USENIX Association
Board of Directors Meeting
September 14, 2018
8:00 am PST via Video Conference
Minutes

Attendance

Board:
Kurt Andersen
Michael Bailey
Angela Demke Brown
Kurt Opsahl
Amy Rich
Carolyn Rowland

Staff:
Natalie DeJarlais
Casey Henderson
Ginny Staubach

Not Present:
Cat Allman
Hakim Weatherspoon

Rowland called the meeting to order at 8:04 am PST

Agenda

1) Financial systems plans update

Henderson presented the current status of USENIX's in-house financial systems, gave background, and outlined plans going forward, which would involve engaging a third-party company to assist. DeJarlais reported that eleven third-party firms were narrowed down to two, and recommended Sutro Li, which could eventually operate as CFO, providing redundancy and succession planning. Discussion ensued.

Andersen moved to approve engaging Sutro Li at $5000/month for the remainder of 2018 and all of 2019. Seconded by Opsahl. All voted in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.

2) Operational Machine Learning Conference

Henderson resumed discussion of the Operational Machine Learning Conference, previously introduced at the July meeting, with an expanded proposal and budget based on Board feedback. The proposal and budget were reviewed and discussion ensued.

Bailey moved to approve the proposed Operational Machine Learning conference. Andersen seconded the motion. All voted in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.

3) SREcon update
Henderson reported that SREcon EMEA sold out in record time with over 600 attendees, making it the largest SREcon EMEA yet. SREcon Americas will be held in NYC in the spring. Sponsorship sales are good. SREcon Asia/Australia will be in Singapore in a new, higher-capacity venue; SREcon EMEA in Dublin will be at the Convention Centre to increase capacity. A discussion on the size of these conferences, which are on track to exceed 1K attendees, ensued. Andersen reported on Steering Committee considerations.

4) Awards Committee check-in
Discussion of the current composition and strategy of the Awards Committee ensued. Committee size and composition is appropriate right now and additional committee members are not being sought.

5) UNIX Anniversary update
A long-time member proposed a celebration in support of UNIX's Anniversary. The Board, as previously discussed at the July meeting, continued to support some recognition at events already planned, but not a separate event. Discussion ensued. Henderson will reach out to this member with ideas for how his historical knowledge might be employed.

Henderson opened the floor for additional topics. Opsahl observed that USENIX Security had record attendance and went smoothly despite issues the staff experienced with the venue. Henderson introduced discussion of other co-located events, noting in particular that co-location with SOUPS was successful. It was the largest SOUPS ever with over 200 attendees. Discussion of the ASE event ensued, with Henderson recommending its discontinuation. Bailey concurred. No objections were raised.

Next meetings: October 18, 2018, 9:00 am PST via video conference.
There is no November meeting due to the following all-day, in-person meeting at USENIX Berkeley office on December 6, 2018.

Andersen moved to adjourn. Demke Brown seconded. All in favor; none opposed. Meeting adjourned at 9:00 am PST.