

September 25, 2025

Student Conferenceship Chairs,

I am writing to strongly support the application of Ye Wang, a final-year Ph.D. candidate in Computer Science at the University of Kansas, for the ACSA Student Conferenceship.

Ye is an exceptionally talented young researcher working in system security, with a focus on sensor-driven attacks and defenses in both digital and physical worlds. His research explores how adversaries can exploit ubiquitous sensors to mount imperceptible yet effective attacks, and how to design defenses that safeguard users without sacrificing usability. His work has already produced several important contributions, including studies on imperceptible infrared laser attacks on facial recognition systems and practical frameworks for secure sensor usage.

Most recently, Ye has worked on sensor-enabled mobile malware analysis, exploring the effectiveness and stealthiness of motion sensor-based side and covert channels that activate mobile malware. His findings demonstrate that these channels can be combined into an efficient and stealthy attack chain. By leveraging natural phone vibrations as lightweight control signals, Ye's framework significantly reduces resource consumption while maintaining stealth, thereby restoring the practicality of such attacks under Android 12 and beyond. He submitted this ongoing work to the Poster session and is still waiting for the result.

Attending the poster session will be especially valuable for Ye. Presenting his ongoing work in this interactive setting will allow him to obtain direct, critical feedback from leading experts in applied computer security at an early stage of his project. This feedback will help refine his evaluation methodology, strengthen his threat-model assumptions, and guide the transition of his poster into a full conference paper. Beyond technical critique, the networking environment will help Ye build connections with established researchers and peers, fostering collaborations that will accelerate his growth as an independent scholar. Equally, I have no doubt that the security community will benefit from his insights and enthusiasm.

I would also like to emphasize Ye's financial needs. With several of my research grants expiring in 2025, my ability to provide travel support to students is now very limited. While the University and department do offer small travel grants to graduate students, and Ye will apply for these to offset the costs, they are not sufficient to cover full conference expenses. Therefore, the Conferenceship would play a pivotal role in enabling Ye's participation at ACSAC.

Sincerely,



Fengjun Li