ISC2 CHAPTER

EAST BAY

2025 Year In Review

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📚 2025 ISC2 East Bay Chapter Year Highlights

📈 Organizational Growth and Culture

The chapter successfully executed a strategy that saw its reach and active member base expand dramatically, culminating in record-high numbers by the end of November, while fostering an inclusive community:

- ✓ Roster Growth: The Total Chapter Roster is 1,121 members.
- ✓ Active Engagement: The chapter activated its base, ending the year with 1,075 Active Members and an impressive Active Member Ratio of 95.9%.
- ✓ Diversity Achievement: Our membership profile proudly notes the participation of nearly 400 women.

40+ credit hours of live & online training, ISC2 reported	Us		You
January 9, 2025 – Member meeting: Non-Human Identity (NHI) – Astrix; Annual Board Elections	2		
February 13, 2025 – Member meeting: Data Security Posture Management – 5 Considerations for Success | Breaches are Inevitable, Damage Isn't	2		
February 21, 2025 – Galentine's – reminder to our Women in Cyber (Pacific Hackers – CSASF)			4
March 14, 2025 – ISC2 East Bay Winter Conference – Incident Response to Resilience @ Las Positas College	5-13		
RSA			4-40
April 10, 2025 – Member Meeting: The Future of GRC Automation – Paramify | Find Your API Exploits Before They Do – APISec | Bylaws Vote	2		
May 8, 2025 – Member Meeting: AI Trust Score for Operationalizing AI deployments, Tumeryk | The Tectonic Weaknesses in Data Security, Symmetry Systems	2		
June 12, 2025 – Member Meeting: Fractional Pentesting | Mitigating Data Exposure Risks in GenAI Tools	2		
July 10, 2025 – Member Meeting: Navigating the Modern Threat Landscape, Trace3 | Cloud IAM – Managing Identities in a Hybrid and Multi-Cloud World, One Identity	2		
August 14, 2025 – Member Meeting: Amador Valley High School Capstone and LPC Symposium Winners | BCDR Meets MCP, Brett Gavin from Veeam	2		
September 11, 2025 – Member Meeting: Driving Enterprise Security Through Control Automation, Happiest Minds | AI and Application Security, Black Duck	2		
October 9, 2025 – Member Meeting: Intersection of Cybersecurity, AI and Quantum Computing, Symmetry Systems | The Justice for Fraud Victims Project, ACFE San Francisco Bay Area Chapter, & San Jose State University	2		
October 24, 2025, Command + Control: Where Women Lead, Systems Follow (Pacific Hackers – CSASF)			4
October 28th, 2025 - ISACA Sacramento: 2025 Reignite Conference		8	
November 13th Dinner and 14th, 2025 – ISC2 East Bay 2025 Fall Conference – The Long Game: AI-Driven Cyber Strategy in an Era of Global Disruption	5-13		
December 11, 2025 – Member Meeting: Winners of the Dublin High School 2025 ISC2 East Bay Cybersecurity Award | ISC2 East Bay Year in Review	2		

1. 📈 Membership Growth & Community Health

🌟 Achievement Highlights

The chapter achieved strong growth across its roster and community engagement efforts, ensuring the ISC2 East Bay chapter reflects an increasingly diverse and actively participating membership base.

- ✓ Grew the registered roster from 847 to a new milestone of 1,121 members.
- ✓ Maintain a highly inclusive community, including the participation of nearly 400 women with strong representation across many cultures and demographics.
- ✓ Community Engagement: We utilized a highly curated Newsletter and continuous LinkedIn notifications to increase local event visibility and foster greater excitement. This communication strategy successfully improved the social dynamics and raised the "fun factor" among attendees.
- ✓ Note: We routinely purge non-active members, causing a typical 5% dip in January. (Use it or lose it.)

2. 📚 Record-Breaking Member Value & Professional Development

We delivered our most impactful year yet, significantly exceeding our core mission of providing Continuing Professional Education (CPE) and career support through expanded and accessible programming.

- ✓ Massive Impact: Programs resulted in the logging of over 3,900 total CPE credits for members (up from 2,445).
- ✓ Exceptional CPE: Provided over 40 hours of directly posted ISC2 CPE plus an additional 40+ hours of partner training, offering twice the annual certification requirement.
- ✓ Expanded Programs: Delivered 10 Member Meetings (webinars) and two major, full-day conferences, plus mock interviews, job counseling, and a jobs board.
- ✓ Industry Exposure: Engaged 40+ speakers and showcased 30 Vendors/Technologies, supplying hundreds of real job notifications and student mentorships.
- ✓ Next-Gen Investment: Engaged 40+ student volunteers (including 20 paired with a "staff for a day" opportunity), investing in future cybersecurity professionals.
- ✓ See our latest Distinguished Dinner Book: ISC2 East Bay November 13th 2025 Distinguished Dinner

3. 💳 The Essential Call for Sustained Support

While our programming is robust, ensuring the continuation of high-quality, low-cost programs requires strengthening the chapter's self-sustaining financial base.

