

MISC President's Report 2020

It has been an honour and a great experience to be president for the club for this past year.

This year has been rather unforgiving, but I think we've managed to pull through and I'm proud of what we've done as a club. Since last year's AGM (26th September 2019) until today (15th October 2020), MISC has:

- Built a brand new website.
- Set up a practice CTF platform, with challenges contributed by members of the club.
- Consistently participated in online Capture the Flag competitions and became the number one ranked CTF team in Australia (according to CTFTIME).
- Got shirts.
- Ran 16 workshops.
- Held 6 special events with some amazing guest speakers.
- Held a beginner friendly CTF competition just before the start of semester 2, with over 70 participants. I'd like to thank Chuanshu, Darren and Annie for their contributions to this event.
- Been a major part of DownUnderCTF, an online CTF organised in collaboration with 12 other university societies around Australia. It ran in the middle of September this year and attracted over 3000 participants. MISC's contributions included industry liaison to secure sponsorships, maintaining the website, and authoring and reviewing challenges. This is a great initiative that has helped increase awareness about security and has inspired people to get more into security. It has also helped MISC a lot to get more exposure and reputation in the wider security community. I am personally proud to have been a part of it and I hope that MISC can continue to contribute to the CTF in the future.

As of now, we officially have over 230 club members, and among those, some very talented and friendly people. In particular, I'd like to thank John, Adam and Eleanor who aren't official committee members, but have made significant contributions to the club by sharing their expertise with us all in the form of workshops and lectures. I would also like to thank Kaif, Chuanshu, Annie, Darren, Tian and Chris for all their hard work and contributions to the club.

Before I sign off, I want to share some words for the next committee.

- Run more regular industry speaker events. Workshops are great too, but these kinds of events tend to get a lot more attendance and members appreciate the opportunities they provide to get more involved with the wider security community in Melbourne.
- Run a beginner CTF for Unimelb students. With that said, don't feel like you need technical skills to be part of the committee. Marketing and organisation are just as important, and there are plenty of people that would love to help out with writing challenges.
- Try and hold some diversity events. There is a ton of support for diversity in the wider security community in Melbourne and I'm sure they'd be happy to do some events with MISC.

That's it from me. Thank you again for the opportunity to serve as president, and best of luck to the next committee. I look forward to what's to come in 2021 for MISC.

Joseph Surin
President 2019/2020
University of Melbourne Information Security Club