Daniel Smullen

Curriculum Vitae

"Don't have good ideas if you aren't willing to be responsible for them." —Alan Perlis

About Me

I solve social and technical problems using interdisciplinary research methods, striving for excellence in software engineering practice. My main areas of interest include privacy, security, responsible AI, autonomous systems, software architecture, and the Internet of Things.

I help the world develop more usable, secure, privacy-preserving, trustworthy software.

Education

- 2021 **Doctor of Philosophy (Software Engineering)**, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh. Software and Societal Systems Department (formerly Institute for Software Research), Committee: Norman Sadeh (Chair), Lorrie Faith Cranor, Alessandro Acquisti, Rebecca Weiss (External, Mozilla), Yaxing Yao (External, UMBC)
 - o My research is focused on Usable Privacy and Security, incorporating qualitative and quantitative (mixed-methods) methodologies seen in behavioral economics, user-centered design, requirements engineering, machine learning, and empirical software engineering.
 - o My thesis investigates a broad cross section of privacy and security decisions in browsers and mobile apps; systematically assessing their effectiveness and manageability, exploring standardization, discussing public policy issues, and generalizability to other domains (e.g., Internet of Things).
 - o My work demonstrates that when the settings are well-aligned with people's mental models, machine learning can leverage the predictive power in models of more complex settings to help people manage their preferences more easily - this can effectively mitigate trade-offs between accuracy and increased user burden as settings proliferate.
- 2018 Master of Science (Software Engineering), Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, Software and Societal Systems Department.
- 2014 Bachelor of Engineering (Honours with Distinction, Software Engineering), Ontario Tech University (formerly University of Ontario Institute of Technology), Oshawa.

Industrial Work Experience

2021 to Present Applied Scientist II, Amazon Lab126, Devices & Services Trust and Privacy, Remote.

I work on a variety of technical privacy problems that bridge gaps between research, development, and privacy engineering.

- o I work on a broad swath of privacy and compliance, including privacy by design consultation, codification of standards, and creating best practices.
- o I am involved in the design of privacy-preserving systems architectures for products, compliance tools, process development, PETs, and privacy requirements engineering.
- o I provide technical education, mentorship, and thought leadership to product teams, people managers, executives, and counsel.

2015 334F Research Associate (Radar Science and Instrument Engineering), NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory, Pasadena.

Supervisor: Razi Ahmed

- o Developed a high-performance distributed radar image processing system.
- o Developed an efficient interferometry filtering algorithm; processing time was reduced from weeks to minutes.
- o Developed a portable implementation for heterogeneous computing platforms at NASA Ames high performance compute cluster (Pleiades) and commodity desktop hardware.
- o Deployed interferometry software in production radar applications for UAVSAR program.

2012 **Professional Engineer (In Training)**, SNC-Lavalin Global Information Technologies, Toronto.

- o Conducted a reliability study on mission-critical data center systems.
- o Established new guidelines for disaster recovery and emergency response planning.
- o Conducted an infrastructure improvement planning study using Splunk.
- o Streamlined workstation staging infrastructure; deployment times reduced from hours to minutes.
- o Developed replacement systems for legacy DOS systems infrastructure.

2011 **Support Technician**, SNC-Lavalin Global M&M, Toronto.

- o Provided dedicated technical support for high-value clients and senior executive management.
- o Conducted seminars on computer and network security, repair, open source software, and computer
- o Developed automated data recovery systems.
- o Performed high-risk data forensics and recovery on destroyed hardware.

2009 Laboratory Systems Administrator, DESSAU/LVM-Technisol, Toronto.

- o Managed migration and replacement of legacy laboratory information management systems.
- o Conducted field work in geotechnical engineering, subsurface sampling, concrete and asphalt QA/QC testing.
- o Performed in-situ quality testing on major airport and highway resurfacing projects.
- o Managed migration and integration of systems during LVM-JEGEL company merger.

