

Linux BoF

Anthony J. Ferro

NICMOS Project, Steward Observatory, University of Arizona

Abstract. During the conference a group of attendees held a BoF session to discuss the use of (GNU/)Linux and related applications in astronomical institutions.

BoF Report

The Birds of a Feather session was quite well attended, with over 50 people showing up. Many of these attendees were still around at the end of the session.

The discussion started with a brief presentation on Linux clusters by Ken Mighell. This was followed by a led discussion of the various ways Linux is used at astronomical facilities. Other issues which were discussed included management issues for large installations, hardware support problems and security concerns.

One of the largest discussions involved the impending end of the Red Hat Linux distribution, used by about half the attendees, and the uncertainties presented by the switch to Fedora Core or other distributions.