

SIGSAC FY'07 Annual Report
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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 it to remain in the DC area for some time.

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 2006, the CCS acceptance rate was 15% (i.e., 38 papers accepted from 256 submitted). Undoubtedly, CCS is one of the most competitive conferences in the area. As in previous years, the program of CCS included a parallel industry and tutorials track and seven co-located workshops. We expect that the CCS submission rate and attendance to remain high in the near future.

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. The symposium attracted 79 submissions of which 19 regular papers and 9 short papers were accepted for presentation at the conference (a 25% acceptance rate for regular papers). CCS and SACMAT give SIGSAC and ACM two major annual conferences, in spring and fall. Both conferences have a strong future and have developed very good reputations.

This year, SIGSAC held the second instance of its third major conference, namely ACM Symposium on Information, Computer and Communications Security (AsiaCCS, in Singapore, on March 22-24. The first AsiaCCS was held in Taipei, Taiwan, on March 21-23, 2006. This year, AsiaCCS received 180 submissions and accepted 33 regular papers and 20 short papers (a 18% acceptance rate for regular papers). This suggests that interest in the information security area outside North America is growing.

SIGSAC will launch its fourth major conference, on Wireless Network Security (WiSec), in the spring of 2008. This conference will merge 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. We have had substantial interest in sponsoring this new conference from US Army Research Laboratory and Department of Homeland Security. The location of this symposium will alternate between the US and Europe. WiSec will be held during the last days of March and first days in April. The first WiSec symposium will be held in Alexandria, Virginia.

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.

4. AWARDS

This year SIGSAC offered the first two annual awards: SIGSAC Outstanding Innovation Award and SIGSAC Outstanding Contributions Award. 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.