

MIRANDA WEI

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EDUCATION

- University of Washington** September 2019–ongoing
PhD student, Paul G. Allen School of Computer Science & Engineering
- University of Chicago** September 2013–June 2017
B.A. in Political Science, Minor in Computer Science
Overall GPA: 3.83 (4.0 highest)
“ISIS Anashid and the Logic of Imagined Communities,” Departmental Honors Thesis
- London School of Economics** September 2015–June 2016
General Course (Direct Enrollment, Study Abroad Program)
Coursework in International Law, International Relations, Foreign Policy Analysis

AWARDS AND GRANTS

Awards

- College of Engineering Dean’s Fellowship, *selected for nomination by School*, UW, 2019–2020
- College Research Fellow, *merit-based assistantship requiring faculty nomination*, UChicago, 2016–2017
- Dean’s List, *GPA above 3.25, ineligible during study abroad*, UChicago, 2013–2015, 2016–2017
- National Merit Scholar, *awarded to top 0.5% of high school seniors nationwide*, UChicago, 2013–2017

Conference Grants

- Scholarship to SecHuman Summer School at Ruhr University Bochum (RUB), September 2018
- Ford Foundation Stipend to Privacy Enhancing Technologies Symposium (PETS), July 2018
- Student Scholarship to Women in Cybersecurity (WiCyS), March 2018
- Diversity Grant to USENIX Enigma, January 2018
- NSF Student Grant to USENIX Symposium on Usable Privacy and Security (SOUPS), June 2017

PUBLICATIONS

Oh, the Places You’ve Been! User Reactions to Longitudinal Transparency About Third-Party Web Tracking and Inferencing

B. Weinshel, M. Wei, M. Mondal, E. Choi, S. Shan, C. Dolin, M. L. Mazurek, B. Ur.

ACM Communications and Communication Security (CCS) (16% acceptance rate). November 2019.

“What was another site doing with my Facebook password in the first place?” Designing Notifications About Password Reuse

M. Golla, M. Wei, J. Hainline, L. Filipe, M. Dürmuth, E. M. Redmiles, B. Ur.

ACM Communications and Computer Security (CCS) (17% acceptance rate). October 2018.

Exploring User Mental Models of End-to-End Encrypted Communication Tools

R. Abu-Salma, E. M. Redmiles, B. Ur, M. Wei.

Workshop on Free and Open Communications on the Internet (FOCI). August 2018.

The Password Doesn’t Fall Far: How Services Influence Password Choice

M. Wei, M. Golla, B. Ur.

Who Are You?! Adventures in Authentication Workshop (WAY). August 2018.

Your Secrets are Safe: How Browsers' Explanations Impact Misconceptions About Private Browsing Mode

Y. Wu, P. Gupta, M. Wei, Y. Acar, S. Fahl, B. Ur.

The Web Conference (WWW) (15% acceptance rate). April 2018.

ISIS Campaign Propaganda Profile. *CPOST Report for the Department of Defense*. September 2016.

“Eradicating suicide terrorism in Pakistan.” *Chicago Tribune*. October 30, 2015. (co-written w/Robert Pape)

Spectacular Attack Profiles of AQI, Pakistani Taliban. *CPOST Report for the Carnegie Corporation*. September 2015.

“Getting ISIS Out of Iraq.” *The New York Times*. April 20, 2015. (co-written w/Robert Pape)

EXPERIENCE

University of Maryland

September 2018–September 2019

Faculty Assistant, Researcher with Prof. Michelle Mazurek

College Park, MD, USA

- Tracking Transparency: a series of studies about a browser extension that reveals the extent to which a user is tracked online; paper in submission
- Helped build and design browser extension, including a ReactJS user interface
- Designed and executed 2 user surveys and in-person design walkthroughs for evaluating the extension

University of Chicago SUPERgroup

August 2017–September 2018

Researcher with Prof. Blase Ur

Chicago, IL, USA

- Password reuse and usability: a series of projects on the usability of passwords for users across multiple accounts; 2 papers published at WAY and CCS, 1 in progress
- Private browsing: a project to understand user misconceptions of private browsing mode, and how browsers themselves play a role in perpetuating confusion; paper published at WWW
- Robotext: a project to understand the implications of creepy automated texts on privacy perceptions and information disclosure; paper in progress
- Designed and executed 5+ Qualtrics surveys, recruiting participants on Amazon's Mechanical Turk
- Conducted qualitative coding and analysis of 2000+ user responses and passwords

Chicago Project on Security and Threats (CPOST)

January 2015–August 2017

Analyst/Supervisor/Deputy Research Director with Prof. Robert Pape

Chicago, IL, USA

- Militant Propaganda Project: built and maintained most comprehensive database of ISIS propaganda, gathering information from 8+ academic and open sources; report for DoD-sponsored Minerva Institute
- Suicide terrorism analysis: collected data for most comprehensive suicide attack database; 2 media articles, 1 government report
- Led 20+ volunteer analysts in multiple projects over 2 years, studying terrorism in the MENA region
- Delivered briefings to internal superiors, academics, government policy-makers to report major findings

London School of Economics

October 2015–October 2016

Researcher with Prof. Julia Gray

London, UK

- Performed qualitative analysis of 4 int'l trade orgs. to evaluate politico-economic/bureaucratic efficiency

Smithsonian Institution

June 2014–September 2014

Office of Protection Services Intern

Washington D.C., USA

- Created new SharePoint site for managing Smithsonian buildings' security rosters

CAMPUS AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Maroon Project on Security and Terrorism (MPOST) September 2016–June 2017
Director Chicago, IL, USA

- Led weekly meetings, panels, workshops to support student interest in foreign policy and int'l affairs
- Oversaw publication of 50+ page student-written Journal of Security and Conflict Studies
- Fostered novel faculty involvement, inaugurated MPOST Professor Debate series, with regular attendance of 80+ UChicago students and community members

London School of Economics, Grimshaw Society Student Delegation April 2016
Delegate

- To Israel: Discussed the local impact of the Arab-Israeli conflict in meetings with embassies, UN, NGOs
- To Geneva, Switzerland: Discussed international governance with UN, int'l organizations

London School of Economics Fashion Society October 2015–February 2016
Wardrobe Coordinator London, UK

- Sourced garments, managed logistics for annual fashion show, which raised over £2000 for charity

University of Chicago MODA October 2014–March 2015
Student Designer Chicago, IL, USA

- Designed and tailored a 3-outfit collection inspired by Herkimer diamonds

ADDITIONAL EXPERTISE AND SKILLS

Languages English (native), French (intermediate), Chinese (intermediate), Russian (beginner)
Programming Python, R, HTML, Web (HTML5/CCS, JavaScript, React), Java, C
Applications L^AT_EX, Qualtrics, Photoshop