

UCF Faculty Excellence Lecture Series

Presented by the Department of EECS, CS Division

TRUTH AND CONSEQUENCES

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 17, 2015

3:30 PM – VAB (Visual Arts Building) Room 132

It is well known that our computing infrastructure is under continuous attack, and the intensity of those attacks appears to be increasing. Defenders are usually in the unfortunate position of building ever more complex defenses that must be augmented after each new round of penetration. Meanwhile, our systems are built, by default, to be welcoming and provide useful feedback when an error occurs — with successful attacks not triggering much, if any, warning.

The “Liarsclub” group at Purdue have been exploring how to employ deception as a defensive technique. Our goal is to provide misleading or deceptive information to attackers, thus decreasing their chances of success and increasing the likelihood of defenders being alerted. In this talk, I will outline the taxonomy of deception that we have produced, and describe some approaches we have taken to employ deceit and misdirection as cyber defenses. This will include some discussion of our ersatz password mechanism, and some deceptive network services.

DR. EUGENE H. SPAFFORD
Purdue University



Eugene H. Spafford is a professor at Purdue University who specializes in issues of information security, digital forensics, privacy technology, and security and science policy. Among many other things, he is the founder and executive director of CERIAS at Purdue University, and is Editor-in-Chief of the oldest journal in the field, *Computers & Security* (Elsevier). Spaf, as he is widely known, also operates a consulting company: CSSCS.

Dr. Spafford has been working in the field of computing for over 30 years and is responsible for a number of “firsts” in computing. He has been recognized by many major scientific and professional organizations for his many achievements in research, education, and engagement. You can find more specific information about him on his homepage or via his abbreviated academic vita. Spaf is also sometimes rather silly, and that may be evident via his social media posts, and some of his links from his homepage. Life shouldn’t be taken too seriously!

Hosted by Dr. Gary T. Leavens

