

# **Call for Participation**

## **New Jersey's LOPSA-NJ Professional IT Community Conference 2010**

The organizers of the LOPSA-NJ Professional IT Community Conference (PICC) invite you to submit proposals for papers and talks to be presented at PICC '10.

PICC10 is a gathering of professionals from the diverse IT (computer and network administration) community in New Jersey to learn, share ideas, and network. The conference includes invited speakers and keynotes, training by top-notch experts that is relevant, useful, and recession-friendly; plus an "unconference" track where attendees propose and host their own topics during the event. We expect attendance of 100 to 150 IT professionals from mid to large-sized companies and academia from New Jersey/New York/Pennsylvania. We go by many titles but everyone is invited: system administrators, network administrators, network engineers, Windows, Linux, Unix, DBAs, etc.

### **Presentation Topics**

We strongly welcome topics on best practices, new developments in systems administration, and cutting edge techniques to better manage Linux, Unix, or Windows hosts and environments.

Papers should be of a technical nature and speakers should assume that members of the audience have at least a few years experience in general IT, Linux/Unix, and/or Windows administration.

The audience will primarily hail from medium-sized businesses and academic institutions in the New Jersey/New York/Pennsylvania area. Attendance is expected to be 100-150 participants.

Topics may include (but are not limited to):

- System Administration
- Backups
- Security
- Troubleshooting
- Buying Decisions
- Virtualization
- Cloud Computing
- Enterprise Monitoring and Management
- Identity Management

- Web and Email Management
- Spam and Virus Filtering
- Network Filtering
- Wiki
- Clustering and High Availability
- Log Management
- VOIP
- Ticketing Systems
- Bootstrapping and Automated Installation
- Configuration Management and Packaging

Topics explicitly NOT requested:

- Sales Presentations
- Vendor Product Demonstrations
- Proposals or Vaporware

While this conference is in our first year, we ambitiously imagine presentations such as:

- An author of an open-source package explains the project, the benefits and how it works.
- A system administrator presents about a new technique, software system, or device he or she created.
- A senior system administrator describes the 'lessons learned' from converting from one email system to another.
- Someone with recent experience in particular technology (cloud computing, backups, Windows 7, etc.) presents "10 things I wish I knew before I started with [name of product]"
- A Windows engineer describes how they manage their fleet of of desktops/laptops.

## **Presentation Format**

We are actively seeking proposals for presentations at PICC'10. We have openings for:

- Papers: 5-10 page paper, published electronically to attendees at the conference, and publicly after the conference. Presentation at conference will be 30 minutes including Q&A.
- Talks: 20 minute presentation + 10 minute Q&A.
- Panels: 3-7 attendees, 30 minutes including Q&A.

# Submit your Presentation

Everyone is invited to participate! Please submit the following information:

## “Paper” proposals:

- Paper title
- Author(s) contact info: Name, Title, Affiliation, email address, postal address
- Please attach draft paper and/or slides in PDF form. If your proposal is accepted you will be required to present during the conference (20 minutes plus 10 minutes for Q&A). The final draft of the paper will need to be submitted 2 weeks prior to the conference.
- See “Notes for all presentations and proposals” below for submission email address and other info.

## “Talk” proposals:

- Presentation title
- Presenter’s Contact info: Name, title, affiliation, email address, postal address
- Presentation summary: (3-6 paragraphs; or an outline; We’re more likely to accept a proposal that includes details about the contents, not a vague description)
- Presentation description: (1 paragraph, as would be printed in the program book)
- Presenter’s bio: (no more than 200 words)
- Do you plan on submitting a paper or slides for publication to complement this talk? (please attach draft paper or slides in PDF form)
- *Note:* If your talk is accepted, you will have the option of submitting a paper or slides to be published in the proceedings (on web site and on the USB stick to be distributed to all attendees). The paper and/or slides must be submitted at least 3 weeks prior to the conference.
- See “Notes for all presentations and proposals” below for submission email address and other info.

## “Panel Discussion” proposals:

- We encourage attendees to create panels on topics of interest to the community. The submitter should be committed to facilitating the panel as well as finding 4-7 people to be on the panel.
- Panel title
- Facilitator Contact info: Name, Title, Affiliation, email address, postal address
- Panel description: (1-3 paragraphs, as would be printed in the program book)
- Facilitator bio: (no more than 200 words)
- Name, affiliation, and (optional) short bio of panelists.
- Would you like assistance finding additional panelists? (yes/no)

- Note: While LOPSA-NJ will aid in finding additional panelists, much higher priority will be given to proposals that include a draft slate of confirmed panelists.
- See “Notes for all presentations and proposals” below for submission email address and other info.

### **Notes for all presentations and proposals:**

1. All proposals should be sent to [submissions@lopsanj.org](mailto:submissions@lopsanj.org)
2. Submission deadline is 03-01-2010. Selections announced by 03-07-2010. Sadly we can not accept all proposals.
3. Please note that in order to give a presentation or attend PICC '10, you must be registered for the conference. Presenting at the PICC '10 **does not** entitle you to discounted or free registration for the conference, nor priority with registration.
4. Third party submissions (i.e. proposals submitted on behalf of the presenter by a PR agency or marketing department) are strongly discouraged.

Submissions and questions should be sent to: [submissions@lopsanj.org](mailto:submissions@lopsanj.org)

## **Dates and Deadlines**

To encourage early submissions, priority (both for inclusion and scheduling) will be given to presentations submitted **before** the 1st of March.

- 03-01-2010 – Deadline for submissions
- 03-07-2010 – Final program confirmation
- 05-07-2010 – Start of conference

## **Contact and Questions**

Please see our website at <http://www.lopsanj.org/events/picc10> for more information on PICC '10 and presenting at this great event.

If you have any questions, please feel free to email the organizers at: [submissions@lopsanj.org](mailto:submissions@lopsanj.org)