

# MINUTES IACR BOARD MEETING *VIRTUAL-01 2026*

21 JANUARY 2026

## 1. OPENING MATTERS

**1.1. Welcome, roll of attendees, identification of proxies.** At 19:03 UTC the President opens the meeting and briefly goes around for an introductory round, confirming attendees and establishing who is holding proxies.

There are 20 full time attendees with the following proxies: Yang holds Guo's proxy, Lysyanskaya holds Halevi's proxy (when absent), Schwabe holds Hülsing's proxy, Preneel holds Rijmen's proxy.

### 1.1.1. *Roll of Attendees.*

*Attendees* (Elected). Allison Bishop (President 2026-2028); François-Xavier Standaert, (Vice President 2026-2028); Benjamin Wesolowski (Secretary 2026-2028); Shai Halevi (Director 2026-2028); Anna Lysyanskaya (Director 2025-2027); María Naya-Plasencia (Director 2024-2026); Bart Preneel (Director 2026-2028, Program Chair Contact); Francisco Rodríguez-Henríquez (Director 2024-2026); Peter Schwabe (Director 2026-2028, *CHES* Steering Committee); Bo-Yin Yang (Director 2025-2027); Moti Yung (Director 2024-2026, *PKC* Steering Committee);

*Attendees* (Appointed). Foteini Baldimtsi (Communications Secretary 2023-2026); Tetsu Iwata (Asiacrypt 2027 General Chair (2026-2027)); Edoardo Persichetti (*Eurocrypt* 2026 General Chair (2025-2026)); Mayank Varia (*Crypto* 2026 General Chair (2025-2026));

*Attendees* (Representatives and Others). Kevin McCurley (Database Administrator); Kay McKelly (Web & software developer); Gregor Leander (*FSE* Steering Committee);

*Absentees* (Elected). Brian LaMacchia (Treasurer 2026-2028, *RWC* Steering Committee); Jian Guo (Director 2025-2027);

*Absentees* (Appointed). Man Ho Allen Au (Asiacrypt 2026 General Chair (2025-2026)); Andreas Hülsing (*Eurocrypt* 2027 General Chair (2026-2027)); Vincent Rijmen (Journal of Cryptology Editor-in-Chief 2024-2026);

*Absentees* (Representatives and Others). Masayuki Abe (*Asiacrypt* Steering Committee); Tal Malkin (*TCC* Steering Committee); Hilarie Orman (Archivist); Tal Rabin (Code-of-conduct Liaison); Yu Yu (Webmaster);

**1.2. Approving minutes from previous meeting.** The President calls for a vote to approve the minutes of the meetings *Virtual-12 2025*.

**Decision 1** (unanimous). *The Board approves the Minutes of the IACR Board Meeting Virtual-12 2025.*

## 2. APPOINTEMENTS

The President introduces the first agenda item: the terms of Poettering (Membership Secretary) and Baldimtsi (Communications Secretary) have concluded. Chitchanok Chuengsatiansup has been nominated to replace Poettering, and Baldimtsi is willing to serve for one more year. The president calls for a vote.

**Decision 2** (unanimous). *Chitchanok Chuengsatiansup is appointed Membership Secretary for three years (2026-2028).*

**Decision 3** (unanimous). *Foteini Baldimtsi is appointed Communications Secretary for one year (2026).*

### 3. UPDATE ON CONFERENCES

Yang reports on *RWC 2026*. Registrations opened a few weeks ago, and everything is on track. About 100 student stipends have been assigned.

Leander reports on *FSE 2026*. Registrations have not yet opened, as some sponsorships are still being finalized, which may affect the final registration fee.

Persichetti reports on *Eurocrypt 2026*. Approximately 140 papers are expected to be accepted, along with two invited talks. There was internal discussion about the number of invited talks and their potential impact on the acceptance rate, given the record number of submissions. Persichetti also reports on *PKC 2026*, noting that securing sponsors for *PKC* is significantly more challenging than for *Eurocrypt*.

Varia reports on *Crypto 2026*. Costs at the traditional venue are rising, as UCSB Conference & Hospitality Services is transitioning from a flat rate to a percentage-based fee to support conference planning.

Schwabe reports on *CHES 2026*. The venue has been approved, and the team is actively seeking sponsors. Everything is progressing as planned.

### 4. COMPOSITION OF COMMITTEES

The President introduces the next agenda item: reviewing the composition of the committees.

Standaert, who has just joined the Board as Vice President, will now chair the Ethics Committee. Bishop has agreed to remain on the committee, but it is currently understaffed and requires new volunteers.

The Schools Committee is also understaffed. Bishop proposes Rodríguez-Henríquez as the new chair, and a vote is called.

**Decision 4** (unanimous). *Francisco Rodríguez-Henríquez is appointed Chair of the Schools Committee.*

The President calls for volunteers for both the Ethics and Schools Committees and reminds everyone that committee members do not need to be Board members.

Halevi notes that the Audit Committee needs to be refreshed. Standaert, as Vice President, will join the committee. The next meeting will be scheduled in consultation with the Treasurer (who is absent today).

### 5. NEAR-TERM PRIORITIES

**5.1. IT Manager.** The newly approved Bylaws amendment establishes the role of IT Manager, which now needs to be filled. The President calls on all Board Members to identify and propose candidates.

**5.2. Crypto 2027.** The selection of General Chairs for *Crypto 2027* was postponed while alternative venues were being considered. Since no proposals were submitted for 2027, the event will proceed at UCSB. The President invites nominations for General Chairs, and a vote will be held at the next Board Meeting.

Naya-Plasencia suggests that we proactively reach out to potential General Chairs who could host *Crypto 2028* at other locations across the Americas, including South America.

**5.3. Results of the IACR 2025 Membership Survey.** The report on the 2025 survey conducted among IACR members is now finalized. McCurley notes that the results are available online<sup>1</sup>, though they have not yet been shared with members. The Board agrees to communicate the report to all IACR members via email.

### 6. PUBLICATION MODEL

Abdalla, during his presidency, initiated negotiations for a new contract with Springer (for the proceedings of the General conferences, PKC and TCC). Before finalizing the agreement, Bishop invites us to discuss our plans for the future of IACR publications.

Naya-Plasencia highlights that the recent survey demonstrated strong community support for in-house, open-access publishing. McCurley adds that, with the experience gained from TCHES, TOSC,

<sup>1</sup><https://iacr.org/surveyresults/>

and CiC, a transition for our General Conferences is realistic in the foreseeable future. The Board discusses potential challenges raised by such a transition. Naya-Plasencia concludes that the working group on the publication model should reconvene soon to draft concrete proposals.

#### 7. CLOSING MATTERS

The President closes the meeting officially at 20:14 UTC.