

# Miranda Wei

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## EDUCATION

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<b>University of Washington</b> Ph.D. student, Paul G. Allen School of Computer Science & Engineering Advisors: Tadayoshi Kohno and Franziska Roesner	September 2019–present
<b>University of Chicago</b> 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	September 2013–June 2017
<b>London School of Economics</b> General Course (Direct Enrollment, Study Abroad Program) Coursework in International Law, International Relations, Foreign Policy Analysis	September 2015–June 2016

## EMPLOYMENT

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

## FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS

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### 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

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- NSF GRFP 2021 Honorable Mention
- 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

## PEER-REVIEWED CONFERENCE PUBLICATIONS

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### **Polls, Clickbait, and Commemorative \$2 Bills: Problematic Political Advertising on News and Media Websites Around the 2020 U.S. Elections**

Eric Zeng, [Miranda Wei](#), Theo Gregersen, Tadayoshi Kohno, and Franziska Roesner.

*ACM Internet Measurement Conference (IMC)*, Nov. 2021.

### **On the Limited Impact of Visualizing Encryption: Perceptions of E2E Messaging Security**

Christian Stransky, Dominik Wermke, Johanna Schrader, Nicolas Huaman, Yasemin Acar, Anna Lena Fehlhaber, [Miranda Wei](#), Blase Ur, Sascha Fahl.

*Symposium on Usable Privacy and Security (SOUPS)*, Online, August 2021.

### **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 that site doing with my Facebook password?” 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

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## **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.

*PrivacyCon*, Online, July 2021.

## **“What was that site doing with my Facebook password?” 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

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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

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- MIT CSAIL Security Seminar, 9/2020, Online: “What Twitter Knows: Characterizing Ad Targeting Practices, User Perceptions, and Ad Explanations Through Users' Own Twitter Data”
- 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”

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/](https://www.theregister.com/2018/04/24/private_web_browsing_study/)

## SERVICE

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### Organizing:

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

### Reviewing:

- Poster Jury Member: SOUPS 2020
- Program Committee Member: WAY 2021
- Invited External Reviewer: CHI LBW 2020, CSCW 2020

### UW Community:

- Care Basket Chair for Care Committee (graduate student organization): 2019-present
- UW New Grad Orientation Co-Organizer: 2020
- Pre-Application Review Service (PARS) Co-leader/Mentor: 2020-present

#### ADDITIONAL EXPERTISE AND SKILLS

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<b>Languages</b>	English (native), French (intermediate), Chinese (intermediate), Russian (beginner)
<b>Programming</b>	Python, R (tidyverse)
<b>Applications</b>	L <sup>A</sup> T <sub>E</sub> X, Qualtrics, Photoshop