2009 Laboratory Systems Administrator, John Emery Geotechnical Engineering Ltd., Toronto.

- o Acted as liaison for City of Toronto special projects.
- o Managed 2009 Trans-Canada Highway Rehabilitation geoinformatics.
- o Managed 2009 Toronto Capital Works Program utility location and geotechnical subsurface sampling safety program.
- o Developed ISO 9001 certified laboratory information management software.
- o Performed debugging and repair of legacy pavement analysis embedded systems software.
- o Performed engineering, design and construction of a file storage and database systems datacenter.

Academic Work Experience

- 2021 Postdoctoral Researcher, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, Software and Societal Systems Department.
- 2014 2021 **Doctoral Candidate**, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, Software and Societal Systems Department.
- 2017 2021 Research Advisor, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, Software and Societal Systems Department.

Mentor for 3 undergraduate research programmers and 3 masters students.

- o Employed pair programming and extreme programming techniques.
- o Employed Agile software development methodologies.
- o Provided practical training on test driven development, debugging, and version control techniques.
- o Provided hands-on training with research methods, including crowd-sourcing, survey design, contextual interviews, and grounded/thematic analysis on a variety of data.

- 2016 2020 **Teaching Assistant**, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, Software and Societal Systems Department.
 - o 17-655/17-755: Architectures for Software Systems
 - o 17-781/45-887: Mobile and IoT Computing Services
- 2013 2014 **Research Associate**, *Ontario Tech University*, Oshawa.

Software Quality Research Lab, Advisor: Jeremy Bradbury

- o Investigated privacy in meta-data unknowingly released through Internet traffic, in an ethics board approved user study.
- o Investigated the software testing coupling effect using mutation testing tools and automation.
- o Research funded by NSERC/CRSNG (Canada).
- 2013 Undergraduate Researcher, Ontario Tech University, Oshawa.

Software Engineering Lab, Advisor: Ramiro Liscano

- o Studied tinyOS-based wireless sensor networks, applying policy-based programming to create a new development environment (Policy IDE).
- o Developed remote development environments for embedded ubiquitous computing on tinyOS using
- o Research funded by NSERC/CRSNG (Canada) Undergraduate Student Research Award.

Funded Research Projects

2020-2021 Engineering Usable Privacy and Security Affordances For Notice and Choice, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, Advisor: Norman Sadeh.

> Funded by: Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency, US Air Force Research Laboratory (FA8750-15-2-0277), National Science Foundation Secure and Trustworthy Computing program (CNS-15-13957, CNS-1801316, CNS-1914486)

2019-2020 Design and Evaluation of Security and Privacy Nudges, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, Advisor: Norman Sadeh.

> Funded by: National Science Foundation Secure and Trustworthy Computing program (CNS-1330596, SES-1513957, CNS-1801316)

2018-2019 Internet of Things Privacy Infrastructure (Patent Pending), Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, Advisor: Norman Sadeh.

> Funded by: Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency, US Air Force Research Laboratory (FA8750-15-2-0277), National Science Foundation Secure and Trustworthy Computing program (CNS-15-13957, CNS-1801316, CNS-1914486)

2017-2019 DARPA Brandeis: A Privacy Assistant for the Internet of Things, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, Advisor: Norman Sadeh.

> Funded by: Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency, US Air Force Research Laboratory (FA8750-15-2-0277), National Science Foundation Secure and Trustworthy Computing program (CNS-15-13957, CNS-1801316, CNS-1914486)

2017-2019 The Usable Privacy Policy Project, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, Advisor: Norman Sadeh.

> Funded by: National Science Foundation Frontier Grant on Usable Privacy Policies (CNS-1330596, CNS-1330141, CNS-1330214)

2017 Mobile App Privacy Compliance System (Patent Pending), Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, Advisor: Norman Sadeh.

