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Foreword

The 8th Privacy Enhancing Technologies Symposium was held at the Katholieke Universiteit Leuven during July 23–25, 2008. This year completed the transition from workshop to symposium, with a printed proceedings published before the symposium. PETS remains a premier venue for publishing original research on privacy-enhancing technologies. PETS received 48 submissions, each of which was reviewed by at least four members of the Program Committee. Thirteen were accepted into the program, maintaining the selective and competitive nature of the event. The program also included a keynote address by Stuart Shapiro.

A new feature this year was the HotPETs session, designed to balance the desire for rigorous scientific quality of the PETS program and the need for a venue to present work that is not yet fully developed. HotPETs accepted submissions on the hottest, most exciting new ideas and put together an excellent program of presentations.

PETS was once again collocated with the IAVoSS Workshop on Trustworthy Elections (WOTE 2008), with a full day of plenary sessions. In addition, three other privacy-related events were held at K.U. Leuven during the same week, enabling greater exchange of ideas among the respective communities: the closing event of the Privacy and Identity Management for Europe (PRIME) project, a workshop presenting the results from the Advanced Applications for Electronic Identity Cards (ADAPID) project, and a working session of the Future of Identity in the Information Society (FIDIS) Workpackage 13.

The Program Chairs would like to thank, first of all, the authors and speakers for their contribution to the content of the symposium. We would also like to thank the Program Committee for their hard work of a month of reviews and two more weeks of intense discussions, helping to ensure a program of high scientific quality. Moreover, we want to acknowledge the contribution of external reviewers who assisted the Program Committee with the reviews. We want to express a special thanks to the "shepherds," who continued their work after the main review period, working with authors to improve the quality of the final paper versions that appear in the proceedings: Claudia Diaz, Apu Kapadia, Steven J. Murdoch, Carmela Troncoso, Patrick Tsang, and Matthew Wright.

Our General Chair, Claudia Diaz, did an outstanding job taking care of the local arrangements, working with the organizers of the four collocated events, and making sure the symposium ran smoothly. We are also grateful to the Computer Security and Industrial Cryptography (COSIC) group at K.U. Leuven for helping host the symposium. We would also like to thank Jeremy Clark for designing and maintaining the PETS 2008 website. We thank the HotPETS Chairs, Roger Dingledine, Thomas Heydt-Benjamin and Len Sassaman, for organizing that part of the symposium. We are very grateful to the organizers of our collocated events for their parts in coordinating with PETS: Olivier Pereira, Karel

Wouters, Carmela Troncoso, and Vashek Matyas. Finally, we are very grateful for the generous support of Microsoft, who provided student stipends and the cash award for the PET Prize, EU FIDIS Network of Excellence who provided stipends to FIDIS students, and the Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner of Ontario, who provided the PET Prize statue.

May 2008

Nikita Borisov
Ian Goldberg

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