Message from the Program Chairs

These proceedings contain the 63 papers presented at the 39th IEEE Symposium on Security and Privacy, held at The Hyatt Regency, San Francisco, California, on May 21-23, 2018. Since 1980, the IEEE Symposium on Security and Privacy has been the premier forum for computer security and privacy research, presenting the latest developments and bringing together researchers and practitioners.

This year, 549 papers were submitted, out of which 533 were complete, well-formed submissions that went through the review process, which was double-blind: author names were not visible to reviewers, nor reviewer names to authors. The final program comprises 63 papers, which is a record number.

This year, we began a transition to an on-going submission model. This meant that we had a deadline on the first of every month, from July until December. Papers were typically reviewed by 3-5 PC members and discussed extensively online. Each month, a subset of papers were discussed during a virtual PC meeting conducted via video conference. All papers received a decision within two months of original submission.

A small subset of submissions (26) received a Revise decision. Such a decision was reserved for papers where the PC was generally enthusiastic about the work, but felt that one or two crucial and substantial points required addressing before publication. Authors then had three months to submit a revision, which was judged by the original set of reviewers within a month of the revision’s submission. Of the papers that received a revise decision, one was withdrawn, one was rejected after revision, and 14 were accepted for the 2018 Symposium. The remaining 10 revisions will be considered for the 2019 Symposium.

For the third time, a subset of submissions was reviewed by a shadow Student PC. Student reviews were anonymous and purely advisory; the main PC did not base decisions on student reviews or even see them.

We would like to thank the authors of all submitted papers for sending their best work to IEEE S&P—you are crucial to the conference’s continued success. We would also like to extend our heartfelt thanks to the members of the program committee and the numerous external expert reviewers who all contributed their technical expertise, insights, and judgement, and for the many evenings, weekends, and holidays they spent reviewing.

Program Committee Co-chairs

Bryan Parno, Carnegie Mellon University
Christopher Kruegel, University of California Santa Barbara