- ✓ Financial Need: Requires annual dues from a minimum of 250 paid members to cover basic operational expenses (excluding conferences).
- ✓ Current Deficiency: Total cumulative paid membership is 122 out of 1,121, creating a significant gap and heavy reliance on external sponsorship.
- ✓ Your Dues Matter: The $45 annual dues are essential for maintaining operations, as ISC2 fees do not cover local chapter support or technical platforms.
- ✓ Support Incentives: Paid members receive subsidized conference tickets, which is vital for securing venues and covering our $100 per attendee food/logistics costs, and allowing us to provide free seats to students.
- ✓ Actionable Support: Help us by paying your annual dues, purchasing early-bird conference tickets, and encouraging colleagues to attend events.
- ✓ If you are able, make a "Pay-It-Forward" donation of $100 for student scholarship.

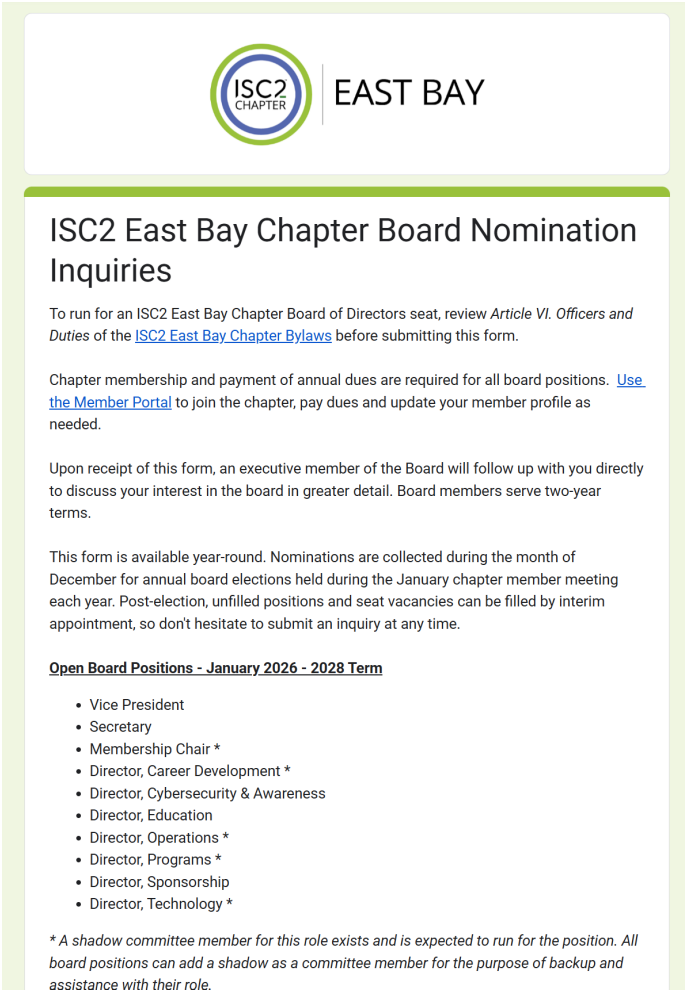
Get Involved

- ✓ Take on a position
- ✓ Volunteer on a committee
- ✓ Mentor
- ✓ Teach
- ✓ Make Charitable Donations

2026 Election Process

https://forms.gle/JwDqzbS1ae5uL9ey9

- ✓ Nominations are open now and close on January 7th
- ✓ Only dues-paying members are eligible to take any role on the board or a committee.
- ✓ Most roles require physical presence in the East Bay; however, some committee work can be performed as remote volunteer efforts.
- ✓ Only ISC2 Credentialed and Dues Paying members can run for executive roles or roles that require access to PII.
- ✓ Only candidates with 2 years of executive ISC2 board experience can run for President.
- ✓ Voting will occur during the January 8th Member Meeting



ISC2 CHAPTER EAST BAY

ISC2 East Bay Chapter Board Nomination Inquiries

To run for an ISC2 East Bay Chapter Board of Directors seat, review *Article VI. Officers and Duties* of the ISC2 East Bay Chapter Bylaws before submitting this form.

Chapter membership and payment of annual dues are required for all board positions. Use the Member Portal to join the chapter, pay dues and update your member profile as needed.

Upon receipt of this form, an executive member of the Board will follow up with you directly to discuss your interest in the board in greater detail. Board members serve two-year terms.

This form is available year-round. Nominations are collected during the month of December for annual board elections held during the January chapter member meeting each year. Post-election, unfilled positions and seat vacancies can be filled by interim appointment, so don't hesitate to submit an inquiry at any time.

Open Board Positions - January 2026 - 2028 Term

- Vice President
- Secretary
- Membership Chair *
- Director, Career Development *
- Director, Cybersecurity & Awareness
- Director, Education
- Director, Operations *
- Director, Programs *
- Director, Sponsorship
- Director, Technology *

** A shadow committee member for this role exists and is expected to run for the position. All board positions can add a shadow as a committee member for the purpose of backup and assistance with their role.*

