

COINS Steering Committee

Meeting 2015-01-22

Minutes: Rachael McCallum

Time: 1400 - 1500

Place: Skype

Participants:

- Steering Committee (SC) members: Hanno Langweg (Scientific Director COINS), Tor Helleseth (University of Bergen), Vladimir Oleshchuk (University of Agder), Patrick Bours (Gjøvik University College), Ijlal Loutfi (Student), Vivek Agrawal (Student), Rachael McCallum (Activity Management Office)

Apologies:

- Chunming Rong (University of Stavanger), Ragnar Soleng (University of Tromsø)



Agenda

1. Agenda
2. Meeting minutes of previous meeting - <https://www.coinsrs.no/wp-content/uploads/2013/06/coins-steering-committee-meeting-minutes-2014-10-09.pdf>
3. Status, goals and milestones
 - a. News
 - i. Student initiative: Simona Samardjiska invited by UiB students to discuss MQ crypto; will invite more COINS students
 - ii. Support for Ijlal Loutfi to attend NDSS (co-located with USEC workshop)
 - iii. 2 students attended Security Divas 2015
 - iv. PhD movie 2: COINS will have placements in the movie (laptop sticker, t-shirt, mug) and in credits
 - v. 3 students attended COINS PhD student seminar in Tromsø with presentation+discussion+report to get 1 ECTS via IMT6004 (HiG)
 - vi. Forms for documentation of own contribution will be sent out soon (own/student/supervisor time spent on COINS activities, support in goods/facilities/cash)
 - vii. Capacity for COINS students at Finse winter school 2015
 - b. Tasks from previous meetings
 - i. Certificate generation for graduates: automated solution to be rolled out in Q1/2015 (Hanno)
 - ii. Finding out what students want and need to increase participation at Metochi summer school (Vladimir)

- iii. COINS course description approval (HiG done, NTNU recommends HiG, UiA not initiated, UiB not initiated, UiO not initiated, UiS not initiated, UiT not initiated)
 - c. Admission of students: 12 students admitted in 2014, 3 graduated; 22 scheduled to graduate in 2015(!)
 - d. Longstanding open issues
 - i. UiS student Girma Kejela needs to submit an updated project description with relation to security
 - ii. UiS needs to add a link for uis.no to coinsrs.no
 - iii. UiO needs to provide info on funding source for Kjetil Kjernsmo and Seraj Fayyad
- 4. Metochi summer school
 - a. Postponed to 2015, deposit paid for study centre => needs to be a success this year
 - b. Course description IMT6003 (HiG) to award 3 ECTS at PhD level
 - c. Main topic? Cloud and big data? Distributed/networked systems? Security protocols?
 - d. Lecturers?
 - e. Programme/advisory committee?
 - i. Vladimir++
 - f. Attendance?
 - i. Graduation 2018: 5: Chris Carr, Ijlal Loutfi, Dat Le Tien, Antonio Gonzalez Burgueño
 - ii. Graduation 2017 : 8 : Bo Sun, Nabeel Albahbooh, Britta Hale, Tetiana Yarygina, Vivek Agrawal, Ambika Chitrakar, Vasileios Gkioulos, Stian Fauskanger
 - iii. Graduation 2016 : 11 students
- 5. PhD student seminar
 - a. Separate or co-locating with SWITS (Västerås ca. June), NISK (Ålesund in November) or NordSec (Stockholm ca. October/November)?
 - b. Organiser?
- 6. CTF
 - a. In funding application announced that COINS would host a CTF event from 2015-2020
 - b. Participation in an international event with a COINS team
 - c. Gathering experience from organisers of existing events, e.g. CSAW, iCTF, RUB
 - d. Organiser on COINS side
- 7. Participation of supervisors in COINS e.g. as lecturers and mentors; inclusion of SINTEF ICT students
- 8. Activities and budget 2015
 - a. Students to not yet request funding for short-term stays with COINS partners
 - b. Expected total spending in 2015: 1.765 MNOK (397 own contribution, 1.368 from NFR)
- 9. SC and AAB meeting dates: Finse? Metochi? Autumn? NISK (Ålesund)? Skype? Gardermoen? => Doodle
- 10. Miscellaneous

Welcome

Welcome extended to Ijlal Loutfi and Vivek Agrawal as the new student representatives, and to Patrick Bours as the new representative from GUC.

Agenda

Vladimir Oleshchuk informs that he is not the person responsible for the Metochi summer school. No other changes to the agenda.

Meeting minutes 2014-10-09

Previous meeting minutes accepted without objection.

