

Miranda Wei

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EDUCATION

- University of Washington** September 2019–present
Ph.D. student, Paul G. Allen School of Computer Science & Engineering
Advisors: Tadayoshi Kohno and Franziska Roesner
- University of Chicago** September 2013–June 2017
B.A. in Political Science, Minor in Computer Science
Overall GPA: 3.83 (4.0 highest)
“ISIS Anashid and the Logic of Imagined Communities,” Departmental Honors Thesis
- London School of Economics** September 2015–June 2016
General Course (Direct Enrollment, Study Abroad Program)
Coursework in International Law, International Relations, Foreign Policy Analysis

EMPLOYMENT

- University of Maryland** September 2018–September 2019
Researcher with Prof. Michelle Mazurek College Park, MD, USA
- University of Chicago SUPERgroup** August 2017–September 2018
Researcher with Prof. Blase Ur Chicago, IL, USA
- Chicago Project on Security and Threats (CPOST)** January 2015–August 2017
Analyst; Supervisor; Deputy Research Director with Prof. Robert Pape Chicago, IL, USA
- London School of Economics** October 2015–October 2016
Researcher with Prof. Julia Gray London, UK

FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS

Fellowships:

- College of Engineering Dean’s Fellowship, UW, 2019–2020
- College Research Fellow, UChicago, 2016–2017

Conference Grants:

- Diversity Grant to USENIX Security, August 2020
- Scholarship to Grad Cohort Workshop, April 2020 (postponed to April 2021)
- Scholarship to SecHuman Summer School at Ruhr University Bochum (RUB), June 2019
- Scholarship to SecHuman Summer School at Ruhr University Bochum (RUB), September 2018
- Ford Foundation Stipend to Privacy Enhancing Technologies Symposium (PETS), July 2018
- Student Scholarship to Women in Cybersecurity (WiCyS), March 2018
- Diversity Grant to USENIX Enigma, January 2018
- NSF Student Grant to USENIX Symposium on Usable Privacy and Security (SOUPS), June 2017

HONORS AND AWARDS

- CHI 2020: Honorable Mention for Best Paper for “Taking Data Out of Context to Hyper-Personalize Ads...”
- SOUPS 2019: Distinguished Poster Award for “What Was that Site Doing With My Facebook Password ...”
- Dean’s List, *GPA above 3.25, ineligible during study abroad*, UChicago, 2013–2015, 2016–2017
- National Merit Scholar, *awarded to top 0.5% of high school seniors nationwide*, UChicago, 2013–2017

PEER-REVIEWED CONFERENCE PUBLICATIONS

What Twitter Knows: Characterizing Ad Targeting Practices, User Perceptions, and Ad Explanations Through Users’ Own Twitter Data

Miranda Wei, Madison Stamos, Sophie Veys, Nathan Reitinger, Justin Goodman, Margot Herman, Dorota Filipczuk, Ben Weinshel, Michelle L. Mazurek, Blase Ur.

USENIX Security (13% acceptance rate), Online, August 2020.

Taking Data Out of Context to Hyper-Personalize Ads: Crowdworkers’ Privacy Perceptions and Decisions to Disclose Private Information

Julia Hanson*, Miranda Wei*, Sophie Veys, Matthew Kugler, Lior Strahilevitz, Blase Ur. * This is a co-first authored publication.

ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI) (24% acceptance rate), April 2020.

Honorable Mention for Best Paper.

Oh, the Places You’ve Been! User Reactions to Longitudinal Transparency About Third-Party Web Tracking and Inferencing

Ben Weinshel, Miranda Wei, Mainack Mondal, Euirim Choi, Shawn Shan, Claire Dolin, Michelle L. Mazurek, B. Ur.

ACM Communications and Communication Security (CCS) (16% acceptance rate), London, UK, November 2019.

“What was another site doing with my Facebook password in the first place?” Designing Notifications About Password Reuse

Maximillian Golla, Miranda Wei, Juliette Hainline, Lydia Filipe, Markus Dürmuth, Elissa M. Redmiles, Blase Ur.

ACM Communications and Computer Security (CCS) (17% acceptance rate), Toronto, Canada, October 2018.

Your Secrets are Safe: How Browsers’ Explanations Impact Misconceptions About Private Browsing Mode

Yuxi Wu, Panya Gupta, Miranda Wei, Yasemin Acar, Sascha Fahl, Blase Ur.

The Web Conference (WWW) (15% acceptance rate), Lyon, France, April 2018.

PEER-REVIEWED WORKSHOP PUBLICATIONS AND POSTERS

“What was another site doing with my Facebook password in the first place?” Designing Notifications About Password Reuse

Miranda Wei, Maximillian Golla, Juliette Hainline, Lydia Filipe, Markus Dürmuth, Elissa M. Redmiles, Blase Ur.

Fifteenth Symposium on Usable Privacy and Security (SOUPS 2019), Santa Clara, CA, 2019.

Distinguished Poster Award.

The Password Doesn't Fall Far: How Services Influence Password Choice

Miranda Wei, Maximillian Golla, Blase Ur.

