Wentao Guo

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EDUCATION

Aug '21 – May '26 (expected)	**PhD in *Computer Science*,** University of Maryland (UMD) Dissertation: *Supporting data de-identification in an era of open science* (advised by Dr. Michelle Mazurek)
Aug '15 – May '19	**B.A. in *Computer Science* and *Science, Technology, and Society*,** Pomona College *Magna cum laude*, Phi Beta Kappa, Distinction in the Senior Exercise (x2)

- Computer Science thesis: *Poli-see: An interactive tool for visualizing privacy policies* (advised by Dr. Eleanor Birrell)
- Science, Technology, and Society thesis: *Towards a critical understanding of deepfakes: Developing a teaching module and more* (advised by Drs. Laura Perini and Brian Keeley)

CONFERENCE PAPERS

* indicates mentored undergraduate student

PETS '26	**Wentao Guo**, Alexander Yang,* Nathan Malkin, Michelle L. Mazurek. How experts personalize privacy & security advice for at-risk users. Privacy Enhancing Technologies Symposium. https://wentaoguo.com/publications/at-risk-advice/
CCS '25	Yunze Zhao, **Wentao Guo**, Harrison Goldstein, Daniel Votipka, Kelsey Fulton, Michelle L. Mazurek. A qualitative analysis of fuzzer usability and challenges. ACM Conference on Computer and Communications Security. https://wentaoguo.com/publications/fuzzing-usability/
USENIX '25 *17% accept*	**Wentao Guo**, Paige Pepitone, Adam J. Aviv, Michelle L. Mazurek. How researchers de-identify data in practice. USENIX Security Symposium. https://www.usenix.org/conference/usenixsecurity25/presentation/guo-wentao
CCS '24 *17%*	**Wentao Guo**, Aditya Kishore,* Adam J. Aviv, Michelle L. Mazurek. A qualitative analysis of practical de-identification guides. ACM Conference on Computer and Communications Security. https://doi.org/10.1145/3658644.3690270
VL/HCC '23 *30%*	Michael Coblenz, **Wentao Guo**, Kamatchi Voozhian, Jeffrey S. Foster. A qualitative study of REST API design and specification practices. IEEE Symposium on Visual Languages and Human-Centric Computing. https://doi.org/10.1109/VL-HCC57772.2023.00025
USENIX '23 *29%*	**Wentao Guo**, Jason Walter,* and Michelle L. Mazurek. The role of professional product reviewers in evaluating security and privacy. USENIX Security Symposium. https://www.usenix.org/conference/usenixsecurity23/presentation/guo-wentao

WORKSHOP PAPERS

WPES '20 *44%*	**Wentao Guo**, Jay Rodolitz, and Eleanor Birrell. Poli-see: An interactive tool for visualizing privacy policies. ACM CCS Workshop on Privacy in the Electronic Society. https://doi.org/10.1145/3411497.3420221
USEC '19	Zaina Aljallad, **Wentao Guo**, Chhaya Chouhan, Christy LaPerriere, Jess Kropczynski, Pamela Wisnewski, and Heather Lipford. Designing a mobile application to support social processes for privacy decisions. NDSS Workshop on Usable Security. https://www.ndss-symposium.org/ndss-paper/auto-draft-25/

WORKSHOP PROPOSALS

ConPro '23   Richard Roberts, **Wentao Guo**, Omer Akgul, Michelle L. Mazurek, and Dave Levin. This proposal was brought to you by content creators' mental models of security & privacy products. IEEE S&P Workshop on Technology and Consumer Protection.

ConPro '22   **Wentao Guo**, Jason Walter, and Michelle L. Mazurek. The role of product reviewers in evaluating security and privacy. IEEE S&P Workshop on Technology and Consumer Protection.

SELECTED TALKS

May '24   Incentives, expertise, and capacity: Unlocking the power of professionals to protect users' security and privacy. Virginia Polytechnic University.

Mar '24   Understanding de-identification guidance and practices for researchers. NSF Cybersecurity Innovation for Cyber Infrastructure (CICI) PI meeting.

Dec '23   Scientists are users too! Understanding de-identification practices, mental models, and challenges. Capital-Area Colloquium on Trustworthy and Usable Security/Privacy.

Dec '22   The role of professional product reviewers in evaluating security and privacy. Capital-Area Colloquium on Trustworthy and Usable Security/Privacy *(co-presented by Jason Walter)*.

POSTERS

SOUPS '24   Understanding de-identification guidance and practices for research data. Symposium on Usable Privacy and Security.

SOUPS '21   Poli-see: An interactive tool for visualizing privacy policies. Symposium on Usable Privacy and Security.

