University*
Ajay Gulati, *Zerostack Inc.*