

Faculty Excellence Speaker Series



BREAKING MOBILE SOCIAL NETWORKS FOR AUTOMATED USER LOCATION TRACKING

Presented by Dr. Kui Ren

DATE

Friday,
January 29, 2016

TIME

10:00 – 11:00 a.m.

LOCATION

Harris Corporation
Engineering Center
(HEC), Room 450

HOSTED BY

Faculty Excellence,
the Office of the Provost
and the Department of
Computer Science

Location-based social networks (LBSNs) feature friend discovery services, attracting hundreds of millions of active users worldwide. While leading LBSN providers claim their users' location and privacy information is well protected, this may not actually be the case.

During this talk, Dr. Ren will illustrate, through identified attacks, that a malicious individual with the capability of no more than any regular LBSN user can easily break most LBSNs by manipulating location information. He will also discuss the development of an automated user location tracking system, real-world experiments and defense approaches, and other ongoing research projects.

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Kui Ren, Ph.D., is an associate professor of computer science and engineering and the director of the UbiSeC Lab at the State University of New York at Buffalo. He received his Ph.D. from Worcester Polytechnic Institute, and his research interests span cloud and outsourcing security, wireless and wearable security systems, and mobile sensing and crowdsourcing. Dr. Ren's research has been supported by NSF, DoE, AFRL, MSR, and Amazon. He was a recipient of the SEAS Senior Researcher of the Year Award in 2015, Sigma Xi/IIT Research Excellence Award in 2012, and the NSF CAREER Award in 2011. Dr. Ren has published 150 peer-reviewed journal and conference papers and has received several Best Paper Awards, including IEEE ICNP 2011. He also currently serves as an associate editor for numerous journals through IEEE.