

Resilient Together

UC Cybersecurity Summit 2026



UC DIGITAL RISK & SECURITY

Resilient Together

Welcome

Dear Summit Attendees,

Welcome to the 2026 Cybersecurity Summit!

This year's theme, **Resilient Together**, reflects a simple but powerful truth: cybersecurity is a shared responsibility. As threats become more sophisticated and interconnected, our ability to anticipate, adapt, and recover depends on the strength of our partnerships, the knowledge we share, and our commitment to supporting one another across the UC system and beyond.

Over two days, you'll hear from a diverse lineup of leaders who are shaping the future of cybersecurity. Sessions will examine practical strategies for defending large networks, understanding the impact of AI on society, preparing for emerging threats such as deepfakes and online scams, safeguarding privacy, protecting vulnerable populations from fraud, and strengthening cybersecurity readiness for major public events.

Whether you're in a cybersecurity role or someone simply looking to better understand today's digital risks, this summit offers valuable opportunities to learn, connect, and engage with colleagues from across the UC, CSU, and CCC communities. Through keynote presentations and featured discussions (and a bit of trivia), we'll explore how collaboration and shared expertise can help build a safer and more resilient future for everyone.

Though we are gathering virtually, the connections we make and the ideas we share are more important than ever. We encourage you to ask questions, exchange perspectives, and take advantage of the opportunity to learn from one another.

Thank you for joining us and for the vital role you play in advancing cybersecurity across our communities. Together, we can strengthen our defenses, support one another, and demonstrate what it means to be **Resilient Together**.

Monte Ratzlaff and the UC Cybersecurity Summit Planning Team

A special thank you to everyone who helped the Cybersecurity Summit be a success:

Adrian Mohuczy-Dominiak, Judi Baker, Kayla Lee, Kate Miffitt, Bianca Surjawan, and Jamie Frick

October 6 / Agenda

9:00 – 9:10 am	Welcome and Opening Remarks. Monte Ratzlaff, UCOP
9:10 – 9:40 am KEYNOTE	Securing Your Online Presence. Caitlin Sarian (aka Cybersecurity Girl)
9:40 - 9:50 am BREAK	BREAK
9:50 - 10:40 am SESSION	AI and Our Future: How Artificial Intelligence and Search Engine Algorithms Reinforce Oppression. Safiya Noble, UCLA / in conversation with Ronise Zenon, UCSD
10:40 - 10:50 am BREAK	BREAK
10:50 - 11:40 am SESSION	Deepfake Diaries: The Latest AI-based Attacks and How to Protect Yourself from AI Scams. Kerry Tomlinson, Ampyx News
11:40 - 12:00 pm SESSION	Cybersecurity Trivia and Day 1 Wrap-Up. Adrian Mohuczy-Dominiak, UCOP / Monte Ratzlaff, UCOP

October 7 / Agenda

9:00 – 9:05 am	Day 2 Welcome and Recap. Monte Ratzlaff, UCOP
9:05 – 9:55 am KEYNOTE	AI and Defending Large Networks. Alex Stamos, Corridor
9:55 – 10:05 am	BREAK
10:05 – 10:45 am SESSION	Federal Rules, California Rights: Understanding Privacy and Security: Melonie White, UCOP
10:45 – 11:35 am SESSION	Preparing UCLA for the 2028 Olympics: Cybersecurity at the Intersection of Public Safety, Research, and Critical Infrastructure. Caesar Sedek, UCLA
11:35 – 12:20 pm SESSION	Fraud: Aging and Retirement Security. Marti DeLiema, University of Minnesota
12:20 – 12:30 pm	Raffle and Closing Wrap-Up. Monte Ratzlaff, UCOP

Speakers



CAITLIN SARIAN

Cybersecurity Girl

World's Largest Cybersecurity Educator and Influencer

Caitlin Sarian is a cybersecurity, data protection, and data privacy expert with 11+ years of global experience in the field. After leading TikTok's Global Cybersecurity Advocacy team, she shifted her focus entirely to building her platform (@CybersecurityGirl), where she educates the public on online safety, demystifies cybersecurity careers, and encourages more women to pursue STEM. She is a leading cybersecurity influencer with over 2.4 million followers across platforms. Caitlin has led global cybersecurity assessments and collaborated with top industry leaders, including CISA Director Jen Easterly. She's earned several prestigious awards, including Cybersecurity Woman of the Year 2024 & 2025 and a Webby nomination for Best Social Media in Education & Science 2025, and 2025 Anthem Award Winner Bronze and Silver for the World's Largest Platform for Empowering Online Safety.

