Message from the Program Chair

I would like to start by thanking the USENIX Security community for making this year's call for papers the most successful yet. We had 207 papers originally submitted; this number was reduced to 202 after one paper was withdrawn by the authors, three were withdrawn for double submission, and one was withdrawn for plagiarism. This was the largest number of papers ever submitted to USENIX Security, and the program committee faced a formidable task.

Each PC member reviewed between 20 and 22 papers (with the exception of David Wagner, who reviewed an astounding 27 papers!) in multiple rounds over the course of about six weeks; many papers received four or five reviews.

We held a two-day meeting at the University of Toronto on April 8–9 to discuss the top 76 papers. This PC meeting ran exceptionally smoothly, and I give my utmost thanks to the members of the PC; they were the ones responsible for such a pleasant and productive meeting. I would especially like to thank David Lie and Mohammad Mannan for handling the logistics of the meeting and keeping us all happily fed.

By the end of the meeting, we had selected 30 papers to appear in the program—another record high for USENIX Security. The quality of the papers was outstanding. In fact, we left 8 papers on the table that we would have been willing to accept had there been more room in the program. This year's acceptance rate (14.9%) is in line with the past few years.

The USENIX Security Symposium schedule offers more than refereed papers. Dan Boneh, Sandy Clark, and Dan Geer headed up the invited talks committee, and they have done an excellent job assembling a slate of interesting talks. Patrick Traynor is the chair of this year's poster session, and Carrie Gates is chairing our new rump session. This year we decided to switch from the old WiP (work-in-progress) session to an evening rump session, with shorter, less formal, and (hopefully) some funnier entries. Carrie has bravely agreed to preside over this experiment. Thanks to Dan, Sandy, Dan, Patrick, and Carrie for their important contributions to what promises to be an extremely interesting and fun USENIX Security program.

Of course this event could not have happened without the hard work of the USENIX organization. My great thanks go especially to Ellie Young, Devon Shaw, Jane-Ellen Long, Anne Dickison, Casey Henderson, Tony Del Porto, and board liaison Matt Blaze. Because USENIX takes on the task of running the conference and attending to the details, the Program Chair and the Program Committee can concentrate on selecting the refereed papers.

Finally, I would like to thank Fabian Monrose, Dan Wallach, and Dan Boneh for convincing me to take on the role of USENIX Security Program Chair. It has been a long process, but I am very pleased with the results.

Welcome to Washington, D.C., and the 19th USENIX Security Symposium. I hope you enjoy the event.

Ian Goldberg, University of Waterloo
Program Chair