Message from the Program Chairs

The 32 papers in these proceedings were presented at the 2006 IEEE Symposium on Security and Privacy, held May 21-24, 2006 at the Claremont Resort in Oakland, California, USA. These papers were selected from 251 submissions on diverse areas of information security and privacy from authors worldwide. The selected papers were chosen on the basis of excellence of scientific contribution by a program committee of 33 experts.

The volume of submissions reflects a striking increase (30+% ) over previous years, primarily due to incorporation into the program of a significant addition to its traditional format: the inclusion of short papers and extended abstracts. The intent is for these papers to help “open up” the program to a particularly broad range of work, both concise papers focused on a succinct topic and work in more preliminary stages than the degree of thorough development that has come to mark the criteria for Symposium papers in recent years. Nine of the 32 papers in the program were of this form. We hope the community finds these a stimulating addition and continues to pursue the authoring and inclusion of such papers in the future.

The selection process started soon after the submission deadline. Papers were assigned for review to at least 3 Program Committee (PC) members and evaluated on the criteria of scientific novelty, importance to the field, and technical quality. Submissions by members of the PC were assigned at 5 reviewers. The authors did not know the identities of the reviewers, and as far as could be managed, the reviewers did not know the identity of the authors. In some cases advice was sought from colleagues outside the Committee. Final selection of papers for the symposium took place at a meeting held January 20th at the International Computer Science Institute, Berkeley, USA. PC members who had a conflict of interest for a given paper were excluded from all related discussions and decisions.

The conference organizers and Program Committee chairs are highly grateful for the efforts of the members of the Program Committee and the nearly 200 external reviewers, and also to the many authors who submitted papers. A great deal of hard work goes into generating a quality program, not least by the many authors whose papers did not quite make it. We hope that all authors who submitted papers have found the reviewers’ comments helpful.

We are likewise grateful to Roger Zimmermann and Robin Sommer for invaluable administrative support. Finally it is a pleasure to thank the general chairs, Hilarie Orman and Deborah Shands, and the treasurer, Terry Benzel, for the conference arrangements.

Vern Paxson and Birgit Pfitzmann
Program Co-chairs