Funded by: National Science Foundation Frontier Grant on Usable Privacy Policies (CNS-1330596, CNS-1330141, CNS-1330214), National Science Foundation XSEDE: Extreme Science and Engineering Discovery Environment (ACI-1548562)

- 2016 **Eddy: A Privacy Requirements Specification Language**, *Carnegie Mellon University*, Pittsburgh, Advisor: Travis Breaux.
 - Funded by: National Science Foundation (CNS-1330596), US Office of Naval Research (N002441410028), National Security Agency
- 2015 **Non-local Interferometric Synthetic Aperture Radar Parameter Estimator**, *NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory*, Pasadena, Advisor: Razi Ahmed.
 - Funded by: National Aeronautics and Space Administration JPL PhD Fellowship
- 2014 Incident Recognition and Intelligence System (IRIS), Ontario Tech University, Oshawa, Advisor: Shahryar Rahnamayan.
 - Funded by: University of Toronto Intelligent Transportation Systems Laboratory, Ontario Tech University, NSERC/CRSNG (Canada)
- 2014 **Automated Marking System (AMS)**, *Ontario Tech University*, Oshawa, Advisor: Kamran Sartipi.
 - Funded by: Ontario Tech University
- 2013 **Policy IDE**, *Ontario Tech University*, Oshawa, Advisor: Ramiro Liscano. Funded by: NSERC/CRSNG (Canada)
- 2013 **TOSServ**, *Ontario Tech University*, Oshawa, Advisor: Ramiro Liscano. Funded by: NSERC/CRSNG (Canada)
- 2013 **Finger2IPv6**, *Ontario Tech University*, Oshawa, Advisor: Ramiro Liscano. Funded by: NSERC/CRSNG (Canada)
- 2013 Military Logistics Management System (MLMS), Ontario Tech University, Oshawa, Advisor: Eyhab Al-Masri.
 Funded by: Ontario Tech University
- 2012 sneakyFS Secure Journaling Encrypted File System, Ontario Tech University, Oshawa, Advisor: Kamran Sartipi.
 Funded by: Ontario Tech University
- 2012 Datacenter Utilization Research Study, SNC-Lavalin Global Information Technologies, Toronto, Advisor: Marc Ross.
 Funded by: SNC-Lavalin

Refereed Publications

- P. Story, **D. Smullen**, R. Chen, Y. Yao, A. Acquisti, L. F. Cranor, N. Sadeh, and F. Schaub, "Increasing adoption of tor browser using informational and planning nudges," *Proceedings on Privacy Enhancing Technologies*, vol. 2, pp. 152–183, 2022.
- **D. Smullen**, "Informing the design and refinement of privacy and security controls," *Carnegie Mellon University KiltHub: Theses and Dissertations*, no. CMU-ISR-21-111, September 2021.
- **D. Smullen**, Y. Yao, Y. Feng, N. Sadeh, A. Edelstein, and R. Weiss, "Managing potentially intrusive practices in the browser: A user-centered perspective," *Proceedings on Privacy Enhancing Technologies*, vol. 2021, no. 4, pp. 500–527, 2021.
- P. Story, **D. Smullen**, Y. Yao, A. Acquisti, L. Cranor, N. Sadeh, and F. Schaub, "Awareness, adoption, and misconceptions of web privacy tools," *Proceedings on Privacy Enhancing Technologies*, vol. 2021, pp. 308–333, 07 2021.
- **D. Smullen**, Y. Feng, S. A. Zhang, and N. Sadeh, "The best of both worlds: Mitigating trade-offs between accuracy and user burden in capturing mobile app privacy preferences," *Proceedings on Privacy Enhancing Technologies*, vol. 2020, no. 1, pp. 195–215, 2020.

