

Bio:

Samantha is currently a second year PhD student in Computer Science at Tufts University focusing on human factors in cybersecurity at the Tufts Security & Privacy Lab. She is interested in the intersections between security and privacy, data science, and human computer interaction and user experience. Additionally, she is employed at the MITRE Corporation in Bedford, Massachusetts as a Complex and Cognitive Systems Engineer focusing on strategic data integration initiatives for interdisciplinary cybersecurity and data science efforts. Samantha currently leads data exploration and integration efforts for government stakeholders while facilitating collaboration with MITRE internal research.

Samantha is an author of the paper "A Qualitative Evaluation of Reverse Engineering Tool Usability" which has been accepted to ACSAC 2022.

Supporting Statement:

Attending ACSAC would help me gain access to and learn from a diverse collection of like-minded scientists. Participating in the conference will enable me to network with potential new friends and mentors that will help me gain the tools needed to grow as an early career researcher. At the same time, I am excited to explore and learn about topics I have not previously been exposed to; I would use this opportunity to broaden my horizons and immerse myself in these new possibilities for me in the field of computer security so that I can make educated decisions about my future and career in computing upon graduation. With this knowledge, I can share my stories to guide my peers with similar questions about their futures as well, taking the empowerment I can gain attending to shape me into a present and future technological and social leader; I would be more useful to my peers as the beneficiary of support from the larger network that comes together around ACSAC.

This impact directly feeds into my own desire to create strong, diverse communities of technical women, both in industry and in education. As a student in Computer Science department at Tufts University, I have been fortunate enough to be surrounded by a strong but small community of women students. I have further been lucky enough to be elected to a leadership position as the Chair of Professional Development for the Association for Computing Machinery's Council on Women in Computing (ACM-W) chapter at Tufts University. I will share my experience at ACSAC by acting as a catalyst towards empowering my current women cohort as well as the future women cohorts who enter the program, making me a stronger leader. Leading by example, I want to become someone that other women can see and have a sense of pride and potential as we fill critical roles in our department that have gone underrealized. My experience at ACSAC will allow me to devise a stronger plan of action towards achieving these goals in my community.