2025 Board & Conference Committee Intent remain or term and expected new member as of January 8th Election

- ✓ President: **Robin Basham**, 2023-Dec 2026 – agreed to stay until a suitable President candidate has gone through a VP cycle, per board vote. Remains Conference Chair.
- ✓ Vice President: **Gary Dylina** 2025-2026, looking for a new VP, Gary provides extreme chapter history and is helping us to implement new leaders. He will sit in executive positions until a suitable candidate is elected or appointed by the Board.
- ✓ Treasurer and Finance Director: **Irwin Cheng** 2023-2026
- ✓ Chapter Secretary: **Carmen Parrish**, 2017 to 2023-2026 **Open**, covered by Gary Dylina unless a suitable executive steps forward
- ✓ Director Membership: **Erica Cunningham** 2025 (stepped down mid-year.) **Nachiket Deshpande** served Oct - Jan
- ✓ Director Programs: **Cory Brown** 2023-2026 term end Jan, Abhishek Neelakanata
- ✓ Directors Operations: **Peter Chen**, 2023-2026 term end Jan, Karl Schneider
- ✓ Director Technology: **Craig Porter**, 2023-2026 term end Jan, Brian Payne
- ✓ Director of Communication: **Cyrus Haghighi** 2025-2027
- ✓ Director Sponsorship: **Robert Cunningham**, 2024 -2026 term end Jan, Cory Brown
- ✓ Director Outreach: **Dennis Esselsagoe**, 2025-2027
- ✓ Director of Education: **Open**
- ✓ Director Career Development: **Jeremy Hein** 2024-2026 term end Jan – Neha Dhage
- ✓ Director Cybersecurity & Awareness: **Daniel Cheng** 2024-2026 term end Jan, **Open**
- ✓ Conference Director (Chair): **Robin Basham** 2023-2026 – remaining in position
- ✓ Conference Coordinator Hospitality **Dawn Ona** (Moving up to a Board role, effective next election)

- ✓ We need at least four new board members, who require local physical presence, are dues-paying members, and have a preferred minimum of at least one ISC2-issued credential. For executive positions, we prefer or require board experience.

Our 2025 to 2026 Board and Conference Committee

President & Conference Chair: Robin Basham

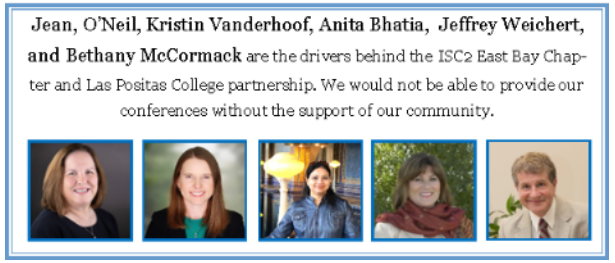
Vice President and Secretary, if not filled: Gary Dylina

Chapter Secretary: Open

Director Technology: Brian Payne, if elected, + Shadow

Treasurer and Finance Director: Irwin Cheng

Director Membership: Nachiket Deshpande, CISSP, if elected, + Shadow



Recent Past Board, 2026 Conference Committee & Programs Advisors

Director Programs: Abhishek Neelakanata, if elected, + Shadow

Directors Operations: Karl Schneider, if elected, + Shadow

Director Marketing & Communication: Cyrus Haghighi + Shadow

Director Outreach: Dennis Esselsagoe + Shadow

Director Career Development: Neha Dhage, if elected, + Shadow

Conference Hospitality – new Board Position Dawn Ona

Committees report to their respective Chair or Director

- ✓ Conference Speaker Liaison
- ✓ Marketing Committee
- ✓ Technology Committee
- ✓ Careers Committee

Robert Cunningham

Carmen Parrish

Daniel (Hwee) Cheng

Jeremy Hein

Director Sponsorship: Cory Brown, if elected, + Shadow

Director Cybersecurity & Awareness: Open

Director of Education: OPEN

Conference coordinator: OPEN

Evan Tsai and Amit Gupta, among nominations. We look to gather nine more.