- P. Story, D. Smullen, A. Acquisti, L. F. Cranor, N. Sadeh, and F. Schaub, "From intent to action: Nudging users towards secure mobile payments," in Sixteenth Symposium on Usable Privacy and Security (SOUPS 2020), 2020, pp. 379-415.
- S. Zimmeck, P. Story, D. Smullen, A. Ravichander, Z. Wang, J. Reidenberg, N. C. Russell, and N. Sadeh, "Maps: Scaling privacy compliance analysis to a million apps," Proceedings on Privacy Enhancing Technologies, vol. 2019, no. 3, pp. 66-86, 2019.
- P. Story, S. Zimmeck, A. Ravichander, D. Smullen, Z. Wang, J. Reidenberg, N. C. Russell, and N. Sadeh, "Natural language processing for mobile app privacy compliance," in AAAI Spring Symposium on Privacy-Enhancing Artificial Intelligence and Language Technologies, 2019.
- S. Wilson, F. Schaub, F. Liu, K. M. Sathyendra, D. Smullen, S. Zimmeck, R. Ramanath, P. Story, F. Liu, N. Sadeh, and N. A. Smith, "Analyzing privacy policies at scale: From crowdsourcing to automated annotations," ACM Transactions On The Web, vol. 13, no. 1, Dec. 2018.
- A. Das, M. Degeling, D. Smullen, and N. Sadeh, "Personalized privacy assistants for the internet of things: providing users with notice and choice," IEEE Pervasive Computing, vol. 17, no. 3, pp. 35-46, 2018.
- D. Smullen and T. Breaux, "Improving security in software acquisition with data retention specifications," 2017. [Online]. Available: https://calhoun.nps.edu/handle/10945/58892
- D. Smullen and T. Breaux, "Towards rapid re-certification using formal analysis," 2015. [Online]. Available: https://calhoun.nps.edu/handle/10945/53561
- J. Bhatia, T. Breaux, L. Friedberg, H. Hibshi, and D. Smullen, "Privacy risk in cybersecurity data sharing," in Proceedings of the 2016 ACM on Workshop on Information Sharing and Collaborative Security, 2016, pp. 57-64.
- D. Smullen and T. Breaux, "Modeling, analyzing, and consistency checking privacy requirements using eddy," in Proceedings of the Symposium and Bootcamp on the Science of Security, 2016, pp. 118–120.
- T. Breaux, D. Smullen, and H. Hibshi, "Detecting repurposing and over-collection in multi-party privacy requirements specifications," in 2015 IEEE 23rd international requirements engineering conference (RE). IEEE, 2015, pp. 166–175.
- D. Smullen, J. Gillett, J. Heron, and S. Rahnamayan, "Genetic algorithm with self-adaptive mutation controlled by chromosome similarity," in 2014 IEEE Congress on Evolutionary Computation (CEC). IEEE, 2014, pp. 504–511.
- N. Qwasmi, D. Smullen, and R. Liscano, "Integrated development environment for debugging policy-based applications in wireless sensor networks," Procedia Computer Science, vol. 21, pp. 225-233, 2013.

Invited Talks

- 2023 Data-Driven Methodologies Toward More Usable Personalized Settings, Amazon DataCon. Online. Conference.
 - o Presented a vision for the future of usable privacy and security as a featured subject matter expert, showcasing machine learning and mixed-methods research techniques.

- 2022 **Information Privacy Engineering**, University of Maine School of Computing and Information Science, Online, Guest Lecture.
 - o Provided lectures and discussion session as a featured subject matter expert in a graduate level academic course.
- 2020 The Best of Both Worlds: Mitigating Trade-offs Between Accuracy and User Burden in Capturing Mobile App Privacy Preferences, 20th Privacy Enhancing Technologies Symposium (PETS 2020), Online, Conference.
 - o Presented conference talk for peer reviewed publication and participated in panel discussions.
- 2019 Digital Data Flows Masterclass: Mobile Apps, Future of Privacy Forum, Online, Conference.
 - o Provided lectures and discussion session as a featured subject matter expert.
- 2018 Personalized Privacy Assistant Project, US Federal Trade Commission PrivacyCon, Washington D.C., Conference.
 - o Presented poster with oral presentation and participated in panel discussions.
- 2017 Assisting Users in a World Full of Cameras: A Privacy-aware Infrastructure for Computer Vision Applications, US Federal Trade Commission PrivacyCon, Washington D.C., Conference.
 - o Presented poster with oral presentation and participated in panel discussions.
- 2017 A Privacy Assistant for the Internet of Things, 13th Symposium On Usable Privacy and Security (SOUPS 2017), San Jose, Conference.
 - o Presented poster with oral presentation and participated in panel discussions.
- 2016 Toward a Semantics for Data Retention in Eddy, National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), Gaithersburg.
 - o Delivered an invited research talk, hosted by NIST Applied Cybersecurity Division.
- 2015 Privacy Engineering Tool Clinic, Computing Community Consortium Catalyst, Privacy by Design Workshop, Pittsburgh.
 - o Delivered an invited talk with tool demonstration and discussion panel session.
- 2015 Detecting Repurposing and Over-Collection in Multi-party Privacy Requirements Specifications, 23rd IEEE International Requirements Engineering Conference, Ottawa, Conference.
 - o Presented conference talk for peer reviewed publication and participated in panel discussions.
- 2015 Towards Rapid Re-Certification Using Formal Analysis, United States Navy Postgraduate School 12th Annual Acquisition Research Symposium, Monterey, Conference.
 - o Presented conference talk for peer reviewed publication and participated in panel discussions.
- 2014 Genetic Algorithm with Self-Adaptive Mutation Controlled by Chromosome Similarity. IEEE World Congress on Computational Intelligence (WCCI 2014), Evolutionary Computation Conference (CEC 2014), Beijing, Conference.
 - o Presented conference talk for peer reviewed publication and participated in panel discussions.
- 2013 How Much Do We Reveal Through Metadata? An Assessment of Online Privacy, IBM Consortium for Software Engineering Research (CSER 2013), Toronto, Conference. o Presented poster with oral presentation and participated in panel discussions.
- 2013 Policy IDE... and Lessons Learned Since, The 4th International Conference on Emerging Ubiquitous Systems and Pervasive Networks (EUSPN 2013), Niagara Falls, Conference.
 - o Presented conference talk for peer reviewed publication and participated in panel discussions.

