

MINUTES IACR BOARD MEETING *VIRTUAL-11 '22*

17 NOVEMBER 2022

1. OPENING MATTERS

1.1. Welcome, roll of attendees, identification of proxies. At 22h02 CEST Abdalla 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 and Abe's proxy; Halevi holds Lysyanskaya's proxy. Baldimtsi leaves at 23h00 and Bishop holds her proxy when absent.

1.1.1. *Roll of Attendees.*

Attendees (Elected). Michel Abdalla (President 2020-2022); Joppe Bos (Secretary 2020-2022); Shai Halevi (Vice President 2020-2022); Brian LaMacchia (Treasurer 2020-2022); Tancrède Lepoint (Director 2021-2023); Bart Preneel (Director 2020-2022, *FSE* Steering Committee); Peter Schwabe (Director 2020-2022); Francois-Xavier Standaert (Director 2020-2022, *CHES* Steering Committee); Bo-Yin Yang (Director 2022-2024, *Asiacrypt'22* General Chair); Moti Yung (Director 2021-2023, *PKC* Steering Committee);

Attendees (Appointed). Foteini Baldimtsi (Communications Secretary (2019-2022)); Allison Bishop (*Crypto'22* General Chair (2021-2022)); Colin Boyd (*Eurocrypt'22* General Chair; Britta Hale (*Crypto'23* General Chair (2022-2023)); Douglas Stebila (Membership Secretary (2017-2022)); Damien Stehlé (*Eurocrypt'23* General Chair (2022-2023)); Fangguo Zhang (*Asiacrypt'23* General Chair);

Attendees (Representatives and Others). Tal Malkin (*TCC* Steering Committee); Kevin S. McCurley (Database Administrator);

Absentees (Elected). Masayuki Abe (Director 2021-2023); Jian Guo (Director 2022-2024); Anna Lysyanskaya (Director 2022-2024);

Absentees (Appointed). Vincent Rijmen (Journal of Cryptology Editor-in-Chief 2021–2023);

Absentees (Representatives and Others). Mitsuru Matsui (*Asiacrypt* Steering Committee); Hilarie Orman (Archivist); Kenny Paterson (*RWC* Steering Committee); Tal Rabin (Code-of-conduct Liaison); Yu Yu (Webmaster).

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

Decision 1 (unanimous). *The Board approves the Minutes of the IACR Board Meeting Virtual-10 '22.*

2. CONFERENCES

2.1. Update on upcoming conferences. Malkin recalls that *TCC* was great and that around 140 people attended physically. The next edition will take place in Taiwan. The President inquires about the virtual component of *TCC*. Malkin explains that the virtual component opened for streaming later and was not available from the first day.

Yang is looking forward to *Asiacrypt*. Over 200 people have registered already. He notes that a significant part is from Taiwan itself. Moreover, it appears that not many senior researchers have registered. Halevi notes that this seems to be a recent general trend possibly linked to senior people avoiding travel after a COVID. It is suggested to monitor this more closely. Yang mentions that a direct effect is that there is a problem finding session chairs. Yung mentions that we saw a similar situation at *Crypto* this year: many companies still have travel restrictions in place.

Preneels recalls that *FSE 2023* in Beijing is on track. LaMacchia and Stebila are helping with invoices for sponsors to allow for IACR to manage sponsor payments. There is no progress update on the parallel conference in Japan. Preneel will remind the *FSE* steering committee.

Stehlé met with the congress center for *Eurocrypt 2023* and Yung mentions that everything is going fine for *PKC*.

3. TOPICS

3.1. **2022 IACR Election results.** The President congratulates all Officers and Directors who got (re-)elected.

3.2. **Discussion on New CIC Journal (Next steps).** Bos recalls that the new journal titled “IACR Communications in Cryptology” has been approved by our Membership. The good news is that almost 80 percent of the members voted for the new journal, however this means that we have work to do to talk and understand the concerns of the other 20 percent. Yung points out that an approval of 80 percent is an excellent achievement for our democratic organization. The President asks Bos to think about the next steps to start the work for the new journal. Bos mentions that a lot of the technical work is already underway together with McCurley. This work includes a new L^AT_EX style file which supports automatic metadata extraction and a web-interface which can compile L^AT_EX files automatically. For the Editorial work the Board first need to appoint the second Editor-in-Chief. When that has been decided the real work can start which includes discussions with the various Steering Committees.

There follows a discussion related to the multiple issues with Springer in the last years. Preneel highlights that we never complained formally about these issues and this might explain why Springer never reacted. We need to be more strict and point out when Springer breaches our contract. There is a discussion how to deal with these issues and if we should leave Springer.

3.3. **Issues with conferences in Abu Dhabi.** There has been an incident reported to the Board which occurred at CANS 2022 which is an “event in cooperation with IACR”. A speaker was not allowed to present since no speaker permit was granted by the government. The President has asked the Chairs for a response and we are awaiting their reaction before action is taken.

4. APPOINTMENTS

4.1. **Crypto 2024 General Chair.** The President recalls that the Board should appoint a General Chair for *Crypto* 2024. Yung wonders if we shouldn’t have nominated the potential candidates at least a week in advance. Bos recalls that this new rule applies to Program Chairs, not to General Chairs. Yung expresses that he prefers more time to read-up on the candidates. The President explains that the the appointment is not urgent and can wait until the next board meeting. There follows a discussion and the following is agreed.

Decision 2 (unanimous). *Nominations of candidates for positions voted on by the Board of Directors must be made at least one week before the board meeting at which the vote occurs.*

5. CLOSING MATTERS

Abdalla closes the meeting officially at 23h30 CEST.