Who Are You?! Adventures in Authentication Workshop (WAY), Baltimore, MD, August 2018.

Exploring User Mental Models of End-to-End Encrypted Communication Tools

Ruba Abu-Salma, Elissa M. Redmiles, Blase Ur, Miranda Wei.

Workshop on Free and Open Communications on the Internet (FOCI), Baltimore, MD, August 2018.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

ISIS Campaign Propaganda Profile. *CPOST Report for the Department of Defense*. September 2016.

“Eradicating suicide terrorism in Pakistan.” *Chicago Tribune*. October 30, 2015. (co-written with Robert Pape)

Spectacular Attack Profiles of AQI, Pakistani Taliban. *CPOST Report for the Carnegie Corporation*. September 2015.

“Getting ISIS Out of Iraq.” *The New York Times*. April 20, 2015. (co-written with Robert Pape)

INVITED TALKS

- UChicago HCI Club, 7/2020, Online: “What Twitter Knows: Characterizing Ad Targeting Practices, User Perceptions, and Ad Explanations Through Users’ Own Twitter Data”
- DUB Seminar, 5/2020, Online: “Taking Data Out of Context to Hyper-Personalize Ads: Crowdworkers’ Privacy Perceptions and Decisions to Disclose Private Information”
- Mozilla, 4/2020, Online: “Oh, the Places You’ve Been! User Reactions to Longitudinal Transparency About Third-Party Web Tracking and Inferencing”
- Brave, 2/2020, Online: “Oh, the Places You’ve Been! User Reactions to Longitudinal Transparency About Third-Party Web Tracking and Inferencing”
- UChicago Psychology and Law Studies Lab (PALS), 1/2020, Chicago & Online: “Taking Data Out of Context to Hyper-Personalize Ads: Crowdworkers’ Privacy Perceptions and Decisions to Disclose Private Information”
- PasswordsCon, 11/2018, Stockholm, Sweden: “Everything but the User: Reducing Password Reuse”
- W3C PING, 9/2018, Online: “Your Secrets are Safe: How Browsers’ Explanations Impact Misconceptions About Private Browsing Mode”

MEDIA COVERAGE

For “Exploring User Mental Models of End-to-End Encrypted Communication Tools”

- Why you need a better handle on the WhatsApp, Signal and Telegram apps. <https://www.cnet.com/news/you-might-not-really-understand-how-encrypted-messaging-apps-work/>

For “Your Secrets Are Safe: How Browsers’ Explanations Impact Misconceptions About Private Browsing Mode”

- Consumer Reports, June 19, 2018. What Your Web Browser’s Incognito Mode Really Does. <https://www.consumerreports.org/internet/incognito-mode-web-browser-what-it-really-does/>
- Science News for Students, June 6, 2018. Incognito browsing is not as private as most people think. <https://www.sciencenewsforstudents.org/article/incognito-browsing-not-private-most-people-think>

- Unocero, May 6, 2018. ¿Qué tan realmente privada es tu ‘navegación privada’? <https://www.unocero.com/como-se-hace/que-tan-realmente-privada-es-tu-navegacion-privada/>
- IFL Science!, April 26, 2018. If You Use Your Web Browser’s Incognito Mode We’ve Got Bad News. <https://www.iflscience.com/technology/if-you-use-your-web-browsers-incognito-mode-weve-got-bad-news-/>
- Indy 100 from the Independent, April 25, 2018. Turns out ‘Incognito mode’ is not as incognito as you might think. <https://www.indy100.com/article/incognito-mode-might-not-be-as-incognito-as-you-think-8321916>
- Metro, April 25, 2018. You’re completely wrong about what ‘Incognito mode’ does when you’re watching porn. <https://metro.co.uk/2018/04/25/completely-wrong-incognito-mode-watching-porn-7496259/>
- Mental Floss, April 25, 2018. Why Browsing in Incognito Mode Isn’t as Private as You Think. <https://www.mentalfloss.com/article/541658/why-browsing-incognito-mode-isnt-private-you-think>
- Science News, April 24, 2018. Private web browsing doesn’t mean no one is watching. <https://www.sciencenews.org/article/internet-privacy-incognito-web-browsing>
- The Register, April 24, 2018. Oh dear... Netizens think ‘private’ browsing really means totally private. https://www.theregister.com/2018/04/24/private_web_browsing_study/

SERVICE

Organizing:

- Co-Coordinator: DUB Doctoral Colloquium 2020
- Publicity Co-Chair: EuroUSEC 2020
- Session Chair Student Volunteer: SOUPS 2020

Reviewing:

- Poster Jury Member: SOUPS 2020

Invited External Reviewer:

- CHI LBW 2020
- CSCW 2020

UW Community:

- Care Basket Chair for Care Committee (graduate student organization): 2019-present

ADDITIONAL EXPERTISE AND SKILLS

Languages	English (native), French (intermediate), Chinese (intermediate), Russian (beginner)
Programming	Python, R, HTML, Web (HTML5/CCS, JavaScript, React), Java, C
Applications	L ^A T _E X, Qualtrics, Photoshop