- 2013 Facilitating the Internet of Things with Policy Programming, UOIT Undergraduate Research Showcase, Oshawa, Conference.
 - o Presented poster with oral presentation and participated in panel discussions.

Professional Service

- 2023 External Program Committee Member, Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI 2023), Hamburg, Conference.
 - o Reviewed submissions, and participated in discussions in the main conference track.
- 2022 Reviewer, IEEE Access, Online, Journal.
 - o Reviewed submissions and participated in discussions.
- 2021 **Reviewer**, ACM Transactions on Privacy and Security (TOPS, formerly known as TISSEC), Online. Journal.
 - o Reviewed submissions and participated in discussions.
- 2021 **Program Chair**, ACM SIGBOVIK, Online, Conference.
 - o Organized conference and webcast, acting as moderation chair for Q&A.
- 2021 External Program Committee Member, Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI 2021), Online, Conference.
 - o Reviewed submissions and participated in discussions.
- 2020-2021 Council Member, Cylab Justice Equity Diversity and Inclusion (JEDI) Council, Carnegie Mellon University.
 - o Helped establish a new committee to promote justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion in faculty candidates, talks, hiring and student affairs.
 - 2020 External Program Committee Member, Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI 2020), Honolulu, Conference.
 - o Reviewed submissions, and participated in discussions and shepherding in the Late Breaking Works
- 2019-2020 Committee Member, Institute for Software Research Re-Branding Committee, Carnegie Mellon University.
 - o Participated in coordinating and analyzing the results of a market research campaign for re-branding the department, establishing a new messaging/communications strategy, and developing a novel recruiting strategy for diverse faculty and doctoral students. The department was re-branded successfully in 2022, and is now called the Software and Societal Systems Department.
- 2018-2021 Co-Founder, Software and Societal Systems Department Forge Makerspace, Carnegie Mellon University.
 - o Performed layout, development, maintenance, and instruction for the makerspace, leading safety training and other projects related to developing CNC machining, 3D printing, and CAD capabilities for the department.
- 2018-2020 Co-Founder, Software and Societal Systems Department Lunch and Learn Seminar Series, Carnegie Mellon University, Seminar.
 - o Managed and taught weekly seminars concerning a variety of software engineering topics, aimed at improving software development best practices among researchers.
 - 2018 Program Committee Member, European Conference on Information Systems (ECIS2018), Portsmouth, Conference.
 - o Reviewed submissions, and participated in discussions and shepherding.
 - 2016 Program Committee Member, International Workshop on Privacy Engineering (IWPE '16), San Jose.
 - o Reviewed submissions, and participated in discussions and shepherding.

