# Media Release

## Embargoed until <<DATE TO BE DETERMINED>>

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Audience: for public release

# Registrations now open for linux.conf.au 2016 Geelong - LCA By the Bay

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<https://linux.conf.au/register>

One of the most respected technical conference in Australia, linux.conf.au will make Geelong home between between 1st-5th February 2016. The conference is expected to attract over 500 national and international professional and hobbyist developers, technical specialists, community leaders and open source innovators. It will feature nearly 100 Speakers and presentations over five days.

Deakin University’s stunning Geelong Waterfront Campus will host the conference, leveraging state of the art networking and audio visual facilities.

As part of the conference, twelve special-interest ‘Miniconfs’ are being hosted. They provide in-depth coverage on topics as diverse as Linux kernel programming, open source bioinformatics, cloud-based infrastructure, astronomy, open source multimedia and music, functional programming and Linux systems administration.

Conference Director, David Bell, was delighted to announce registrations opening.

“We’re thrilled to bring such an innovative and respected technical conference to Geelong. This year’s theme is ‘Life is Better with Linux’, and we’ll be showcasing remarkable talent across Linux and open source technologies. In fact, we’ve created a special category of presentation this year - called Prototypes - which is designed to spark collaborative conversations around hardware and software innovation.”

Registration tiers are designed to be affordable for professionals and hobbyists alike. Conference 2IC, Kathy Reid, indicated that special pricing was available for students.

“We’ve deliberately discounted student pricing heavily, to attract high school, college and university students who have an interest in Linux and open source. We recognise that students are the future leaders of our community, and see this move as an investment in the future of technology.”

[Linux](http://linux.org.au) is a computer operating system, in the same way that MacOS, Windows, Android and iOS are operating systems. It can be used on desktop computers, servers, and increasingly on mobile and embedded devices such as smartphones, tablets, sensors and robotics.

Linux embodies the ‘open source’ paradigm of software development, which holds that source code – the code that is used to give computers and mobile devices functionality – should be ‘open’. That is, the source code should be viewable, modifiable and shareable by the entire community. There are a number of benefits to the open source paradigm, including facilitating innovation, sharing and re-use. The ‘open’ paradigm is increasingly extending to other areas such as open government, open culture, open health, open data and open education.

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