

## From the Editors

Once again, we were gratified by the positive response to the IJDE Winter 2004 Issue. Not only did the number of visits to the website increase dramatically, but many of you have forwarded information on the journal to your colleagues and associates. We thank you for that and for your many comments on the importance of having a journal in this field.

The three articles in this issue are “thought pieces;” that is, they present innovative concepts that will hopefully provoke further discussion, encourage additional research, and help advance digital forensics methods. The Carney and Rogers article, *The Trojan Made Me Do It: A First Step in Statistical Based Computer Forensics Event Reconstruction*, attempts to determine whether files were intentionally downloaded by a user or were downloaded without the user’s knowledge. This paper presents a standardized method for event reconstruction with statistically determined accuracy and error rates.

The Shannon article, *Forensic Relative Strength Scoring: ASCII and Entropy Scoring* explores the use of statistics as a tool to identify files that may contain digital evidence and represents an inquiry into the value of applied mathematical analysis in digital investigations.

In the Gupta, Mazumdar, and Rao article, *Digital Forensic Analysis Of E-Mails: A Trusted E-Mail Protocol*, the authors offer a methodology for performing digital forensic analysis of e-mails. They suggest a behavioral biometric based authentication, which is analogous to a signature in paper documents. This approach guards against a wide range of methods used to compromise authentication, and provides a detection mechanism and a means to remediate the event.

You will note that this issue only has three articles. IJDE planned to partner with the Forensic Institute to publish a selection of the papers presented at the Forensic Institute Digital Evidence Symposium (FIDES04) that was to be held in Edinburgh, Scotland on March 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>. Unfortunately, the conference had to be cancelled.

We are actively soliciting articles for the Summer 2004 issue. Articles must be submitted by July 15, 2004 to provide time for the peer review process.

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