

DATA SCIENCE

Every Other
Wednesday

4:45 to 6:00PM
Shelby Hall Rm 3104

SYSTEMS PROTECTION AND EXPLOITATION RESEARCH

GROUP (SPERG)

Every Friday 10 – 11 a.m.
@Shelby Hall Rm 2327
www.soc.southalabama.edu/sperg/

PARTNER SCHOOL PROGRAM

Contact Keith Lynn
at 251-460-7643. For
scheduling HOLLA click
on the link below.

Schedule HOLLA

Quote of the Month

“Software innovation,
like almost every other
kind of innovation,
requires the ability to
collaborate and share
ideas with other people,
and to sit down and talk
with customers and get
their feedback and
understand their needs ”

Bill Gates, Co-Chairman, Bill &
Melinda Gates Foundation and
Co-Founder, Microsoft

**Due to COVID-19 all activities have been
cancelled until further notice**

Alumni Profile

James (Troy) Whatley
IT Specialist

U.S. Army Engineer Research and
Development Center (ERDC)
whatleyjt@gmail.com



James (Troy) Whatley graduated in May of 2009 with a Bachelor of Science in Computer Information Systems from the University of South Alabama (USA). He has also attained a Master of Science in Information Security and Assurance from Western Governors University (WGU). As a student at the USA School of Computing (SoC), Troy credits his success to Mr. Paul Overstreet, Ms. Angela Clark, Dr. Roy Daigle, and Dr. Harold Pardue.

During his studies, Troy gained an opportunity to interview and to work with Callis Communications to help build custom applications for their VOIP product line, later transitioning into System Administration for Callis Communications, Columbia Southern University, and Netpoint IT Services. In 2013 he had the opportunity to work at the Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) Data Center 1 (DC1) as a Senior Information Security Engineer while also teaching Information Security courses at ITT Technical Institute. His recent roles have had him within the Department of Defense as a Senior Red Team Operator working with multiple Red Teams. He is currently a Federal Civilian Employee with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Engineering Research and Development Center's (ERDC) Red Team focusing on Critical Infrastructure.

Troy has furthered his cybersecurity interests with certifications as a Certified Information Systems Security Professional (CISSP), Certified Ethical Hacker (CEH), and Certified Hacking Forensic Investigator (CHFI). He enjoys running, hiking, and biking to clear his head and keep himself fit. He has run races from 5k to 50k and is looking to possibly run a 50-mile race in the next few years.

Faculty Profile

Dr. Alec Yasinsac

Dean and Professor
School of Computing
University of South Alabama
Phone: (251) 460-6390
yasinsac@southalabama.edu
Shelby Hall, Suite 2101



Dr. Alec Yasinsac is professor and Dean, School of Computing, University of South Alabama. He has forty years' experience in computer software, application development, mainframe operating systems, and network engineering, has published eighty refereed workshop, conference, and journal papers on information security, and has participated as an investigator in proposals that have won multi-million dollars of competitive research funding. Alec served in the Marines for twenty years and received his doctorate from the University of Virginia where he was on faculty as Assistant professor and Marine Officer Instructor in the Naval ROTC unit.

Alec is a Senior Member of IEEE and ACM and is a member of the IEEE Computer Society. He sits on the ACM US Public Policy Committee and has been a visiting scholar at the National Academy of Engineering and at Harris Corporation. He has contributed to several books, having co-edited LNCS 4074 with Mike Burmester, served as an Associate Editor for IEEE Security and Privacy Magazine from 2010-2014, and is presently an Associate Editor for the Elsevier journal "Computers and Security".

With research interests in information security, risk assessment, insider threats, computing forensics and electronic voting systems security, Alec was on the Advisory Board for the 2007 National Academy of Engineering 2007 National Meeting Symposium on Electronic Voting. As co-founder and co-director of the Security and Assurance in Information Technology (SAIT) Laboratory at Florida State, he was appointed to lead the first ever academic source code review in support of a U. S. federal election audit for the 2006 United States Congressional District 13 contest in Florida. He has conducted several other electronic voting security code reviews and systems security analysis for the Florida Department of State. He routinely testifies before federal bodies and regulatory contributes to national meetings and panels that address voting system security issues.

Alec was selected by the U. S. Elections Assistance Commission to lead a team that conducted an EAC-sponsored Elections Operations Assessment in 2008. That project produced the Risk Assessment tool named the Threat Instance Risk Analyzer (TIRA) that is used to evaluate comparative risk among voting systems in support of the Voluntary Voting System Guidelines policy decisions.

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