

## A Message from the Editors

After a brief hiatus, IJDE is back with four articles that we believe will help advance the field. The articles are demonstrative of our continued efforts to introduce innovative concepts that will provoke further discussion, encourage additional research, promote cross disciplinary interaction, and help advance digital forensics methods.

In the Hall and Davis article, *Toward Defining the Intersection of Forensics and Information Technology*, the authors contend that a new discipline is emerging from the intersection of forensics and information technology. They argue for a formalization of the process by which this discipline evolves and a broadening of the definitions currently in place.

The Chaska article, *Who's At The Keyboard? Authorship Attribution in Digital Evidence Investigations*, provides a methodology for determining the identity of the person at the keyboard when incriminating documents were produced. The authorship attribution is based on methods focusing on specific linguistic characteristics.

Gladyshev in his article, *Finite State Machine Analysis of a Blackmail Investigation*, describes the finite state machine approach to analysis of digital evidence and explores its application for finding weaknesses in informal forensic reasoning. The described approach offers a rigorous mathematical framework for modeling the incident and provides automatic event reconstruction.

In *Case-Relevance Information Investigation: Binding Computer Intelligence to the Current Computer Forensic Framework*, Gong Ruibin, Chan Kai Yun, Tony, and Mathias Gaertner propose the binding of computer intelligence to a current computer forensic framework, particularly in the data analysis phase. A high level and hypothetical concept, *Case-Relevance*, is defined as a measure of the importance of any information to a given case. This premise is an interesting and relevant approach to the process of digital forensic investigations.

This issue contains a joint statement from the IJDE Co-Editors and the Editor-in-Chief of *Digital Investigation*. The piece discusses the focus of each journal and the ways that the two journals complement each other.

We are actively soliciting articles for the Summer 2005 issue. Articles must be submitted by June 30, 2005 to provide time for the peer review process.

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