

SMIRITY KAUSHIK

+1(607)3793830 • Champaign, IL

✉ smirity2@illinois.edu

🌐 [linkedin.com/in/smiritykaushik](https://www.linkedin.com/in/smiritykaushik)

🌐 www.smiritykaushik.github.io/

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Candidate in Information Sciences

University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign (UIUC), iSchool, Champaign, IL

Jan'21- Present

GPA: 3.94/4.0

Master of Science in Information Management

Syracuse University, iSchool, Syracuse, NY

2017 - 2019

GPA: 4.0/4.0

- Information Management Faculty Engagement Scholar (IMFES) merit fellowship
- John R. Weitzel Memorial Award Scholar 2019 for Information Systems Research

Bachelor of Laws – B.A. LL.B. (*U.S. J.D. equivalent*)

University of Delhi, Faculty of Law, New Delhi, India

2014 - 2017

GPA: 3.5/4.0

Bachelor of Arts in History

University of Delhi, Lady Shri Ram College, New Delhi, India

2011- 2014

GPA: 3.7/4.0

EXPERIENCE

Research Intern

Max Planck Institute for Security and Privacy

Summer 2023

Bochum, Germany

Full-time Privacy Consultant

Ernst & Young (EY)

2019 - 2021

San Francisco, US

Research Intern

Social Computing Systems Lab (SALT)

2018 - 2019

Syracuse, US

SKILLS

Research Methods: Interviews, Large-scale Surveys, Statistical analysis, Experiments, Focus groups, Co-design, Ethnographic (observational) studies

Programming Languages: R, Python

SELECTED PROJECTS

User Perception of Ads Privacy and Safety in South Asia

- Conducted an interview study with 40 participants from India and Bangladesh to explore users' attitudes and concerns about targeted ads on social media platforms. **Full paper accepted at CHI 2023.**
- Leading a cross-cultural survey study with 400 participants from United States, India, Pakistan, and Bangladesh to quantitatively compare peoples' attitudes, concerns, and preferences for targeted ads on social media platforms and evaluate the impact of cultural norms, religious affiliation, and nationality on these perceptions using mixed-effects models.

Collaborative Privacy and Security Practices for People with Visual Impairment

- Conducted an experiment study with 20 blind and low vision participants testing the usability and effectiveness of GuardLens, a browser extension tool, aimed at improving the accessibility of privacy/security cues of websites for people with visual impairments **Full paper accepted at SOUPS 2023.**
- Conducted ethnographic study with 8 blind and low vision participants and other allies to observe their everyday privacy management practices and examined how these practices are shaped by interactions with allies. **Full paper accepted at SOUPS 2019. Awarded IAPP Privacy Award.**

Understandable AI and User Privacy Rights (EU-GDPR)

- Led a three-member team for a transnational study on privacy rights, involving 400 users from the US and UK. Designed a survey to capture users' perceptions of GDPR privacy rights, analyzed understanding of 'solely' automated decision-making, and used a mixed-method approach to analyze attributes of automated decisions by machine algorithms. **Full paper accepted at SOUPS 2021. Awarded IAPP Privacy Award.**

PUBLICATIONS

* *co-first authorship.*

- **Smirity Kaushik**, Natã M. Barbosa, Yaman Yu, Tanusree Sharma, Zachary Kilhoffer, JooYoung Seo, Sauvik Das, and Yang Wang. GuardLens: Supporting Safer Online Browsing for People with Visual Impairments. In Proceedings of the Nineteenth Symposium on Usable Privacy and Security (SOUPS), 2023. <https://www.usenix.org/system/files/soups2023-kaushik.pdf>
- Tanusree Sharma*, **Smirity Kaushik***, Yaman Yu*, Syed Ishtiaque Ahmed, and Yang Wang. User Perceptions and Experiences of Targeted Ads on Social Media Platforms: Learning from Bangladesh and India. In Proceedings of the Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI), 2023. <https://dl.acm.org/doi/pdf/10.1145/3544548.3581498>
- **Smirity Kaushik**, Yaxing Yao, Pierre Dewitte, and Yang Wang. “How I Know For Sure”: People’s Perspectives on Solely Automated Decision-Making(SADM). In Proceedings of the Seventeenth Symposium on Usable Privacy and Security (SOUPS), 2021. 🏆 *IAPP Privacy Award*. <https://www.usenix.org/system/files/soups2021-kaushik.pdf>
- Jordan Hayes, **Smirity Kaushik**, Charlotte Emily Price, and Yang Wang. Cooperative privacy and security: Learning from people with visual impairments and their allies. In Proceedings of the Fifteenth Symposium on Usable Privacy and Security (SOUPS), 2019. 🏆 *IAPP Privacy Award*. <https://www.usenix.org/system/files/soups2019-hayes.pdf>
- Additional publications and citations can be accessed from my [Google Scholar](#) page.

HONORS AND AWARDS

- Google CS Research Mentorship Program Mentee (CSRMP 2021) – Accepted to the class of 2021B Google’s CSRMP Program to receive career and research mentorship from a Googler Mentor for a quarter.
- John R. Weitzel Memorial Award Scholar 2019 for Information Systems Research - Awarded graduate award for demonstrating excellence in the area of information systems through coursework and research in MS program.
- Information Management Faculty Engagement Scholar (IMFES) merit fellowship (2017) in MS program.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Technical Program Committee:

- WIPS PC Co-chair at “Workshop on Inclusive Privacy and Security” (WIPS 2023, 2022), satellite workshop of SOUPS 2023, 2022

Reviewer for Conferences and Journals:

- ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI)
- ACM Conference on Computer-Supported Cooperative Work and Social Computing (CSCW)
- ACM Conference on Fairness, Accountability, and Transparency (ACM FAccT)

LEADERSHIP

- Corporate Chair at ACM-W UIUC-iSchool chapter, School of Information Sciences, UIUC (2021)
- PhD Student Representative at the Doctoral Studies Committee (DSC), School of Information Sciences, UIUC (2021)
- Graduate Student Representative at the Syracuse University, School of Information Studies (2019)
- Corporate Chair and Board Member, Women in Technology (WiT) Organization at Syracuse University (2017-19)
- President, Moot Court Society at University of Delhi, Faculty of Law (2015-17)