

SPRITE+ Newsletter: July 2023

A message from Emma Barrett, Director of SPRITE+:

Our first SPRITE+ grant finishes at the end of August 2023, and I will be stepping down as Director. I'm so proud of what we – collectively – have achieved since SPRITE+ launched at the end of 2019.

- We've built a community of more than 900 Members and Expert Fellows, 18 Project Partners, and a wide range of research end users across public, private, and third sectors.
- Our >£500K pump-priming research fund has enabled 17 projects, funding 85 researchers from 36 higher education institutions. Their research has led to academic and trade publications, conference presentations, responses to government consultations in the UK and EU, and new grant applications – and successful bids.
- We've run a packed programme of support for early career researchers, with networking, showcase, and training activities – and we're particularly proud that ECRs were PIs on ten of our funded projects, giving them invaluable experience in building and leading an interdisciplinary, multi-institutional research team.
- In addition to the ECR events, we've run around 40 community activities, including a conference, a summer camp, working groups, workshops, funder 'town hall' meetings, community of interest meetings, showcase events, and sandpits. Our website now hosts numerous community resources including curated libraries of online courses, papers from SPRITE+ members, top conferences and journals, job opportunities, funding calls and more.

None of this would have happened without huge efforts by SPRITE+ management team members past and present: the project team, Catherine, Ayushi, Katy, and Natalie, and co-investigators Sakir, Stacey, Vladimiro, Hamed and Deeph, and Expert Fellows Co-ordinator Mark. I'm hugely grateful to all of them, and to all of you in the wider SPRITE+ Community for your support and enthusiasm.

This is not the end! Our follow-on grant starts on 1 September and Mark Elliot will be taking over as PI and Director. I'll remain in the team as Expert Fellows Co-ordinator, with some additional responsibilities. The new grant is more substantial than the current grant, which will allow us to fund many more community activities and grow our network and impact further. We have such exciting plans and can't wait for you to all be part of them.

Mark will tell you more about that in the September newsletter, but until then, I hope you enjoy a restful break over the summer and look forward to seeing you again in the new academic year!
Emma

News and Publications from the SPRITE+ Community

SPRITE+ Expert Fellow Dr. Sandra Scott-Hayward co-authored a new paper [Defeating Data Plane Attacks With Program Obfuscation](#).

SPRITE+ Expert Fellow Corinne May-Chahal was part of a team from REPHRAIN who have produced the first independent, public evaluation of automated industry tools developed for online child protection and used it to evaluate the five proof of concept tools funded by the Government's Safety Tech Challenge (STC) Fund. You can read the full report [here](#).

SPRITE+ Expert Fellow Martin Gallagher published the following articles: [It is all about individuals, not institutions: Get the right gardeners to prune the apple tree, don't cut it down](#) and [Chief](#)

[Constable Jo Farrell's 'in-tray': The storm clouds on the horizon](#). Martin was also interviewed as an expert on organised crime by Dr. Chris Allen, Senior Police Practice Tutor at Buckinghamshire New University: [The illicit funds being gathered through drugs at present are fuelling corruption](#). Martin also a speaker at the forthcoming [Global Counter Terror & Serious and Organised Crime Summit - International Security Expo 2023](#).

SPRITE+ Member Benoît Dupont co-authored a new paper [The tensions of cyber-resilience: From sensemaking to practice](#).

SPRITE+ Member and tomtA.ai cofounder Saibal Banerjee published a blog on the importance of preserving rare instances when using PETs. Read the blog [here](#).

SPRITE+ Member Steven Atneosen participated in an Ethical AI roundtable: [A New Wave of Data-Centric AI Startups](#).

SPRITE+ Expert Fellow John McAlaney co-authored paper titled [Interrupting Dissociation of Players through Real-Time Digital Tasks during Online Gambling](#).

SPRITE+ Expert Fellow Wendy Moncur co-authored paper titled [What the Dickens: Post-mortem privacy and intergenerational trust](#). The paper has won the Top 10 IRIS 2022 LexisNexis Best Paper Award.

SPRITE+ Expert Fellow Edgar Whitley contributed to a podcast about identity cards in the UK as part of [Jam Tomorrow](#).

SPRITE+ Member Jared Shurin has edited the upcoming [The Big Book of Cyberpunk](#). The book is publishing in September. It is intended to be a definitive collection of the sub-genre, collecting over a hundred imaginative stories on topics such as AI, cryptocurrency, cyber-crime, disinformation and more. Review copies are available for early readers, reviewers, or those conducting interdisciplinary research (contact Jared at extrafox@pm.me).

