

SIGSAC FY'08 Annual Report
July 2007- June 2008
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1. SIGSAC CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS

SIGSAC's mission is to develop the information security profession by sponsoring high quality research conferences and workshops. SIGSAC's first sponsored event was the ACM Conference on Computer and Communications Security (CCS) in 1993. Since then, it has been held twice in Fairfax, Virginia (1993, 1994), and once each in New Delhi, India (1996), Zurich, Switzerland (1997), San Francisco (1998), Singapore (1999), Athens, Greece (2000) and Philadelphia (2001). Since 2002, CCS has been held in Washington, DC. We expect that 2009 will be the last year CCS will be held in Washington DC.

From its inception, CCS has established itself as among the very best research conferences in security. This reputation continues to grow and is reflected in the high quality and prestige of the program. In 2008, the CCS acceptance rate was 18% (i.e., 51 papers accepted from 281 submitted). Undoubtedly, CCS remains one of the most competitive conferences in the area. As in previous years, the program of CCS includes several co-located workshops. We expect that the CCS submission rate and attendance to remain high in future years.

Starting in 2001, SIGSAC launched a second major annual conference called the ACM Symposium on Access Control Models and Technologies (SACMAT). The first three meetings were held in Chantilly, Virginia; Monterey, California; and Como, Italy. From 2002, SACMAT meetings have been co-located with the IEEE International Workshop on Policies for Distributed Systems and Networks. The 2006 SACMAT was held in Lake Tahoe, California. The 2007 SACMAT was held in Nice – Sophia Antipolis, France, and in 2008 it was Estes Park, Colorado. The symposium attracted 79 submissions of which 20 regular papers were accepted for presentation at the conference (a 25% acceptance rate for regular papers).

In 2008, SIGSAC held the third instance of its third major conference, namely ACM Symposium on Information, Computer and Communications Security (AsiaCCS), in Tokyo, Japan, on March 18-20. The first AsiaCCS was held in Taipei, Taiwan, on March 21-23, 2006 and the second was held in Singapore on March 22-24, 2007. This year, AsiaCCS received 182 submissions and accepted 33 regular papers and 10 short papers (an 18% acceptance rate for regular papers). This suggests that interest in the information security area outside North America continues to grow.

SIGSAC launched its fourth major conference, on Wireless Network Security (WISEC), in Alexandria, Virginia, on March 31-April 2, 2008. This conference merged two successful ACM workshops, namely WiSe (held in conjunction with Mobicom) and SASN (held in conjunction with CCS) in the US, and a successful European workshop (ESAS) held in conjunction with ESORICS in Europe. This year, WISEC received 92 submissions and accepted 16 regular papers and 10 short papers (a 16% acceptance rate for regular papers). The location of this conference will alternate between US and Europe every other year. Next year, WISEC will be held in Zurich, Switzerland.

2. SIGSAC PUBLICATION INITIATIVES

ACM Transactions on Information and Systems Security (TISSEC) remains our major journal venue for research publications. We do not expect to sponsor another journal for the foreseeable future.

3. SIGSAC SPECIAL PROJECTS

Additional projects have not been initiated (besides WISEC) for 2007-2008. We do not anticipate that SIGSAC will start new conferences for the foreseeable future.

4. AWARDS

In 2007, SIGSAC offered again its two annual awards: SIGSAC Outstanding Innovation Award and SIGSAC Outstanding Contributions Award.

The 2007 SIGSAC Outstanding Innovation Award was given to Dr. Martin Abadi of the University of California, Santa Cruz (and Microsoft Research) and the Outstanding Contribution Award was given to Professor Sushil Jajodia of George Mason University. Past award were given in 2005 and 2006. The 2005 SIGSAC Outstanding Innovation Award was given to Dr. Whitfield Diffie of SUN Microsystems. The 2005 SIGSAC Outstanding Contribution Award was given to Dr. Peter G. Neumann of SRI International. In 2006, the SIGSAC Outstanding Innovation Award was given to Dr. Michael Schroeder of Microsoft Research and the Outstanding Contribution Award was given to Dr. Eugene Spafford of Purdue University.

5. ACM DIGITAL LIBRARY

ACM digital library has become an important source of revenue for all SIGs. With the addition of several workshop proceedings, SIGSAC received a healthy share of the total revenue. SIGSAC will seek new ways to add to the library's content (such as collecting speakers' slides and videos of conference invited talks, tutorials, and paper presentations) to strengthen and broaden its appeal to all subscribers.

6. SUMMARY

SIGSAC is in excellent shape both in terms of successful technical activities and financially. We expect that, in the coming years, SIGSAC will continue to sustain and build on existing activities.