Craig Porter

Peter Chen

Erica Cunningham

Radek Urban

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The Long Game: AI-Driven Cyber Strategy
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November 14th, 2025, at Las Positas College
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NINE LIVE LABS
The Secure AI Revolution
Friday March 13th, 2026 | 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM
Venue: Las Positas College, Livermore, CA
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NINE LIVE LABS
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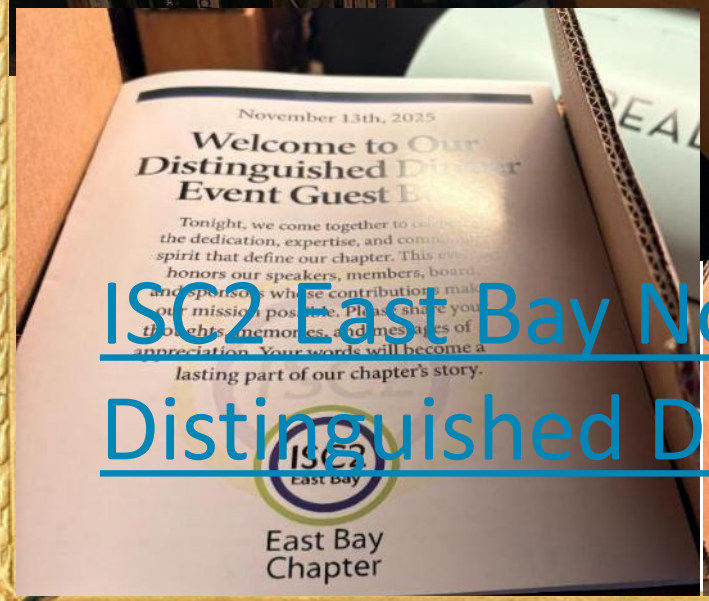
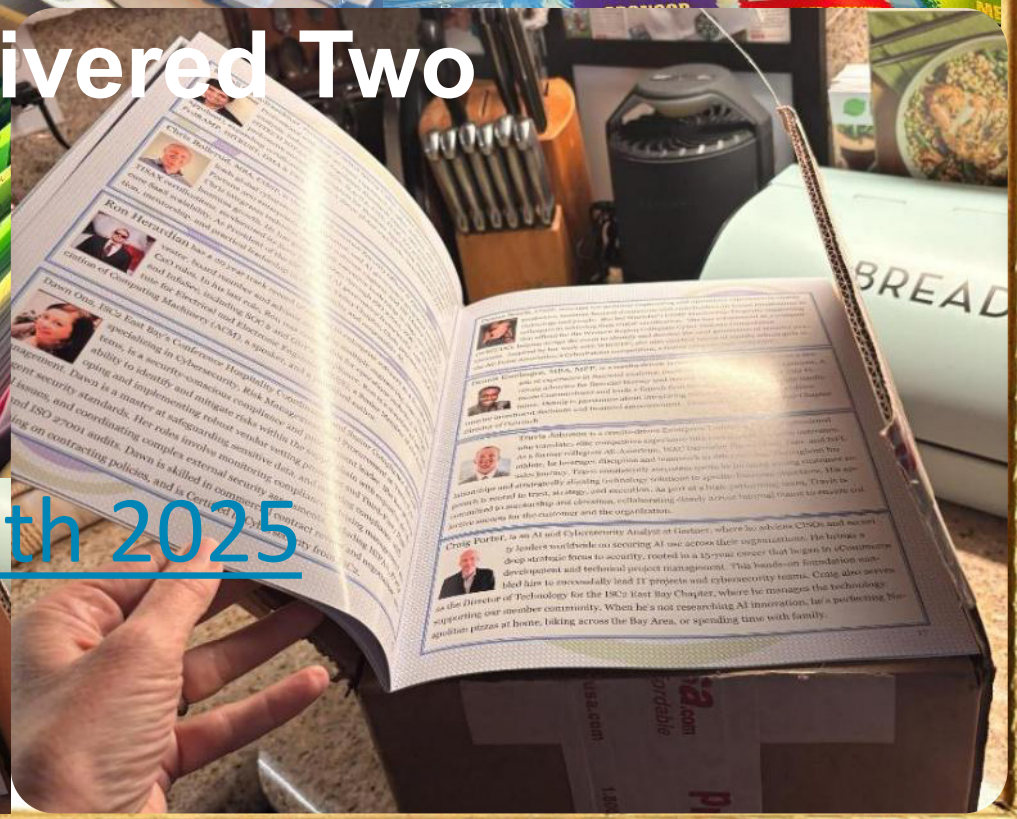
Be sure you turn in your feedback form to earn your CPE.
NO FOOD OR DRINK IN THE PRESENTATION HALL
BADGE
recycle them.
No Open Containers or liquids allowed.
ease use the designated areas to eat and drink.
PLACE ON
Dry Erase Markers
Conference preparation is massive.

March and November Delivered Two Distinguished Dinners





[ISC2 East Bay November 13th 2025 Distinguished Dinner]

