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weekly activity report 195 (loughry)

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This was not a productive week for writing, due to personal business. Travel arrangements for the UCDDO conference were finalised and paid for; during times when I am not demonstrating the prototype, I will be able to attend the rest of the conference. I applied for one more term of student loans to cover travel and conference expenses over the summer and Michaelmas term. I still need the U.S. government sponsor's approval that is necessary to get into the conference and visit request from government security to pass clearances.

I worked on the new grounded theory coding form. It is part of the methodology and belongs in Chapter 2, but depends on org charts not described until Chapter 3. I am late delivering a complete Chapter 2 to Dr Martin. I thought I could do it by 27th June, but failed to deliver. Tomorrow I will stop writing Chapter 3 and get Chapter 2 done.

I attended two virtual seminars this week: 'Leveraging Social Media for Early Indications and Warnings of Instability and Unrest' (IEEE CS) and another on Lockheed's test of different malware scanners at the network edge, comparing in detail the differences in results found by each. I have also started reading Shamal's dissertation, principally to see how he wrote up a grounded theory in his Chapter 9.

I need the entire month of July to write Chapter 3 (the first results chapter) and a good part of Chapter 4. Date not set for confirmation of status yet, but it should take place in August or September, at the convenience of the assessors Drs Jirotko and Flchais. I have not been in close reporting contact with those two since the beginning of the year; probably I should email them both, describe the work I have done in response to their advice, and book a time for the viva. I need to talk to Dr Martin about that plan; I'll request a meeting next week.

The cross domain technical architecture board assigned a new technical risk rating to version 5.0.1 this week. K----- M----- and D----- B----- attended the meeting 29th June. The board revised the technical risk from 'high' to 'medium', good news for the developer. The earlier version 4.5 had a medium risk; 5.0 was evaluated 'high'. The difference is directly attributable to changes the developer made in response to CDTAB concerns about technical, data, and attack risk. Few other CDSs are rated 'medium'; most are rated 'high' with the exception of null-functionality data diodes that might get a 'low'. This CDTAB go-around amounts to the SABI approval sought by the R'' developer. The board highly praised the developer's OSP process, described earlier. The COTS TCB patching problem had been universally ignored by CDS developers until now; the board said they intend to force all other CDS developers to follow the OSP model. The board recommended additions and changes including guard-specific IAVAs to track OSP application compliance; CDTAB were reportedly happy that the developer solved that problem for them.

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End of WAR 0195.

References