

IEEE S&P Technical Program Committee Chair Selection Process

(Proposal)

Last revised: May 20, 2013

The IEEE Symposium on Security and Privacy will follow the following procedures in selecting and promoting the technical program chairs (referred to as the program chair below). These procedures are restricted to the selection of the two technical program committee positions: a junior chair and a senior chair. The selection committee described below is tasked with the selection of these chairs.

At this stage, this is a working proposal and is open for debate. Please send your comments to mcdaniel@cse.psu.edu for review and integration. The plan will be presented at the S&P business meeting for short discussion and ratification.

For continuity and to ensure continued symposium quality, it is assumed that the junior chair from the previous year will be promoted to senior chair each year. All junior chairs position will be required to take on the two-year commitment. If for any reason, the junior chair cannot assume the senior chair position in the following year, then the selection process below will be used for the selection of both chairs.

The junior chair will be selected through the following process:

1. The selection committee will consist of all junior and senior technical program chairs for the previous 5 years and the chair and vice-chair of the Technical Committee on Security and Privacy (TC). Additionally, the program general chair of the following year will participate in discussion, but not be a voting member. Previous chairs opting out of the committee will not be replaced. The selection committee makes decisions via simple majority vote. In the case of a tie, the TC Chair has the casting (tie-breaking) vote.
2. An initial candidate list will be solicited from the selection committee members. Any member may propose as many names as they wish. Each member will provide a one-paragraph description of why they believe the candidate is appropriate for the position.
3. The TC chair will organize the candidate list in a single document (or email). This document will be shared with the selection committee. Comments and concerns will be shared with the selection committee through email or other appropriate means.
4. Each selection committee member will review the candidate list and comments and vote in rank order the top 3 candidates. Votes will be broadcast to the group and tallied by the TC Chair, using a Borda count where a vote ranking a candidate in 1st place is worth 3 points, a 2nd place ranking is worth 2 points, and a 3rd place ranking is worth 1 point. The top three candidates as per their total number of vote points will be considered for the program chair position.

5. The selection committee will have a conference call in which each of the top candidates capabilities, limitations and availability will be discussed. A ranking of the candidates will be created. Note that all reasonable efforts will be exhausted in making the ranking unanimous. The selection committee will have the discretion to remove candidates from the list at this time.
6. The TC chair will contact the top candidate to make the formal invitation to the position. If the candidate declines, the second and subsequent candidates will be contacted and invited as needed. If the candidate list is exhausted without any candidate accepting the position, the selection committee will restart the process.

Notes: All communications between selection committee members will be held in confidence. At no time should any candidate be contacted or informed about their presence on the candidate list.

The selection process will be completed by no later than one week prior to the opening of the previous year's symposium.

Note that under no circumstances shall the selection committee select more than one person for each position, nor shall they elect to have a single program chair oversee the symposium.

Chair Evaluation Criteria:

The technical program chair of IEEE Security and Privacy has substantial duties both in evaluating the technical substance of the program and ensuring the process is run fairly, smoothly, and on time. Thus, the following criteria should be used in evaluating candidates:

The candidate must have made substantial contributions to the Security and Privacy research community.

The candidate must have demonstrated good organizational skills and an ability to work with a diverse group of program committee members, the TC, and other volunteers.

The candidate must commit to providing ample time to process. This should be evaluated based on past efforts on committees, and reconfirmed during the acceptance of a program chair position.