TEACHING ASSISTANTSHIPS

Spring '25   **Introduction to Privacy**, UMD CS

Fall '24   **Human Factors in Security and Privacy**, UMD CS

Spring '19   **Computer Systems**, Pomona College CS

Spring '18   **Computability and Logic**, Pomona College CS

GUEST LECTURES

Spring '25   **Privacy for at-risk individuals**; Introduction to Privacy; UMD CS

Spring '25   **Modern privacy enforcement**; Introduction to Privacy; UMD CS

Fall '24   **Qualitative research methods**; Human Factors in Security & Privacy; UMD CS

Spring '24   **Intro to security**; Privacy, Security, and Ethics for Big Data; UMD Info Studies

Spring '23   **AI and algorithms**; Privacy, Security, and Ethics for Big Data; UMD Info Studies

Spring '22   **Buffer overflow attacks**; Computer and Network Security; UMD CS

Spring '19   **Deepfakes**; Philosophy of Technology; Pomona College Philosophy

Spring '18   **Intro to web development**; Claremont Splash *(educational event for high schoolers)*

Spring '18   **Deepfakes and deceptive technologies**; Claremont Splash

Fall '17   **Intro to web development**; 5C Hackathon

SELECTED WORK EXPERIENCE

Jun – Sep '23   **IoT Design Fellow**, Consumer Reports
Conducted four studies (surveys, focus groups, and user studies) to understand consumer perspectives on IoT security and privacy labels, with two other fellows.

Sep '19 – Jun '21   **Software developer**, Epic Systems
Developed backend infrastructure and data ingestion for Cosmos, a HIPAA-regulated dataset of >100 million patients' electronic health records supporting research and data-driven healthcare.

Jun – Aug '19   **Programmer**, Virginia Tech Ecosystem Dynamics and Forecasting Lab
Contributed bug fixes to the open-source General Lake Model project and created a QA/QC script for ecological data from field sensors.

May – Jul '18   **Researcher**, University of North Carolina at Charlotte REU in Socially Relevant Computing
Co-led research in usable security and privacy leading to a publication in 2019; won first place in the REU research poster competition. Assisted in data analysis for a publication by Alqhatani and Lipford in SOUPS '19, for which I am named in the acknowledgments.

Jun – Aug '17   **Teaching assistant**, Northwestern University Center for Talent Development
Co-designed and co-taught *HTML & CSS Honors*; served as teaching assistant for *Literary Analysis Honors: The Turing Test, Artificial Intelligence, & the Human Program* (both courses equivalent to a one-semester high school class).

SELECTED SERVICE

Fall '23 – Present   **Chair of Community Building**, UMD CS Graduate Student Committee
Managing the department's peer mentoring program, as well as regular student-organized community-building events including practical workshops and socials; personally mentored eight new graduate students.

Fall '23 – Present   **Project mentor**, UMD Tech + Research workshop
Designed two sprint-style (~13 hours for teams of 8) research projects in security and privacy, and mentored women undergraduates as they completed them over the course of a weekend (Oct '23 and '24).

Spring '22 – Pres.   **Committee member**, College Park Committee for a Better Environment
Leading a team of three committee members (appointed by City Council) in drafting a climate action plan for College Park, for which I have been meeting with the mayor, city councilors, city staff, and conducting participatory info sessions at local civic associations to ground policymaking in community input. Planning sustainability-oriented community events and writing letters to the city government advising action on energy efficiency, road de-icing practices, etc.

Fall '21 – Present   **Coordinator**, Maryland Cybersecurity Center reading group
Planning weekly research paper discussions, practice talks, invited talks, and workshops for a group of 20+; facilitating discussion.

Jan '20 – Jun '21   **Team leader**, 350 Madison
Led a team of six volunteers that successfully advocated for the City of Madison to implement the Building Energy Savings Program to track and improve energy efficiency in commercial buildings. Received one of two Outstanding Volunteer Recognitions in 2020.

Sep '17 – May '19 **Organizer**, Pomona College Tech for Good (student organization)
Organized three talks by experts in technology, law, and ethics (median attendance of 80), as well as related discussion groups. As part of a project team, worked with a nonprofit serving local low-income communities to improve their website.

Aug '16 – May '17 **Peer mentor**, Pomona College Asian American Mentor Program
Mentored ten first-year students; organized activities on history, diversity, social justice.

EXTERNAL PEER REVIEW (including reviews and sub-reviews)

- **CHI '25/'24** (ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems)
- **SOUPS '25/'24** (Symposium on Usable Privacy and Security)
- **ESORICS '25** (European Symposium on Research in Computer Security)
- **CSCW '24** (ACM Conference on Computer-Supported Cooperative Work & Social Computing)
- **IEEE S&P '23** (IEEE Symposium on Security and Privacy)
- **International Journal of Human-Computer Studies '23**

SELECTED AWARDS

Fall '23 **Maryland Cybersecurity Center Seed Grant**, UMD
Awarded $1,890 to fund a research proposal on perceptions of tracking and inference in VR.

Spring '19 **Paul B. Yale Computer Science Prize**, Pomona College
Awarded to three outstanding seniors majoring in CS.

Spring '19 **Science, Technology, and Society Prize**, Pomona College
Awarded to one outstanding senior majoring in Science, Technology, and Society.