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Computer Forensics in the Classroom

Eagle, Chris

<http://hdl.handle.net/10945/49136>



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COMPUTER FORENSICS IN THE CLASSROOM

Keynote

Chris Eagle

Naval Postgraduate School

Digital forensics is one of the fastest growing areas within the computer security field today. Digital devices continue to penetrate every aspect of our lives and digital crimes continue to become more and more sophisticated.

The resulting demand for trained computer forensics analysts presents unique challenges to a computer science degree program. The computer forensics process is traditionally divided into five phases: preparation, incident identification/response, evidence collection, evidence analysis, and presentation of findings. The hard “computer science” within this process lies primarily in the aforementioned evidence collection and analysis phases, yet it would be a disservice to our students to avoid the three remaining phases. In this talk I will discuss the challenges of presenting a one quarter course in computer forensics that is both sufficiently broad to cover all of the requisite phases and sufficiently deep to provide the student with a solid scientific foundation in the field.

Chris Eagle is the Associate Chairman of the Computer Science Department at the Naval Postgraduate School (NPS) in Monterey, CA. A computer engineer/scientist for 20 years, his research interests include computer network operations, computer forensics and reverse/anti-reverse engineering. He has been a trainer and speaker at conferences such as Blackhat, Codecon and Shmoocon and is a co-author of "Gray Hat Hacking, The Ethical Hacker's Handbook". In his spare time, he is the benevolent dictator of the Skewl Of Rewt, past champions of the annual Capture the Flag competition at Defcon.