

# Travel report for COINS Seminar/NordSec/CySeP 2015

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I got funding from COINS research school to attend three events in Stockholm, Sweeden, in October 2015.

- October 17-19, COINS Seminar
- October 19-21, NordSec 2015
- October 20-23, CySep 2015

## 1 COINS Seminar

The COINS Seminar 2015 was located at KTH Royal Institute of Technology. This is the second COINS Seminar I have attended, with a good program with great people. The agende can be found at <https://coinsrs.no/coins-ph-d-student-seminar-2015-stockholm/>.

**Day 1:** The best sections this day was the working groups and the panel discussion where the students could ask the professors/professionals any questions. I was in the working group for "how to integrate 20 new students in COINS in 2016". I also found the simulated Ph.D. defence

(Samson Gejibo) to be a useful experience. And finally, the dinner was nice.

**Day 2:** Day 2 was only half a day of seminar, and NordSec 2015 started after lunch. The best section of the COINS Seminar was the presentation "Halfway to Ph.D.? What will happen next?" (Oleksandr Kazymyrov), where he discussed what he went on to do after his Ph.D. and what we could expect after our Ph.D.

## 2 NordSec 2015

NordSec 2015 was also located at KTH Royal Institute of Technology and started after lunch the same day as the COINS Seminar ended. The program can be found at <http://nordsec2015.csc.kth.se/program.php>.

I found the best presentations of NordSec 2015 to be

- "Rethinking Cyber Security" (Eugene H. Spafford)
- "Towards Perfectly Secure and Deniable Communication Using an NFC-Based Key-Exchange Scheme" (Daniel Bosk, Martin Kjellqvist, Sonja Buchegger)
- "Faster Binary Curve Software: A Case Study" (Peeter Laud, Billy Brumley)
- "WhirlBob, the Whirlpool Variant of StriBob: Lighter, Faster, and Constant Time" (Markku-Juhani O. Saarinen, Billy Brumley)

I did, however, not attend the last day of NordSec because it overlapped with the first day of CySeP, and I chose to go there instead.

### 3 CySeP 2015

CySeP 2015 was located in Electrum Building, Kista Science City. The program can be found at <https://people.kth.se/~papadim/cysep/agenda.html>.

I found the best presentations of CySeP 2015 to be

- "Quantum-Safe Cryptography" (Stephan Lechner)
- "Data and Goliath: The Hidden Battles to Collect Your Data and Control Your World" (Bruce Schneier)
- "Media forensics" (Nasir Memon)

### 4 Final remarks

All in all, the trip and all three events was very nice. The best thing, however, is that you meet and get to know other Ph.D. students and academics from other universities in Norway (and Sweden in this case), and get an insight to what other groups are working with.