Incident Response to Resilience Conference

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March 14th, 2025

At Las Positas College, Livermore

The Long Game:
AI-Driven Cyber Strategy in
an Era of Global Disruption
ISC2 East Bay Chapter
2025 Fall Conference
November 14, 2025, 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Las Positas College, Livermore
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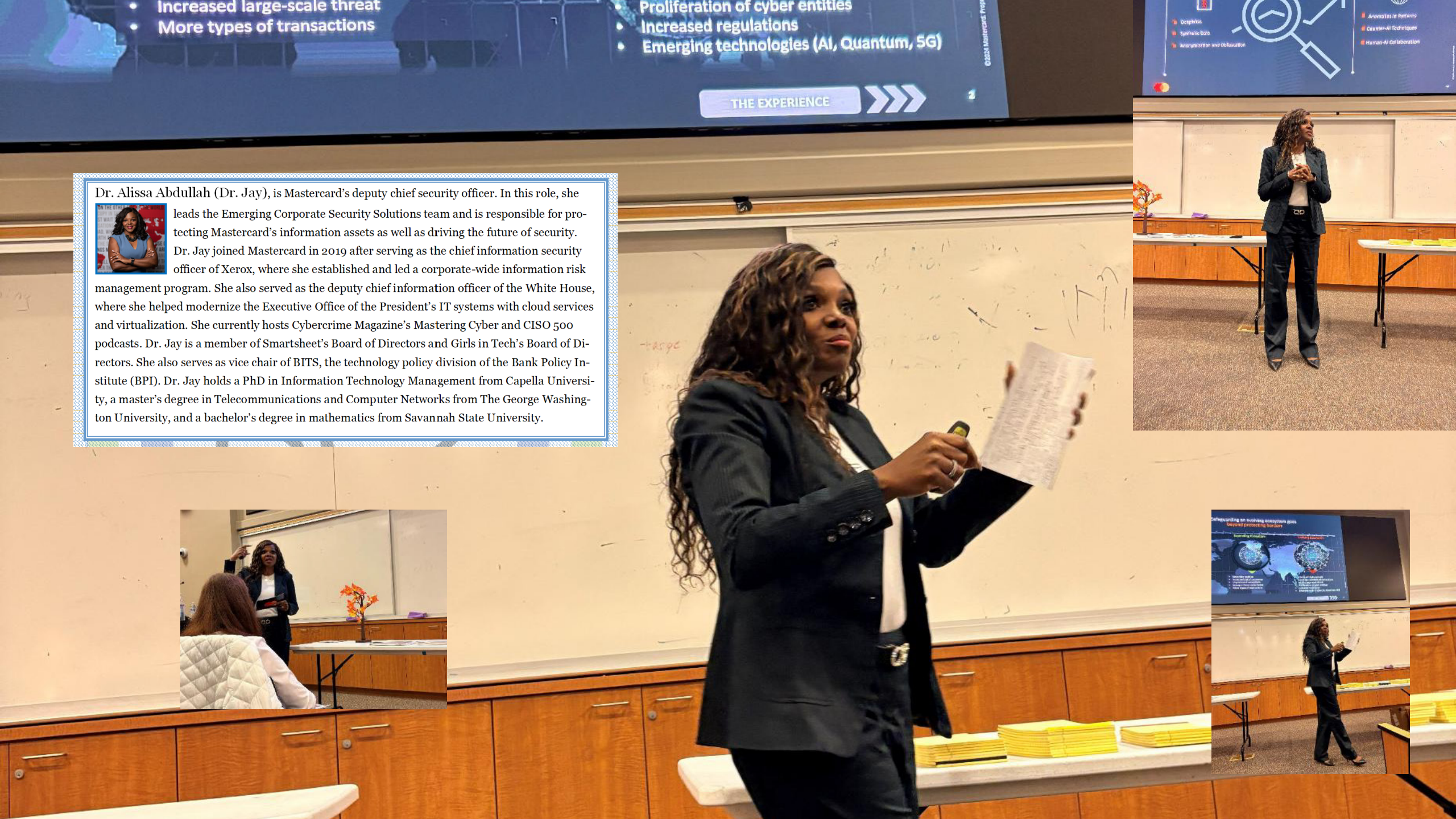
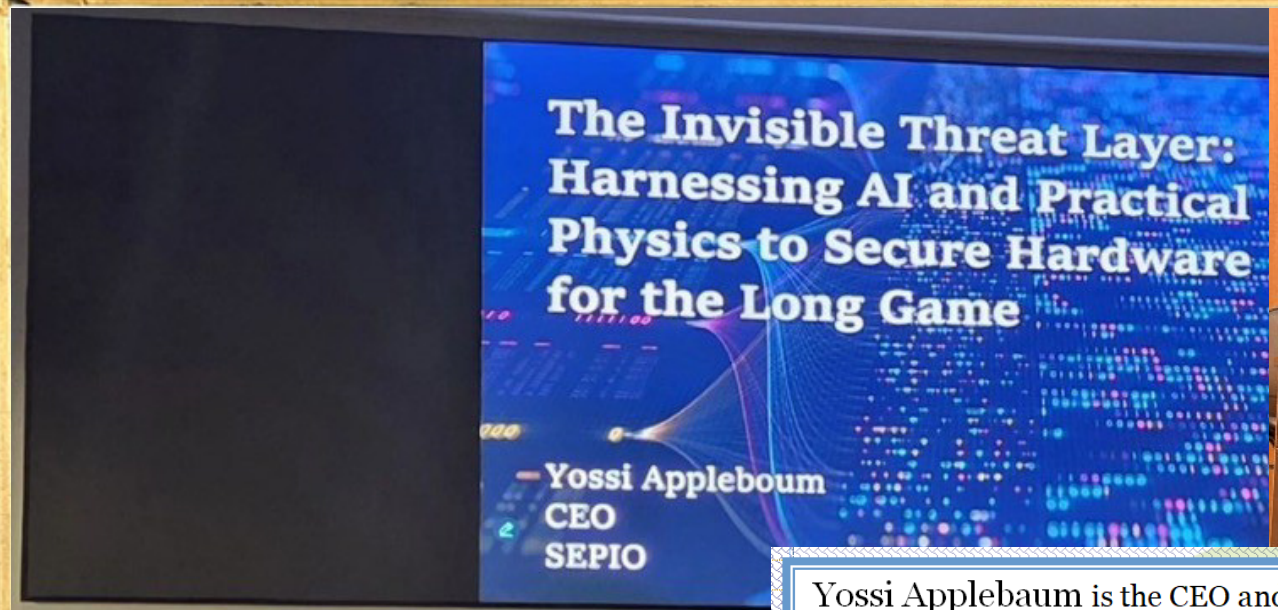


Dr. Alissa Abdullah (Dr. Jay), is Mastercard's deputy chief security officer. In this role, she

leads the Emerging Corporate Security Solutions team and is responsible for protecting Mastercard's information assets as well as driving the future of security. Dr. Jay joined Mastercard in 2019 after serving as the chief information security officer of Xerox, where she established and led a corporate-wide information risk management program. She also served as the deputy chief information officer of the White House, where she helped modernize the Executive Office of the President's IT systems with cloud services and virtualization. She currently hosts Cybercrime Magazine's Mastering Cyber and CISO 500 podcasts. Dr. Jay is a member of Smartsheet's Board of Directors and Girls in Tech's Board of Directors. She also serves as vice chair of BITS, the technology policy division of the Bank Policy Institute (BPI). Dr. Jay holds a PhD in Information Technology Management from Capella University, a master's degree in Telecommunications and Computer Networks from The George Washington University, and a bachelor's degree in mathematics from Savannah State University.

