

Message from the General Chair

CSF 2015

Welcome to CSF 2015, the 28th IEEE Computer Security Foundations Symposium!

The Computer Security Foundations Workshop was created in 1988 as a workshop of the IEEE Computer Science Technical Committee on Security and Privacy. In 2007, the workshop became an IEEE Symposium, with a policy for open, increased attendance. Over the years, many seminal papers and techniques have been presented at CSF. For more information about CSF, please see <http://www.ieee-security.org/CSFWeb/>.

This year's program was chosen from among 104 submissions, of which 35 were accepted. This is an acceptance rate of approximately 34%. Most papers received 3 reviews, largely carried out by the PC, but sometimes by outside experts, and authors were given the opportunity to respond to these reviews, and have their response considered during PC discussions.

In an attempt to increase the fairness of reviewing, CSF 2015 employed a light form of double-blind reviewing (DBR). Paper authors were asked to redact their names from their submission and to cite their own work in third person. As a result, reviewers could not construct an initial impression of a paper's quality just from the authors' names, their affiliations, their gender, etc. Such information has been known to unfairly influence expert reviewing (both positively and negatively). On the other hand, authorship was revealed to a reviewer upon submitting his/her review, to help reveal inadvertent conflicts of interest (this happened at least once), and to allow reviewers to assist the PC Chairs in finding additional expert reviews (this happened many times). In the end, light DBR aims to minimize the work on authors, give each reviewer an unbiased "first look" at the paper, and support expert reviews. Did it work? 19 PC members responded to a post-PC meeting survey, and 88% of these, when asked to consider the reviewing experience, noted that they were surprised about the authorship of at least one of the papers they reviewed, and 75% had guessed at least one paper's authorship incorrectly. In the end, 16 PC members were in favor of light DBR, 2 preferred traditional single-blind reviewing (non-anonymous authors), and 1 was unsure (but had an improved version of DBR).

Five workshops are affiliated with CSF 2015: ASA8, CryptoForma, FCS'15, GramSec'15 and STAST 2015. CSF and workshop attendees are encouraged to take advantage of the opportunities for interaction and collaboration that co-location provides.

Many people contributed to the successful organization and running of CSF 2015. Cédric Fournet and Michael Hicks chaired the program committee and did a wonderful job of producing the technical program, with thorough work of the program committee and external reviewers. Publications Chair Deepak Garg efficiently handled the production of the proceedings. Publicity Chair Matteo Maffei sent out timely calls for papers and workshop proposals. The CSF Steering Committee provided guidance and feedback. Federico De Meo set up and maintained the website of CSF 2015, and helped with the local organization together with Alberto Calvi, Davide Guardini, Aurora Miorelli, Michele Peroli, Marco Rocchetto and Matteo Zaverri. Thanks are due also to Marta Capiluppi, Carlo Combi, Alessandra Di Pierro, Barbara Oliboni, Roberto Posenato, Gabriele Pozzani, Davide Quaglia and other people at the Department of Computer Science of the University of Verona. Paula Anderson, Erin Bae, Carmen Saliba and Momoko Vanna of the IEEE Computer Society have been incredibly helpful in organizing CSF. Patrick Kellenberger of the IEEE Computer Society Conference Publishing Services was very helpful in his role as the proceedings editor. We thank the IEEE Computer Society's Technical Committee on Security and Privacy for their support and sponsorship. And thank you to the authors and attendees of CSF 2015.

Enjoy CSF 2015 and Verona!

Luca Viganò
General Chair