SPRITE+ Expert Fellow Andrés Domínguez Hernández co-authored the papers titled [Co-creating a Transdisciplinary Map of Technology-mediated Harms, Risks and Vulnerabilities: Challenges, Ambivalences and Opportunities](#) and [Ethical, political and epistemic implications of machine learning \(mis\)information classification: insights from an interdisciplinary collaboration between social and data scientists](#). Andrés along with SPRITE+ Member Ola Michalec were awarded a grant by the Bristol Digital Futures Institute for a project titled Against Digital Fatalism: Resisting hype about immersive tech and the metaverse.

SPRITE+ Expert Fellow Nadine Michaelides co-authored the paper titled [The impact of an employee's psychological contract breach on compliance with information security policies: intrinsic and extrinsic motivation](#).

SPRITE+ Expert Fellow Carolina Are launched a report [Tackling Platform Governance Inequalities In Collaboration With The World Wide Web Foundation](#). Carolina also featured in a set of news outlets following swathes of account deletions from Meta – [Wired](#), [Dazed](#), [Fast Company](#), and [huck](#).

SPRITE+ Expert Fellow Shujun Li co-authored the papers titled [Visualising Personal Data Flows: Insights from a Case Study of Booking.com](#) and [A systematic literature review of the tension between the GDPR and public blockchain systems](#). Additionally, [Workshop Proceedings of the 17th International AAAI Conference on Web and Social Media](#).

Job Opportunities and Studentship Announcements

Sent to us by SPRITE+ Expert Fellow Lizzie Coles-Kemp: A position for a **Lecturer in Information Security** at Royal Holloway, University of London. Application deadline: 2 August 2023, read more and apply [here](#).

Sent to us by SPRITE+ Expert Fellow Rachel Gibson: A position for a **Research Associate on the Everyday Misinformation Project** at Loughborough University. Application deadline: 11 August 2023, read more and apply [here](#).

Sent to us by SPRITE+ Expert Fellow Ahmad Atamli: A position for a **Research Fellow in Hardware Security for the IOTEE**: securing and Analysing Trusted Execution Environment beyond the CPU project. Application deadline: 11 August 2023, read more and apply [here](#).

Sent to us by SPRITE+ Member Matthew Bradbury:

- A **3-year PDRA position** on addressing privacy leakage in cyber physical systems. Application deadline: 11 August 2023, read more and apply [here](#).
- An **18-month PDRA position** on formal proofs of privacy properties for cyber physical systems. Application deadline: 18 August 2023, read more and apply [here](#).
- A **funded PhD position** (only funded for people with UK home fee status) on addressing privacy leakage in cyber physical systems. Application deadline: 18 August 2023, read more and apply [here](#).

You can find out about other [Job Opportunities and Studentship Announcements](#), as well as [funding calls](#), on [SPRITEHub](#)

Calls for Papers / Proposals

Special Issue IASC – Secure Multimedia and Big Data Informatics for Industrial Revolutions
Manuscript submission deadline, 31 August 2023. Read more [here](#).

SPRITE+ Expert Fellow Andrés Domínguez Hernández and SPRITE+ Member Ola Michalec are calling for artists, designers and other creatives to work with them for a project titled '**Against Digital Fatalism: Resisting hype about immersive tech and the metaverse**'. Submission deadline, 17 September 2023. Read more [here](#).

24th Privacy Enhancing Technologies Symposium (PETS 2024) Manuscript submission deadlines in August, November, and February 2024. Read more [here](#).

Upcoming Events

NSS 2023 - 17th International Conference on Network and System Security; and **SocialSec 2023** - 9th International Symposium on Security and Privacy in Social Networks and Big Data
University of Kent, Canterbury. August 14-16, 2023
Registration deadline: 7th August 2023. Read more and register [here](#).

Edinburgh SASIG: Future-proofing technology
Tuesday 5 September, 9.30am-3pm – Edinburgh
Read more and register [here](#).

NPCC National Business Cybercrime Conference 2023

Thursday 7 September, 9.30am-2.30pm – Kennington, London

Read more and register [here](#).

Legal SASIG: Navigating evolving regulations

Tuesday 12 September, 9.30am-3pm – Central London

Read more and register [here](#).

Digital Trust and Security Seminar Series – Digital Futures

Read more about the upcoming events and register [here](#).