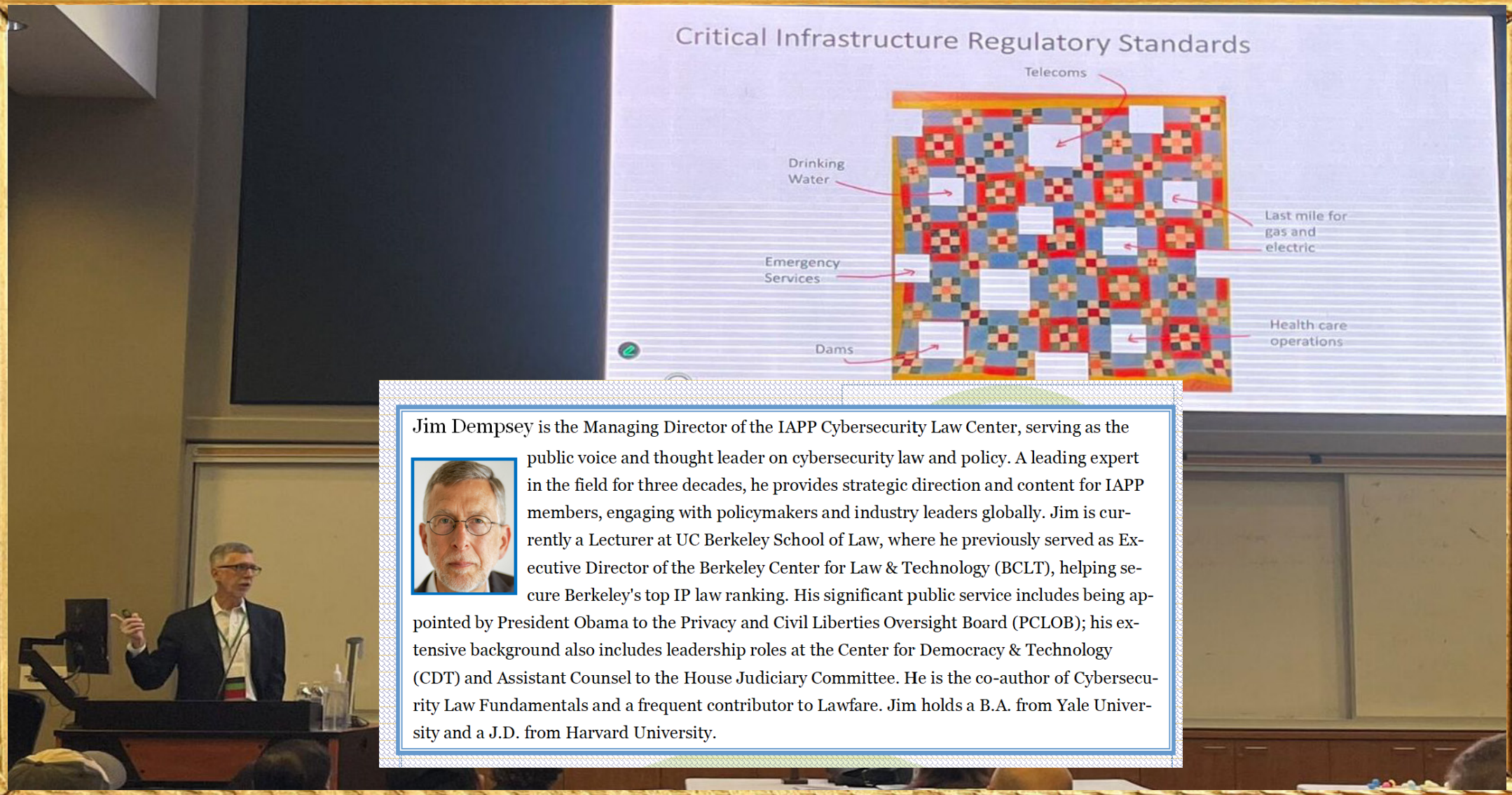
Bob Kolasky is the Senior Vice President of Critical Infrastructure at Exiger, where he directs

the development and delivery of cutting-edge third-party and supply chain risk management technology for the critical infrastructure community. A widely-recognized expert with over two decades of experience, he was the Founding Director of CISA's National Risk Management Center. There, Bob established strategic, cross-sector government and industry approaches to cyber and supply chain threats and co-chaired the Information and Communications Technology Supply Chain Risk Management Task Force. He served as the OECD's High-Level Risk Forum Chair and holds senior associate positions with the Carnegie Endowment, CSIS, and Auburn University's McCrary Institute. Throughout his career, he has driven national and economic security initiatives at organizations including DHS, GAO, and Booz Allen Hamilton.