- 2015 Web Chair, International Conference on Multicore Software Engineering, Performance, and Tools (MUSEPAT 2014), Hong Kong, Conference.
 - o Organized conference website and coordinated program committee.
- 2015 Review Committee Member, Software and Societal Systems Department PhD Applicant Review Committee, Carnegie Mellon University.
 - o Reviewed applications for incoming doctoral students, and participated in the final acceptance decision making panel.

Awards

- 2017 Distinguished Poster Award, 13th Symposium On Usable Privacy and Security (SOUPS *2017*), San Jose.
- 2017 Hima and Jive Fellowship in Computer Science for International Students, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.
- 2015 **Ready-Set-Transfer Award**, 23rd IEEE International Requirements Engineering Conference, Ottawa, "Eddy: A privacy requirements specification language".
 - o Awarded first place in competitive industrial panel talks.
- 2014 Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science Undergraduate Capstone Design Challenge Winner, Ontario Tech University, Oshawa, "Incident Recognition and Intelligence System (IRIS)".
 - o Awarded first place in capstone research project competition, evaluated by a panel of academic and industrial experts.
- 2012–2014 **President's Honours List**, Ontario Tech University, Oshawa.
 - o Awarded for exceptional academic achievement, with greater than 3.7 GPA.
 - 2013 National Science and Engineering Research Council (NSERC/CRSNG) Undergraduate Research Award, Ontario Tech University, Oshawa.
 - o Awarded federally funded research grant with competitive review process, funding 1 year of undergraduate research in engineering.
 - 2011 **Dean's Honours List**, *Ontario Tech University*, Oshawa.
 - o Awarded for exceptional academic achievement, with greater than 3.5 GPA.
 - 2008 Engineers Without Borders Design Challenge Winner, McMaster University, Hamilton.
 - o Awarded first place in a software requirements specification competition for distribution of AIDS medication in rural Africa.
 - 2007 DaVinci Engineering Design Challenge Winner, University of Toronto, Toronto.
 - o Awarded first place in an engineering design challenge for remote controlled electric motorized aquatic vehicles, in Electrical Engineering and Fluid Dynamics competition stream.

Languages and Technologies

- English Native Proficiency.
- French Verbal, Written Proficiency.
- German Verbal, Written Proficiency.
- Python Preferred Language, My default programming language, used for everything from web applications with django and django-rest, to data analysis and machine learning with scikit-learn, to performance analysis and scalability optimization with Cython in combination with several different multiprocessing and multithreading libraries.

- Docker Preferred Technology, My approach is to containerize as much as possible, employing a DevOps approach to research projects, prototypes, and larger-scale projects alike. Docker makes managing dependencies quicker and easier, and streamlines deployment across different platforms and architectures.
 - R Preferred Language, Used in several research projects for statistical analysis, regression modelling, data mining, exploration and visualization.
- JavaScript Secondary Preference, Used in the development of full-stack web applications using MongoDB, Express Angular, and Node, geo-spatial mapping libraries, and cross-platform hybrid mobile applications using a variety of technologies such as Ionic.
 - C++ Secondary Preference, Used in high performance computing work for optimized image processing kernels and computer vision applications, a useful alternative when performance is a primary architectural driver.
 - Java Secondary Preference, Used to develop parsers, lexers, and compilers for domain specific languages such as Eddy, as well as interact with a variety of Java-based research tools such as OWL-DL and other logic engines.

Professional Memberships

- Since 2023 Association for Computing Machinery (ACM), Professional Member.
- Since 2021 International Association of Privacy Professionals (IAPP), Member.
- Since 2020 HACK Pittsburgh, Member and Educator.
- Since 2018 Software and Societal Systems Department Forge Makerspace, Founding Member, Carnegie Mellon University.
- Since 2014 Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative, Responsible Conduct of Research (Physical Science, Social & Behavioral Research), Carnegie Mellon University.
- Since 2014 The Corporation of the Seven Wardens, Order of the Calling of the Engineer, Camp 1, Toronto, Ontario.
- Since 2013 Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), Member.
 - o IEEE Communications Society
 - o IEEE Internet of Things
 - o IEEE Sensors Council
 - o IEEE Software Defined Networks
- Since 2011 International Red Cross, Class C Emergency First Aid, CPR and Defibrillator Certification.