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A Quarterly Publication of the ACM Special Interest Group on Operating Systems

Chairperson

Alan Jay Smith
Computer Science Division
EECS Department
University of California
Berkeley, 94720
(smith@berkeley)

V. Chairperson

Liba Svobodova
IBM Zurich Research Laboratory
4 Saumerstrasse
CH-8803 Ruschlikon
Switzerland
SVO.ZURLVM1.IBM@CSNET-RELAY

Secretary-Treasurer
Sten Andler
IBM
San Jose Laboratories
5600 Cottle Road
San Jose, CA 95193

Newsletter Editor
William M. Waite
Dept. of Electrical and
Computer Engineering 425
University of Colorado
Boulder, CO 80309
(waite%boulder@csnet-relay)

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on

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Foreword

The Tenth Symposium on Operating Systems Principles continues the tradition of its predecessors by gathering together the best original work in the field over the last two years. Many of the papers presented here continue to concentrate on problems associated with distributed systems. It is clear that we do not yet have all the answers about how to build these systems, but the areas of interest are shifting as our knowledge improves and our systems mature. Other current topics are parallel processing and large scale computing. Overall, the papers reflect the state of the field: existing ideas are maturing and being evaluated, and there are few revolutionary new insights.

Our program committee consisted of ten active researchers, several of whom are serving on this committee for the first time. The committee was drawn from five industrial research establishments and five university establishments. We included two members from Europe, an innovation made possible by the use of electronic mail for most of our communication.

Our reviewing process this time was similar to that used for SOSP-9. We did not use outside referees, relying instead on having sufficient diversity within our committee. Every paper submitted to the symposium was read by every committee member. A first round was used to eliminate about half of the eighty-five papers submitted. The members then spent several weeks concentrating on the remaining papers. The final decisions were made at an all day meeting of the entire committee, hosted by Stanford University. Since all the members had read all the papers, the discussion was balanced and well informed. We accepted nineteen papers. We felt that many of the rejected papers were nevertheless of publishable quality, and we thank the authors of all eighty-five papers for their submissions. Three of the accepted papers were recommended to, and accepted by, *Transactions on Computer Systems.*

The chairpersons are grateful for the diligence shown by the committee members and all the other officials who have made this symposium possible. We are also especially grateful for the assistance we have been given by Valerie Ross and Libby Vincent.

Andrew Birrell and David Cheriton
Program Committee Co-Chairmen
Palo Alto, September 1985

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