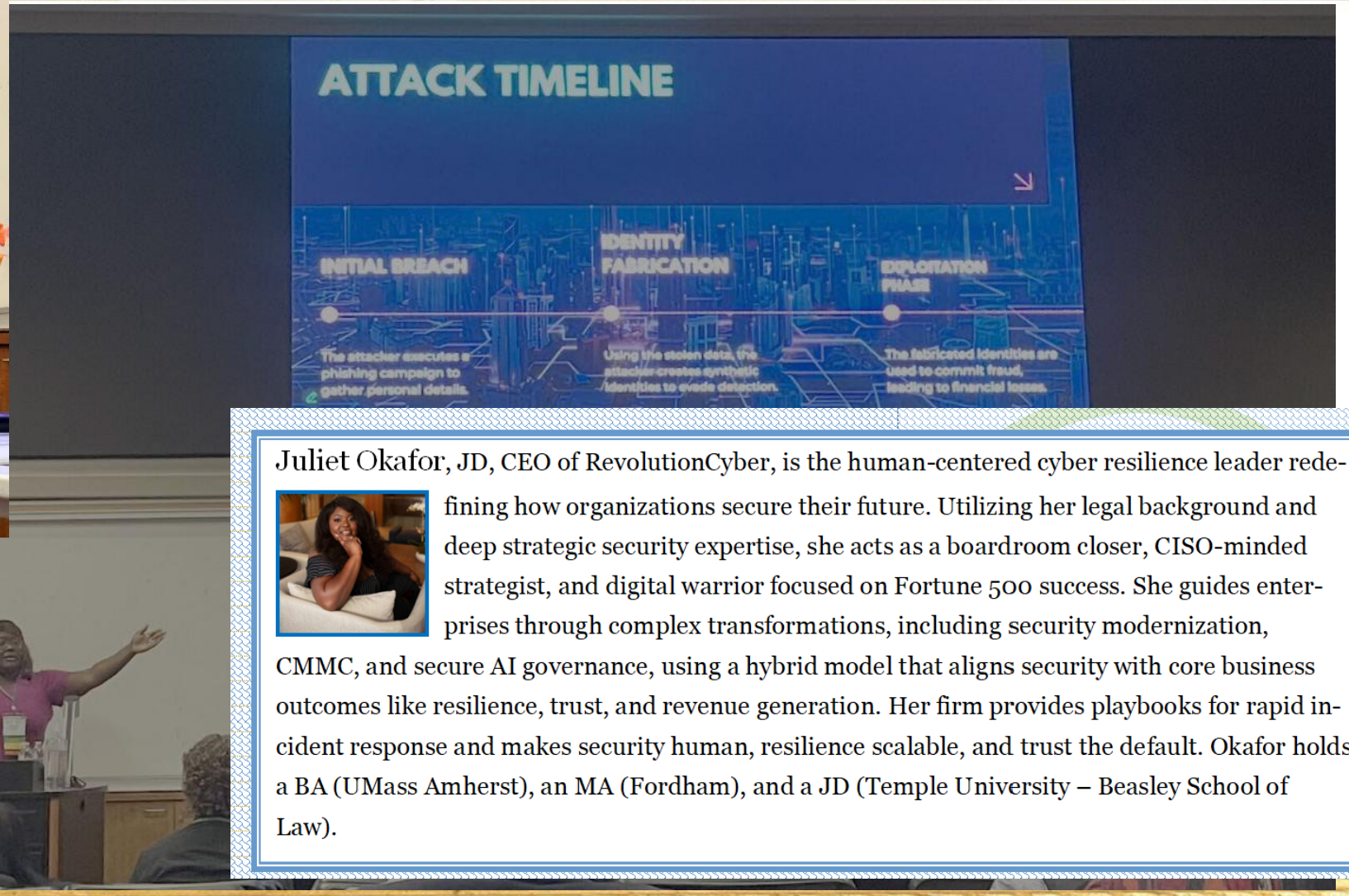


Yossi Applebaum is the CEO and co-founder of Sepio Systems, a company focused on unified

hardware device risk management. Traveling from Israel, he has long been a friend to our chapter, sharing his decades of engineering and leadership experience. Sepio, derived from the Latin for "defend" and "guard," delivers solutions built on objective truth and infinite scalability. Yossi's background includes foundational work in the Israeli intelligence corps (Unit 8200) and successfully co-founding multiple startups. Under his leadership, Sepio developed multi-disciplinary SaaS solutions that combine practical physics, Machine Learning, and Big Data. His team has earned global recognition for fighting attacks through malicious hardware devices, including Rogue Device Mitigation (RDM) across IT, OT, and IoT environments. Sepio's work is highlighted by a featured use case from CISA.



Jim Dempsey is the Managing Director of the IAPP Cybersecurity Law Center, serving as the public voice and thought leader on cybersecurity law and policy. A leading expert in the field for three decades, he provides strategic direction and content for IAPP members, engaging with policymakers and industry leaders globally. Jim is currently a Lecturer at UC Berkeley School of Law, where he previously served as Executive Director of the Berkeley Center for Law & Technology (BCLT), helping secure Berkeley's top IP law ranking. His significant public service includes being appointed by President Obama to the Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board (PCLOB); his extensive background also includes leadership roles at the Center for Democracy & Technology (CDT) and Assistant Counsel to the House Judiciary Committee. He is the co-author of Cybersecurity Law Fundamentals and a frequent contributor to Lawfare. Jim holds a B.A. from Yale University and a J.D. from Harvard University.



Juliet Okafor, JD, CEO of RevolutionCyber, is the human-centered cyber resilience leader redefining how organizations secure their future. Utilizing her legal background and deep strategic security expertise, she acts as a boardroom closer, CISO-minded strategist, and digital warrior focused on Fortune 500 success. She guides enterprises through complex transformations, including security modernization, CMMC, and secure AI governance, using a hybrid model that aligns security with core business outcomes like resilience, trust, and revenue generation. Her firm provides playbooks for rapid incident response and makes security human, resilience scalable, and trust the default. Okafor holds a BA (UMass Amherst), an MA (Fordham), and a JD (Temple University – Beasley School of Law).

