Message from the Program Co-Chairs

NSDI '08 carries on the conference's tradition of presenting excellent and innovative work in the area of networked systems. We continue to take a broad view of that charter, selecting papers from across the range of the USENIX, SIGCOMM, and SIGOPS communities, rather than their intersection. The result is a strong program with a broad set of papers addressing topics from resource-rich corporate environments to challenging developing-region deployments, from application security to packet-filtering performance, and from monitoring, understanding, and debugging what is there to designing what is next.

We received 175 paper submissions, up from 110–120 in recent years. This big jump testifies to the success of the past four NSDI conferences in establishing this top venue for the networked systems community, but it left us scrambling a bit to cope with the increased volume while maintaining the standards that have made this conference such a success. We put out a call to past program committee members for assistance, and nearly everyone we contacted quickly agreed to help by serving as "Light" program committee members and providing thoughtful reviews for at least three papers.

All submissions were reviewed by several members of the program committee and selected external reviewers. Of the 175 submissions, about 100 moved on to receive a second round of reviewing. Altogether, the committee and reviewers completed 796 reviews to lay the groundwork for a ten-hour meeting in Austin, Texas, on December 17, at which the program committee selected 30 papers for the final program. Each of these papers was then shepherded by a program committee member.

We are grateful to everyone whose hard work makes this conference possible. Most of all, we are grateful to all of the authors who submitted their work to this conference. We thank the program committee for their dedication and hard work in reviewing an unexpectedly high number of submissions. We thank the PC-Light and external reviewers for lending their expertise on short notice. Thanks to the the USENIX staff for handling the conference logistics, marketing, and proceedings publication; it is a pleasure to work with such pros. We extend special thanks to Eddie Kohler for providing and supporting his terrific HotCRP reviewing system, and we thank Derek Murray for setting up and running it for us. We thank Derek Murray and Navendu Jain for acting as scribes at the PC meeting. Finally, we thank the NSDI '08 attendees and future readers of these papers: in the end, it is your interest in this work that makes all of these efforts worthwhile.

We look forward to seeing you in San Francisco!

Jon Crowcroft, University of Cambridge
Mike Dahlin, The University of Texas at Austin
NSDI '08 Program Co-Chairs