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From the Editors

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From the Editors

Abstract

Welcome to the Spring 2018 issue of the Journal of Cybersecurity Education, Research, and Practice (JCERP). On behalf of the editorial team, we thank you for taking the time to read this issue and strongly encourage you to submit an article for consideration in an upcoming edition.

Keywords

Editorial

FROM THE EDITORS

Welcome to the Spring 2018 issue of the Journal of Cybersecurity Education, Research, and Practice (JCERP). On behalf of the editorial team, we thank you for taking the time to read this issue and strongly encourage you to submit an article for consideration in an upcoming edition.

JCERP is now entering its third year, and for this issue's editorial, we share some thoughts on our progress, growth, and plans for the future. This journal originated out of need, as is commonly said, necessity is the mother of invention. In this field, a lot of innovation has originated out of need. Back in 1999, when Mike Whitman offered the first information security course at Kennesaw State University, there was a virtually no formal academic support for the course. Between NIST Special Pubs and a HP Security Handbook, the course drew heavily from industry, and began laying the foundation for dozens of courses and the hundreds of students to follow. Necessity dictated the develop of a lab manual to teach the many skills deemed important to entry-level security professionals. That led to the development of academically-focused textbooks, which led to the authoring of 9 titles in now 22 editions. The latest, Management of Information Security, 6th edition, has just been released. But long before this, the need for formal recognition of the growing program brought the NSA Center of Academic Excellence program to the attention of the KSU faculty. This led to KSU's first recognition as a Center of Academic Excellence in 2004. As part of the requirements of the program, each institution was expected to develop and host a conference or symposium to share research and teaching ideas and innovations. Thus, the Information Security Curriculum Development (InfoSecCD) Conference was born. KSU's CISO had an operating symposium that was transformed into a traditional academic conference. The venue's first offering had over 60 submissions and over a hundred registrants – then a hurricane hit, forcing rescheduling, and impacting the conference's schedule.

A few years went by and the KSU InfoSec faculty noticed a lack of journals focused on InfoSec pedagogy. Thus the Information Security Education Journal was formed. The prime directive was a journal at no cost to the authors, as the open access journal trend was emerging at that time. The journal struggled along until issues with the publisher forced us to abandon the venture, and start anew. In that moment it was decided that a re-branding of not just the journal, but also the conference was in order. In the re-branding, the team decided to expand the focus of the conference and journal, while keeping true to their roots – academics teaching in InfoSec. Thus the Conference on Cybersecurity Education, Research and Practice emerged, along with the Journal of Cybersecurity Education, Research and Practice. In the process, we discovered the Digital Commons platform, already subscribed to by KSU, and everything fell into place.

So here we are, beginning our third year after re-branding, and we have a strong positive outlook on the future. We are still one of the very few venues for faculty who want to learn more about teaching, and researching, in Information Security, and are proud to offer researchers a venue which is provided at no charge to either reader or author. This Journal is supported completely by the effort of the Center for Information Security Education, through the proceeds of the CCERP event.

What we need more of is the support of our authors, reviewers and attendees. As times get tough, institutions cut back on travel and conference attendance wanes. We've begun initiatives to integrate real-world industry knowledge into the Conference, with an industry day on the Friday before the Saturday academic presentations. We've moved the event to KSU Center, a facility just across the interstate from the main Kennesaw Campus, better suited to visitor attendance and conference functions, yet still at low cost. We're always open to other ideas to improve the conference, the journal and the field.

The call for papers has just been released for the October 2018 CCERP. If you would like a copy, and to be added to the mailing list for the event, please email us at infosec@kennesaw.edu. As the best papers of the conference are invited to submit to this journal for an expedited review, growth of the conference equates growth of the journal.

As our field grows, expands and matures, we invite each of you to join us in this journey. Never a dull moment, and as the Chinese curse states: "May you live in interesting times." We look forward to seeing you at the conference, and reviewing your submissions.

The mission of JCERP is to be the premier outlet for high-quality information security and cybersecurity related articles of interest to teaching faculty and students.

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