ACSA had its genesis in the first Aerospace Computer Security Applications Conference in 1985. That conference was a success and evolved into the Annual Computer Security Applications Conference (ACSAC). ACSA was incorporated in 1987 as a nonprofit association of computer security professionals, who have a common goal of improving the understanding, theory, and practice of computer security. ACSA continues to be the primary sponsor of the annual conference.

In 1989, ACSA began the Distinguished Practitioner Series at the annual conference. Each year, an outstanding computer security professional is invited to present a lecture of current topical interest to the security community.

In 1991, ACSAC began the Best Paper by a Student Award, presented at the Annual conference. This award is intended to encourage active student participation in the conference. The award winning student author receives an honorarium and all conference expenses. Additionally, our Student Conferenceship program assists selected students in attending the Conference by paying for the conference fee and tutorial expenses. Applicants must be undergraduate or graduate students, nominated by a faculty member at an accredited university or school, and show the need for financial assistance to attend this conference.

An annual prize for the Outstanding Paper has been established for the Annual Computer Security Applications Conference. The winning author receives a plaque and an honorarium. The award is based on both the written and oral presentations.


This year’s ACSAC continues the Classic Papers feature begun in 2001. The classic papers are updates of some of the seminal works in the field of Information Security that reflect developments in the research community and industry since their original publication. ACSA continues to be committed to serving the security community by finding additional approaches for encouraging and facilitating dialogue and technical interchange. In the past, ACSA has sponsored small workshops to explore various topics in Computer Security (in 2000, the Workshop on Innovations in Strong Access Control; in 2001, the Workshop on Information Security System Rating and Ranking; in 2002, the Workshop on Application of Engineering Principles to System Security Design). In 2003, ACSA became the sponsor of the already established New Security Paradigms Workshop (NSPW). ACSA also maintains a Classic Papers Bookshelf that preserves seminal works in the field and a web site focusing on Strong Access Control/Multi-Level Security (http://www.sac-tac.org).

For more information on ACSA and its activities, please visit http://www.acsac.org/acsa/. ACSA is always interested in suggestions from professionals and computer security professional organizations on other ways to achieve its objectives of encouraging and facilitating dialogue and technical interchange.

To learn more about the conference, visit the ACSAC Web page at http://www.acsac.org.

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