

## EDUCATION

**PhD in Computer Science**  
**University of Maryland**

Expected May 2026  
College Park, MD

- Advised by Michelle Mazurek, focusing on human-centered security and privacy

**B.A. in Computer Science and Science, Technology, and Society**  
**Pomona College**

May 2019  
Claremont, CA

- *Magna cum laude*, Phi Beta Kappa

## PUBLICATIONS

**Wentao Guo**, Paige Pepitone, Adam J. Aviv, Michelle L. Mazurek. How researchers de-identify data in practice. USENIX '25 (USENIX Security Symposium). August 2025.

**Wentao Guo**, Aditya Kishore, Adam Aviv, Michelle L. Mazurek. A qualitative analysis of practical de-identification guides. CCS '24 (ACM Conference on Computer and Communications Security). October 2024.

Michael Coblenz, **Wentao Guo**, Kamatchi Voozhian, Jeffrey S. Foster. A qualitative study of REST API design and specification practices. VL/HCC '23 (IEEE Symposium on Visual Languages and Human-Centric Computing). October 2023.

**Wentao Guo**, Jason Walter, and Michelle L. Mazurek. The role of professional product reviewers in evaluating security and privacy. USENIX '23 (USENIX Security Symposium). August 2023.

**Wentao Guo**, Jay Rodolitz, and Eleanor Birrell. Poli-see: An interactive tool for visualizing privacy policies. WPES '20 (ACM CCS Workshop on Privacy in the Electronic Society). November 2020.

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. USEC '19 (NDSS Workshop on Usable Security). February 2019.

## SELECTED WORK EXPERIENCE

**IoT Design Fellow**  
**Consumer Reports**

June 2023 – September 2023  
New York, NY

- Designed, conducted, and analyzed four studies (surveys, focus groups, and user studies) on consumer perspectives on IoT security and privacy labels, in collaboration with two other fellows
- Interviewed IoT manufacturers to understand challenges regarding the process for companies to attest to their products' security and privacy

**Software developer**  
**Epic Systems**

September 2019 – June 2021  
Verona, WI

- Designed and developed features for Cosmos, a service that aggregates electronic health records of >100 million patients in a HIPAA-regulated limited dataset for research and data-driven healthcare
- Led a high-priority project creating software to convert Cosmos into a highly scalable form, in order to accommodate drastically increased research needs during the COVID-19 pandemic

- Organized company-wide voter registration efforts ahead of the November 2020 election, leading remote workshops that helped 110 employees register to vote

#### **Research programmer**

June 2019 – August 2019

#### **Ecosystem Dynamics and Forecasting Lab**

Virginia Tech

- Fixed bugs in the open-source General Lake Model (GLM) project: <https://github.com/AquaticEcoDynamics/GLM/pull/16>
- Wrote an R script to automatically format and validate data that is regularly uploaded by field sensors
- Prototyped a user interface for water quality forecasts using the Shiny R package

### **SELECTED RESEARCH PROPOSALS and INVITED TALKS**

[talk] Incentives, expertise, and capacity: Unlocking the power of professionals to protect users' security and privacy. Virginia Polytechnic University. May 2024.

[talk] Understanding de-identification guidance and practices for researchers. NSF Cybersecurity Innovation for Cyber Infrastructure (CICI) PI meeting. March 2024.

[proposal] 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 '23). May 2023.

### **SELECTED ACTIVITIES**

#### **Chair of Community Building**

December 2023 – Present

#### **Peer mentor**

September 2023 – Present

#### **Organizer**

October 2021 – Present

#### **Computer Science Graduate Student Committee**

University of Maryland

- Managing the department's peer mentoring program, as well as biweekly student-organized community-building events including practical workshops and socials

#### **Project mentor**

October 2023, 2024

#### **Tech + Research**

University of Maryland

- Designed hackathon-style research projects in human-centered security and privacy, and mentored women undergraduates as they completed them over the course of a weekend

#### **Committee member**

June 2022 – Present

#### **Committee for a Better Environment**

College Park, MD

- Leading a group researching a climate action plan for the City of College Park
- Writing articles and planning events to communicate sustainability information to residents

#### **Lead organizer**

September 2021 – Present

#### **Security Reading Group**

University of Maryland

- Planning weekly research paper discussions, practice talks, invited talks, and workshops

#### **Project leader**

January 2020 – June 2021

#### **350 Madison**

Madison, WI

- Led a team of six volunteers who successfully advocated for the City of Madison to implement a program to track and improve energy efficiency in commercial buildings
- Conducted policy research and interviewed local business leaders to inform the [Building Energy Savings Program](#), adopted in 2023

- Received one of two outstanding volunteer recognitions in 2020

## **Organizer**

September 2017 – May 2019

## **Tech for Good**

Pomona College

- Co-founded a student organization focused on (1) using student expertise in technology for good and (2) creating campus-wide discussions on the social, ethical, and legal aspects of technology
- Organized three talks by experts in technology, law, and ethics (median attendance of 80), as well as other discussions and events centered around similar themes
- Created a new website for a non-profit serving local low-income communities, in order to make their services more accessible and responsive

## **SELECTED AWARDS**

### **MC2 Seed Grant**

University of Maryland, Fall 2023

Awarded \$1,890 to fund a research proposal on perceptions of tracking and inference in VR

### **Paul B. Yale Computer Science Prize**

Pomona College, Spring 2019

Awarded to three outstanding seniors majoring in Computer Science

### **Science, Technology and Society Prize**

Pomona College, Spring 2019

Awarded to one outstanding senior majoring in STS

### **Distinction in the Senior Exercise: Computer Science**

Pomona College, Spring 2019

“Privacy Poli-see: An interactive tool for visualizing privacy policies” (advised by Eleanor Birrell)

### **Distinction in the Senior Exercise: Science, Technology, and Society**

Pomona College, Spring 2019

“Towards a critical understanding of deepfakes: Developing a teaching module and more” (advised by Laura Perini and Brian Keeley)

## **TEACHING ASSISTANTSHIPS**

**Introduction to Privacy** (Spring 2025)

UMD (Computer Science)

**Human Factors in Security and Privacy** (Fall 2024)

UMD (Computer Science)

**Computer Systems** (Spring 2019)

Pomona College (Computer Science)

**Computability and Logic** (Spring 2018)

Pomona College (Computer Science)

**HTML & CSS** (Summer 2017)

Northwestern Center for Talent Development, grades 7 & 8

**Literary Analysis** (Summer 2017)

Northwestern Center for Talent Development, grades 7 & 8

## **GUEST LECTURES**

### **Qualitative research methods**

Fall 2024

Human Factors in Security and Privacy

UMD (Computer Science)

### **Intro to security**

Spring 2024

Privacy, Security, and Ethics for Big Data

UMD (Information Studies)

### **AI and algorithms**

Spring 2023

Privacy, Security, and Ethics for Big Data

UMD (Information Studies)

### **Buffer overflow**

Spring 2022

Computer and Network Security

UMD (Computer Science)

**Deepfakes**

Philosophy of Technology

Spring 2019  
Pomona College (Philosophy)**Intro to web development**

Claremont Splash (student-led educational event for high schoolers)

Spring 2018

**Deepfakes and deceptive technologies**

Claremont Splash (student-led educational event for high schoolers)

Spring 2018

**Intro to web development**

5C Hackathon

Fall 2017

**EXTERNAL REVIEWING**

- CHI '25 (1 review)
- CHI '24 (1 review)
- SOUPS '24 (1 sub-review)
- CSCW '24 (2 reviews)
- International Journal of Human-Computer Studies '23 (1 review)
- IEEE S&P '23 (1 sub-review)