MINUTES IACR MEMBERSHIP MEETING CRYPTO’11

Opening. At 17.15 Preneel opens the meeting and gives a presentation about the IACR during which he thanks the ex-officers and the outgoing membership secretary Shai Halevi. [Awards of gratitude for Crypto’11 General Chair Thomas Shrimpton and Crypto’11 Program Chair Philip Rogaway were presented during the Rump Session.]

Treasurer’s Report. Rose presents the current financial status, thanking his predecessor Helena Handschuh for the fantastic job. No questions are asked.

Towards opt-in for paper. Preneel mentions that the Board has decided to go for an opt-in system for printed versions of the Journal and Proceedings. For the Journal this will eventually be incorporated in the membership fee structure.

Open access for proceedings. Preneel explains the background of the Board’s intention to move towards more open access for the proceedings. There are several questions and remarks from the floor.

- Kelsey asks about possible downsides, to which Preneel responds that it could lead to a glitch, for instance in the indexing of our proceedings in DBLP.
- Dodis wonders whether the conference registration fee will go down. Preneel answers that that is not the goal, but it should not go up as a result either.
- Katz enquires after the option to move to two column formatting. Preneel says this is to be discussed.
- Yung asks whether open access proceedings are well defined and frozen, i.e. will there be a definitive version to refer to? Preneel responds that this will be the case.
- Ferguson asks for a cost estimate, to which Preneel responds that these vary quite a bit depending on package and publisher.
- Desmedt and Katz voice some concerns about the reputation of Usenix, especially in Europe. Preneel acknowledges that the IACR currently has an excellent publishing reputation, and that there is indeed a risk of any change.
- Smart mentions that funding bodies increasingly insist on open access for the research funded by them. He therefore believes the IACR has no choice but to comply to this standard.

There is a straw poll on the question whether the IACR should move towards open access, even if this might lead to a move away from Springer. There are 110 people in favour and 0 people against. There are no declared abstentions.

Bandwidth. Preneel informs the membership that the Board is discussing with General and Program Chairs of the conferences to see whether it is possible to increase the number of papers accepted. Feedback from past chairs and committee members indicates that there is an increasing number of good papers that do not make the cut, resulting in a publication bottle-neck. One of the possible solutions under discussion is a move to parallel tracks.

Open Floor.

- Kelsey asks where one gets access to the recorded talks and whether podcasts are also an option. Cachin answers that the Crypto’09 talks are available on the IACR website, possibly on YouTube as well. Rogaway ensures that videos will be linked to from the program. [The IACR has since established its own channel on YouTube, namely http://www.youtube.com/user/TheIACR.]

Closing. Preneel thanks everyone for their attendance and closes the meeting at 18.06.

Date: UCSB, 18 August 2011.