# Message from the SecDev 2018 Program Chairs

It was our pleasure and privilege to serve as the program chairs for the 2018 IEEE Security Development Conference (IEEE SecDev 2018). IEEE SecDev continues to establish itself as a venue for promoting constructive and in-depth defense solutions. The scope of the conference is extremely broad. It's a platform for any work that "builds security in" to systems. The strong emphasis that SecDev places on "building security in" means that—unlike most other security conferences—it is not enough for a paper to simply describe an attack or discover a novel vulnerability. Rather, work at SecDev helps us build systems that have strong security guarantees and provides assurance that systems are immune to entire classes of attacks.

With the support of the SecDev steering committee, we have two major changes in this third offering of the conference. We started a call for best practices (BP) papers, seeking work that systematizes the knowledge, experiences, and tools related to cyber defense. Another change is the new practitioners' session abstracts (PSA). We seek presentations from cybersecurity professionals working in industry or government. It is the first such call among IEEE or ACM security conferences. The practitioners' session program committee consisted of 20 experts, mostly from industry and government. Both improvements help establish SecDev as the venue for building an informed research community that works together to bridge the gap between theory and practice.

This year we received 41 submissions, including 30 full papers and 11 tutorial proposals. One paper was desk rejected. The research program committee accepted 14 full papers, including 9 research papers and 5 best practices papers. The research program committee of 40 members worked diligently to give constructive feedback to the authors. The full papers will be organized into five sessions covering Best Practices of Security, Data Access Security, Secure Coding and Analysis, Software and System Development, and Vulnerability Assessment. We also accepted 7 tutorials from top experts. Five tutorials are 180-minute and the rest are 90-minute. As of this writing, our call for practitioners' session abstracts is still open, which we very much look forward to. We will announce SecDev's best research paper, the best BP paper, and the best reviewer awards at the conference.

We are also very excited that Dawn Song and Kathleen Fisher will deliver keynote addresses. Both of them have made impactful contributions to the field of cybersecurity and are outstanding research pioneers.

This conference is only possible through the commitment and hard work of the SecDev team.
The lead steering committee member, Rob Cunningham, endlessly contributes insightful ideas about how to grow the SecDev community, including the BP idea. The general chair, Dinara Doyle, leads an effective and productive organization team. Rob and Dinara are also committed to advancing women in security. They help organize a SecDev discussion led by Leslie Alger. We are grateful for Richard Chow and Andy Chou, who lead the PSA review process under an extremely tight schedule. The poster chair (Bogdan Copo), web chair (Jessica Hedges), publications chair (Darby Mitchell), and publicity chair (Lucy Qi) have all been very dedicated. We thank them all and the others who have worked behind the scenes to organize IEEE SecDev 2018.

**Danfeng (Daphne) Yao,** Virginia Tech
**Stephen Chong,** Harvard University
*SecDev 2018 Program Chairs*