MINUTES IACR BOARD MEETING *VIRTUAL-09 2024*

25 SEPTEMBER 2024

1. OPENING MATTERS

1.1. Welcome, roll of attendees, identification of proxies. At 14:15 UTC the President opens the meeting and briefly goes around for an introductory round, confirming attendees and establishing who is holding proxies.

The President will not be available for the entire meeting, so he delegates his role to the Vice President.

There are 21 full time attendees with the following proxies: Abdalla holds Bishop's proxy (when absent), Yung holds Halevi's proxy (when absent), Yung holds Lysyanskaya's proxy, Yang holds Schwabe's proxy, Rodríguez-Henríquez holds Yang's proxy (when absent).

1.1.1. *Roll of Attendees.*

Attendees (Elected). Michel Abdalla (President 2023-2025); Allison Bishop (Vice President 2023-2025); Brian LaMacchia (Treasurer 2023-2025, *RWC* Steering Committee); Benjamin Wesolowski (Secretary 2023-2025); Jian Guo (Director 2022-2024); Shai Halevi (Director 2023-2025); María Naya-Plasencia (Director 2024-2026); Bart Preneel (Director 2023-2025, Program Chair Contact); Francisco Rodríguez-Henríquez (Director 2024-2026); Bo-Yin Yang (Director 2022-2024); Moti Yung (Director 2021-2023, *PKC* Steering Committee);

Attendees (Appointed). Dario Fiore (Eurocrypt 2025 General Chair (2024-2025)); Bertram Poettering (Membership Secretary 2023-2025);

Attendees (Representatives and Others). Kevin McCurley (Database Administrator);

Absentees (Elected). Anna Lysyanskaya (Director 2022-2024); Peter Schwabe (Director 2023-2025, *CHES* Steering Committee);

Absentees (Appointed). Foteini Baldimtsi (Communications Secretary 2023-2025); Julia Hesse (*Eurocrypt 2024* General Chair (2023-2024)); Tancrède Lepoint (*Crypto 2024* General Chair (2023-2024)); Joseph Liu (Asiacrypt 2025 General Chair (2024-2025)); Vincent Rijmen (Journal of Cryptology Editor-in-Chief 2024-2026); Bimal Roy (*Asiacrypt 2024* General Chair 2023-2024);

Absentees (Representatives and Others). Gregor Leander (*FSE* Steering Committee); Tal Malkin (*TCC* Steering Committee); Mitsuru Matsui (*Asiacrypt* Steering Committee); Hilarie Orman (Archivist); Tal Rabin (Code-of-conduct Liaison); Yu Yu (Webmaster);

1.2. Approve minutes from last BoD virtual meeting. The Vice President thanks the Secretary for completing the minutes which have been shared before the current Board Meeting. The Vice President calls for a vote to approve the minutes of the previous meeting.

Decision 1 (unanimous)**.** *The Board approves the Minutes of the IACR Board Meeting Virtual-08 2024.*

2. TOPICS

2.1. Test-of-Time committee selection. The Board needs to appoint a new member for the Test of Time Award committee to replace Tal Rabin. Three names have been submitted. Each candidate is presented in a few words by the person who nominated them. The Vice President calls for a vote.

Decision 2. *Anne Canteaut is selected to join the Test of Time Award committee. [Canteaut has since accepted.]*

2.2. IACR 2026 Distinguished Lecture. The board needs to select the person to deliver the IACR 2026 Distinguished Lecture (at *Crypto 2026*). Four names have been submitted. Each candidate is presented in a few words by the person who nominated them. The Vice President calls for a vote.

Decision 3. *The Board selects a nominee to deliver the IACR 2026 Distinguished Lecture at Crypto 2026. A runner-up is also chosen in case the first nominee declines.*

2.3. **Crypto 2026 General Chair selection.** The Board needs to appoint the General Chair for *Crypto 2026*. Three names have been submitted. Each candidate is presented in a few words by the person who nominated them. The Vice President calls for a vote.

Decision 4. *Mayank Varia is appointed as the Crypto 2026 General Chair. A runner-up is selected in case Varia declines the offer. [Varia has since accepted.]*

2.4. **IACR Accounting Services proposal.** LaMacchia presents the next item on the agenda. Until now, the Treasurer has managed all accounting and bookkeeping tasks for the association. However, with the IACR's growth, this is no longer feasible without additional assistance. Following discussions at the *Eurocrypt 2024* and *Crypto 2024* Strategic Meetings, it has been proposed for the IACR to contract professional accounting-related services. At the *Crypto 2024* Membership Meeting, a proposal was presented to increase the IACR membership fee, partly to fund these professional services.

The Assembly voted in favor of this increase. In accordance with this vote, LaMacchia has crafted a formal proposal to contract accounting services. A draft has been shared with the Board ahead of the meeting. It proposes for the IACR Board to authorize Farcaster Consulting Group, LLC ("FCG") to provide various accounting, bookkeeping, and financial-related services to the IACR. The President is authorized to represent the IACR in any future modifications to the range of services provided. It is noted that the Board has reviewed the price of comparable services and has concluded that this proposal is competitive with market rates.

The Vice President calls for a vote.

Decision 5 (unanimous)**.** *The Board approves the* Authorization for Farcaster Consulting Group, LLC to provide certain accounting-related services to the IACR.

3. Closing Matters

3.1. **Topics for the next Board Meeting.**

Conflict of interest statement. LaMacchia proposed for all members of the IACR Board of Directors to complete an Annual Conflict of Interest Statement, and he shared a draft with the Board. This matter will be discussed in a future Board Meeting.

IACR Statements. The question of establishing a formal policy regarding IACR Statements issued by the Board is still open. During Crypto, some members pointed to a policy recently adopted by Harvard[1] regarding university statements. It could serve as inspiration for a formal IACR policy. This matter is added to the agenda of the next Board Meeting.

3.2. **Closing.** The Vice President closes the meeting officially at 15:44 UTC.

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[1] https://provost.harvard.edu/sites/hwpi.harvard.edu/files/provost/files/institutional_voice_may_2024.pdf