CyLab Usable Privacy and Security Meritorious Achievement Certificate Program
(last updated October 30, 2009)

The Carnegie Mellon University Information Networking Institute offers a certification and award in usable privacy and security.

Certification and Award: To be eligible for the certification and award in Usable Privacy and Security students must meet the following requirements:

- Be enrolled in a Ph.D. program at Carnegie Mellon University.

- Successfully complete 5-836/8-734 Usable Privacy and Security with a grade of B- or better.

- Successfully complete three approved full-semester courses from the CUPS course list in a variety of different areas to provide a multi-disciplinary coursework foundation for their research. Two approved mini courses may be substituted for one full-semester course. All courses must be completed with a grade of B- or better. Courses must include:

  - a privacy or security course from the CUPS course list,

  - a course from the CUPS course list in any category other than privacy or security,

  - and an additional course from any category on the CUPS course list.

- Participate regularly in the weekly CUPS research seminar for at least two years and present their work at the seminar at least once each year.

- Be actively involved in usable privacy and security research efforts for at least two years, for example as evidenced by contributing substantially to at least two peer-reviewed academic papers related to usable privacy and security.

- Present a paper or poster related to usable privacy and security at the Symposium On Usable Privacy and Security or other relevant academic conference.

Application: Ph.D. students can apply to participate in the certificate program at any point in their graduate careers. Students in the CUPS doctoral training program are automatically considered participants in the certification program. Other students interested in participating in this program should apply by submitting the following information by email to the CUPS program administrator:

1. One paragraph overview describing interest in usable privacy and security.

2. A list of the courses already taken in this area (if any).

3. A list of the courses to be taken in this area.

4. A list of relevant papers and presentations authored by the student (if any).

5. A list of CUPS research seminar presentations given by the student (if any).

6. The name and email address of the student's Ph.D. advisor, the PhD program the student is in, and the student's expected graduation date.

The advisor should send a separate brief letter of recommendation.

Once admitted, students in this program are considered CUPS Associates.

CUPS Trainees and CUPS Associates must notify the CUPS program administrator by email when they have completed the requirements and provide a final list of the above information.

Status of Certification and Award: As certification that they have completed the Carnegie Mellon CyLab Usable Privacy and Security Program in good standing, students will be receive an award for Meritorious Achievement in Usable Privacy and Security. This award is a recognition of in-depth study and research in the area of usable privacy and security. It is not, and should not be construed as, a degree from Carnegie Mellon University. Nor is it a pre-Ph.d. nor continuing education certificate. This award can be listed on vitas as an award and under education as a note of certification.