Message from the
OSDI '20 Program Co-Chairs

Dear colleagues,

Welcome to the 14th USENIX Symposium on Operating Systems Design and Implementation (OSDI '20)!

This year's program offers an unprecedented 70 exceptional papers. These papers represent the many strengths of our community and cover a wide range of topics, including file and storage systems, networking, scheduling, security, formal verification of systems, cluster management, system support for machine learning, hardware, consistency, consensus protocols, debugging, and, of course, operating systems design and implementation.

Our committee received a bumper crop of 400 submissions, an increase of more than 50% over OSDI '18. This growth demanded that we modify the review process and grow the committee at the last minute to handle the load. When you bump into a PC member, give them a huge thank you! Sixty-five members participated, including academics, industrial researchers, and industrial practitioners. Papers received two reviews in the first round; 305 advanced to round two, where they received an additional review. Of those, 177 advanced to round three, where they received three more reviews. For a small number of papers, where opinions were divided or where a paper was particularly specialized, we solicited additional expert reviews. In total, the PC and external reviewers wrote more than 1.6 million words in more than 1,600 thoughtful reviews.

After a rigorous online discussion across the full PC, the heavy PC members discussed 101 papers in a virtual 2-day PC meeting. The PC chairs strove to ensure that all the discussed papers received full and fair consideration, coming to a consensus agreement in almost every case. Papers were placed into high-level categories according to their main topic so that similar papers could be discussed together at the PC meeting. All discussed papers received a summary of the PC discussion written by a heavy PC member. In the end, the PC selected 70 papers for presentation at the conference, resulting in an 18% acceptance rate, similar to prior years. Each of the accepted papers was allocated an additional two pages and shepherded by a member of the heavy PC to help the authors address the reviewers' comments in their camera-ready versions.

After finalizing the program, we created a separate committee to decide the Jay Lepreau Best Paper Awards composed of PC members with no conflicts with the papers under consideration. PC members nominated papers for these awards. We selected four papers with at least two nominations for best paper as candidates for the award. After reading the nominated papers and considering the reviews from the full PC, the awards committee agreed on three Jay Lepreau Best Paper Awards.

As PC co-chairs, we stand on the shoulders of so many who did a tremendous amount of hard work to make OSDI '20 a success. First, we thank the authors of all submitted papers for choosing to send their work to OSDI. Thanks also to the program committee for their hard work in reviewing and discussing the submissions and in shepherding the accepted papers. We thank Vijay Chidambaram and James Mickens for organizing the Ask Me Anything sessions, and we thank Malte Schwarzkopf, Aastha Mehta, Natacha Crooks, and Brian Noble for organizing the student mentoring sessions. We are delighted that Anjo Vahldiek-Oberwagner, Eric Eide, and Ryan Stutsman have organized the artifact evaluation process. We are also grateful to the external reviewers who provided additional perspectives. We thank the USENIX staff, who have been fundamental in organizing OSDI '20 in an especially difficult year. Finally, OSDI wouldn't be what it is without our attendees—thank you for listening to our speakers, asking challenging and insightful questions, sharing your ideas with others, and networking with one another in Slack!

We hope you will find OSDI '20 interesting, educational, and inspiring!

Shan Lu, *University of Chicago*
Jon Howell, *VMware*
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