Catherine Lo, StrongDM
Cloud Security & Privacy Assurance: Varun Prasad, BDO
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Why the Next Most Wanted Criminals Will Be Even Harder to Find...
Mastering the Future of Cybersecurity
Deputy Chief Security Officer - Mastercard

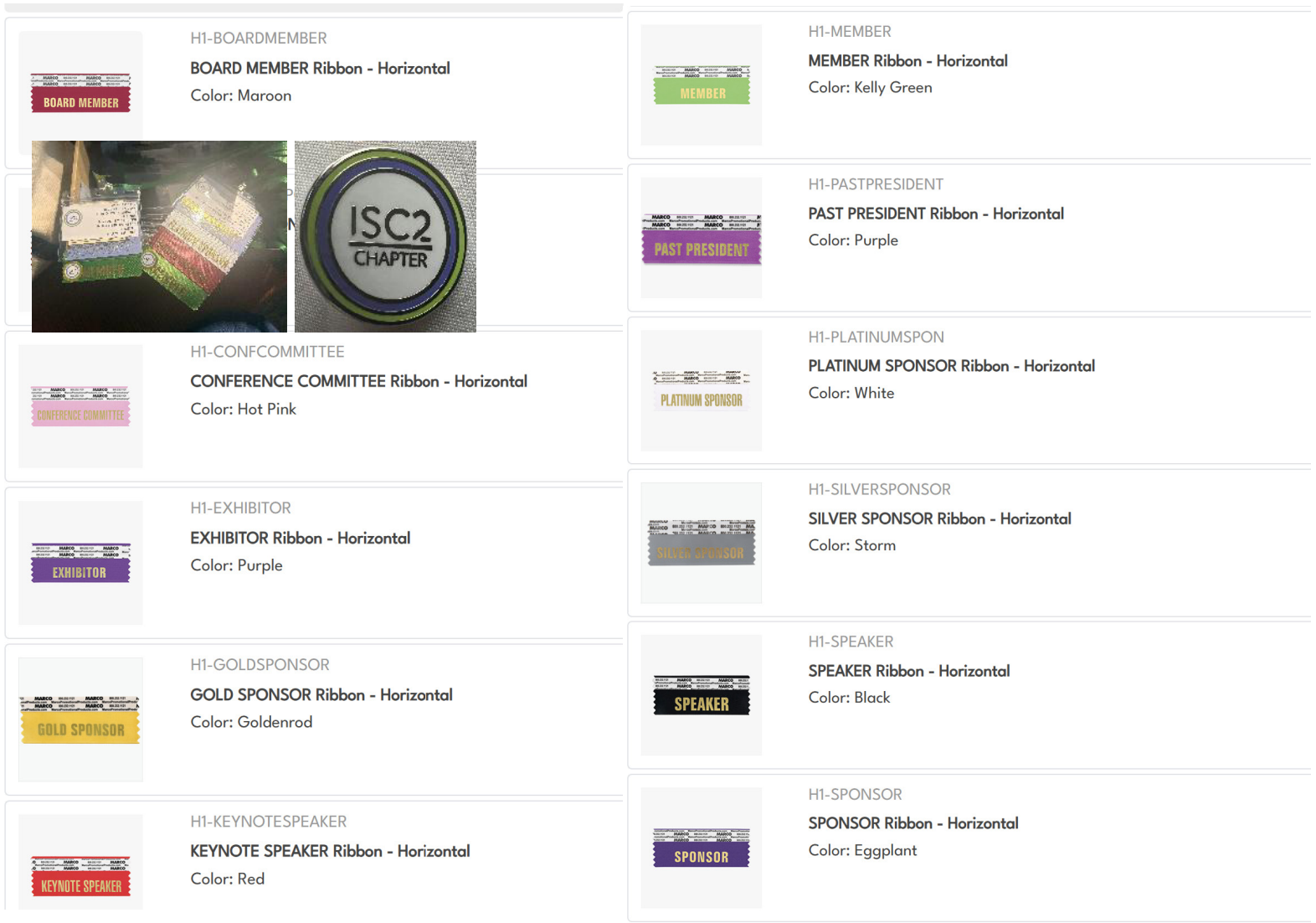
The AI Supply Chain: A National Security Imperative
EXIGER

Beyond The Benchmark
Indus Khaitan
Redblock AI

Speaker Certificates are getting better all the time.

Member Benefits

- ✓ Our member benefits include investing in sharing who you are in a closed and secure community.
- ✓ People meeting you at our conferences know your title, history, and accomplishments are fairly represented.
- ✓ Hiring managers are more likely to trust you as a candidate.
- ✓ Business prospects are more likely to trust you when making follow-up appointments.



10
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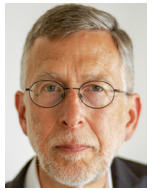
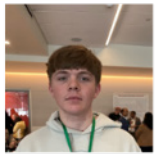
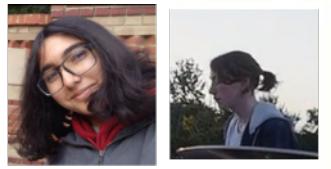


Colin Lambert

Tvisha Choubey

April Baxter

Shashank Shankar

Nikhilesh Suravarjjala

Shikhar Bhavinkumar Jayswal

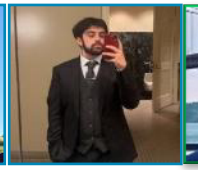
Advay Katkol

Aryan Das

Vardaan Singhania

Gabi Minto

Noah Small



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