SIGOPS FY'05 Annual Report
July 2005 - June 2006
Submitted by: Keith Marzullo, SIGOPS Chair

This report covers the ACM year of July 2005 through June 2006.

SIGOPS was found viable by the ACM SIG Governing Board on August 2005. The next review will be in four years.

SIGOPS sponsored or co-sponsored the many top-rate conferences, including Principles of Distributed Computing (PODC, held in July 2005 in Las Vegas, Nevada), Embedded Network Sensor Systems (SenSys, November 2005, in San Diego, California), Virtual Execution Environments (VEE, June 2006 in Ottawa, Canada), Mobile Systems, Applications, and Services (Mobisys, June 2006 in Uppsala, Sweden), and Networked Systems Design and Implementation (NSDI, May 2006 in San Jose, California). We also held the SIGOPS flagship conference, Operating Systems Principles (SOSP), in the United Kingdom, at the seaside resort of Brighton, England in October 2005.

At PODC, the annual Edsger W. Dijkstra Prize was given to Marshal Pease, Robert Shostak, and Leslie Lamport for "Reaching agreement in the presence of faults", Journal of the Association of Computing Machinery, April, 1980, 27(1):228-234. Quoting from the award statement, "This short and beautiful paper provided the first fault- tolerant algorithms for the problem that, following later work by the same authors, became known as Byzantine agreement ... (that) quickly became one of the most widely studied problems in distributing computing, with applications throughout the field of computer science."

At SOSP four papers were awarded the "Hall of Fame" award. They were Dijkstra, E. W. 1967. The structure of the "THE"-multiprogramming system. http://portal.acm.org/citation.cfm?id=800001.811672; Denning, P. J. 1967. The working set model for program behavior. http://portal.acm.org/citation.cfm?id=800001.811670 ; Lampson, B. W. 1983. Hints for computer system design. http://portal.acm.org/citation.cfm?id=800217.806614 and Ritchie, D. M. and Thompson, K. 1973. The UNIX time-sharing system. http://portal.acm.org/citation.cfm?id=800009.808045

The very active European SIGOPS chapter held their first conference, EuroSys, in Leuven, Belgium in April 2006. It was a very successful conference, with an international program on topics ranging from traditional topics such as device drivers to newly important areas such as forensics. They also held a workshop aimed at helping researchers to write effective systems papers.

Jeanna Matthews has taken over at the helm of SIGOPS Operating Systems Review. She has changed the format considerably, with a stronger emphasis on special topics with guest editors.

I would like to thank to all of those who work with us to make SIGOPS activities a great success: all the program chairs and their committees, all the general chairs and their committees, and all the ACM staff. I particularly thank my co-officers Gilles Muller, Jeanna Matthews, and Geoff Voelker, and our ACM program manager Fran Spinola.