Status, goals, and milestones

News

- Vivek Agrawal, Andrii Shalaginov, and Mohsen Toorani attended the Cyber Camp in Madrid – 5 – 7 December, 2014 - <https://cybercamp.es/principal>. Vivek gave a short report to the Steering Committee, and has submitted a report to be added to the website.
 - Camp attended by approximately 500 students. Many of the workshops were unfortunately in Spanish, but there was a very interesting talk from one of the keynotes. A translation service was provided for keynote talks.
- PhD forum at NISK, organized by Audun Jøsang (University of Oslo). No report during the meeting as none of the attendees were present at the forum.
- Simona Samardjiska will hold a seminar at UiB on MQ crypto – 2-6 February, 2015. Simona will inform COINS students via the COINS mailing list.
- Ijlal Loutfi will attend NDSS (co-located with USEC) in San Diego, California – 8-11 February, 2015. Ijlal will be presenting a paper at the USEC workshop.
- Two students attended Security Divas 2015.
- The PhD Movie is currently being filmed - <http://www.phdmovie.com/>. Will create more exposure for COINS to potential candidates as COINS will have placements in the movie – laptop sticker, t-shirt, mug. COINS will also be mentioned in the credits as an executive producer. Request from Jorge Cham for a poster to be used in the movie – Biometrics is the closest discipline.

Action: Patrick Bours to source a poster from the students after the meeting.

- Three students have earned 1 ECTS via IMT6004 (HiG) from attending the PhD seminar in Tromsø – this includes a longer presentation, a Q&A session, and a report.
- Forms for documentation of own contribution will be sent out soon (own/student/supervisor time spent on COINS activities, support in

goods/facilities/cash). This is to enable better reporting to the Research Council, to show time invested in COINS.

- Finse winter school – 3-8 May 2015. Tor Helleseth provided an update on the status.
 - Reservation has been made for 32 rooms (possibility of sharing)
 - An invitation will be written with a deadline for the beginning of March
 - Expecting approximately 15 COINS students
 - Still working on the program

Tasks from previous meetings

- An automated PDF certificate for students is currently being developed. This will enable students to show which events they have attended, and is expected to be rolled out in Q1/2015.
- Metochi summer school – to be discussed under item 4.
- COINS course description approval – an active presentation with report is required to satisfy the requirements for ECTS
 - NTNU – will require students to enroll at HiG for ECTS rather than create a course at NTNU
 - UiA – still to discuss with administration
 - UiB – in discussion with UiB study consultants. The best solution may be to do as extra credits through HiG
 - UiO – not initiated
 - UiS – not initiated
 - UiT – not initiated

Action: Rachael to find out the enrollment process at HiG

Admission of students

- According to the list on the front page of the COINS website, 22 students are scheduled to graduate in 2015. It is unlikely that this is now correct, so should be updated. Twelve students were admitted in 2014, and three students graduated – Nils Ulltveit-Moe (UiA), Chunlei Li (UiB), Oleksandr Kazymyrov (UiB).

Action: Rachael to send out a reminder to students to check and modify (if necessary) their proposed completion dates.

Longstanding open issues

- To be discussed at a later meeting as representatives from the relevant universities were unable to attend the meeting.

Metochi summer school

- Vladimir Oleshchuk will be organizing NISK, and cannot be available to take on the responsibility of the summer school.
 - New committee for the organization of the summer school includes Hanno Langweg and Patrick Bours.
 - Tor Helleseth is organizing the Finse Winter School, and will inform Hanno and Patrick if presenters are unavailable for Finse but might be interested in Metochi.
- Metochi summer school run with a narrow focus – Patrick Bours suggests that the school be more like Finse (i.e. with a broader range of topics) to make it more attractive to students.
- Suggestion that earlier registration would allow for changes to the program to reflect the interests of the attendees – majority interest for summer school (Ijlal)
 - HOWEVER, suggestion from Vivek Agrawal that students would prefer to apply after knowing the topic.

Action: Hanno Langweg to arrange a poll for the students to discover:

- **If they would attend**
- **What they want to learn**

- PhD students from other countries may also have the opportunity to attend if the program is set early enough – younger students may also be more inclined to attend as they will not have attended previously.

PhD student seminar

The COINS PhD student seminar provides students with an opportunity to present their work and enhance their network etc. Discussion regarding the issues of timing and co-locating:

- Very little support for co-locating the seminar with other conferences due to the time required.
 - Issues with NORDSEC as it is run mid-semester.
 - SWITS suggested, but also not be suitable.
 - No one in favour of co-locating with NISK.

Action: Hanno Langweg to arrange a poll to be sent to students and supervisors for best options.

- Exam week in June put forward as a possibility – dates could be blocked in the course schedule for IMT6004.

- Preference for more supervisors to attend – opportunity for them to meet other supervisors.

CTF

A team from multiple COINS institutions participated in 2013 and 2014. Is COINS in a position to host such an event?

- Incentive: to encourage participation.
- Goal: more experience for Applied IT security.
- Suggestions:
 - Perhaps outsource organization for the first year?
 - COINS support for students to travel to other organisers to learn how to host the event.
 - Test at national level before rolling out to international level.

Action: Talk to other institutions to gather local knowledge/expertise from organisers of existing events – Hanno Langweg to coordinate.

Items 7 and 8 not discussed due to time constraints.

SC and AAB meetings

Please send preferences to Hanno Langweg

Action: Hanno to send out a Doodle poll with suggestions.