Keynote: Securing Your Online Presence

Your online presence is more than what you post; it's your personal information, accounts, devices, and digital footprint, and protecting it has never been more important.

In Securing Your Online Presence, cybersecurity expert and educator Caitlin Sarian, known as Cybersecurity Girl, breaks down today's biggest online threats and, more importantly, the practical steps anyone can take to protect themselves. From AI-powered scams and phishing to account takeovers, oversharing, weak passwords, and exposed personal information, Caitlin makes cybersecurity simple, relatable, and actionable.

Attendees will walk away with easy security habits they can implement immediately to better protect their accounts, personal information, money, and digital identity, because cybersecurity doesn't have to be complicated, and cybersecurity starts at home.

Speakers



SAFIYA NOBLE

UCLA DataX-Data Justice

David O. Sears Presidential Endowed Chair of Social Sciences, Professor of Gender Studies, African American Studies and Information Studies and Director

Dr. Safiya U. Noble is the David O. Sears Presidential Endowed Chair of Social Sciences and Professor at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA). She is the Director of the Center on Resilience & Digital Justice and Co-Director of the Minderoo Initiative on Tech & Power at UCLA. She currently serves as a Director of the UCLA DataX Initiative, leading work in critical data studies for the campus.

Professor Noble is the author of the best-selling book on algorithmic harm in commercial search engines, entitled *Algorithms of Oppression: How Search Engines Reinforce Racism* (NYU Press), which has been widely reviewed in scholarly and popular publications. In 2021, she was recognized as a MacArthur Foundation Fellow for her groundbreaking work on algorithmic discrimination.

Fireside Chat:

AI and Our Future: How Artificial Intelligence and Search Engine Algorithms Reinforce Oppression

The landscape of information is rapidly shifting as new imperatives and demands push investment in digital technologies to the fore. Yet, critical information scholars continue to demonstrate how digital technology is shaped by and infused with values that are not impartial. Technologies consist of a set of social practices, situated within the dynamics of race, gender, class, and politics. In this conversation, Dr. Safiya Umoja Noble and Ronise Zenon will delve into issues ranging from marginalization and misrepresentation in commercial information platforms to the profound power struggles that violate civil, human, and collective rights through AI and machine learning projects.

Speakers



RONISE ZENON

UC San Diego Information Technology Services

Information Systems Analyst 2

Ronise Zenon (she/her) is a member of UC San Diego's IT Services department on the Messaging and Collaboration Team. Having returned there after six years as the cybersecurity awareness program coordinator in the ITS Security/Office of Information Assurance Team, she's still interested in campus and UC cybersecurity initiatives and participating as much as possible. A proud Triton since joining UC San Diego in 1997, Ronise is a first-generation college graduate with a B.A. in Political Science from the University of Redlands. Och Tamale!

Fireside Chat Co-Host:

AI and Our Future: How Artificial Intelligence and Search Engine Algorithms Reinforce Oppression

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Speakers



KERRY TOMLINSON

Ampyx News

Cyber News Reporter

Kerry Tomlinson is an award-winning cyber news reporter who works to help people stay smarter and safer online. She spent three decades as a TV news reporter, often going undercover to investigate crimes, winning multiple Emmys and other local, regional, and national journalism awards. Now she travels the world looking for creative and compelling ways to show people what is happening in the digital world and how it impacts them.

Kerry has reported from Russia, the Philippines, Spain, France, Denmark, Turkey, Argentina, Colombia, and more. She has launched a number of new news programs, organizations and investigative units during her career, including a cyber news site called Ampyx News (pronounced AM-pix). She is a certified security awareness professional, a popular speaker, and has received a SANS Difference Maker award for her work in informing people about cybersecurity.

Deepfake Diaries: The Latest AI-based Attacks and How to Protect Yourself from AI Scams

What are the newest AI-fueled attacks you face at work and at home? You'll see real-life video and audio deepfakes that attackers are currently using to try to trick people into giving up passwords, data, and money. Learn how and when cyber criminals are deploying this AI-generated content and the latest methods on how to defend yourself against the fakes.

Speakers



ALEX STAMOS

Corridor and Stanford

Corridor Chief Security Officer and Stanford Lecturer

Alex Stamos is the Chief Product Officer of Corridor and a Lecturer in Computer Science and International Policy at Stanford University. He was previously the Chief Security Officer of Facebook, Yahoo, and SentinelOne, and the founder of the Stanford Internet Observatory and co-founder of the Krebs Stamos Group and iSEC Partners. He has done foundational work on AI and child safety, helped establish trust and safety as an academic field, led the response to dozens of high-profile intrusions, and rebuilt the security teams of several critical companies. He was an advisor to DHS and NATO and holds a BSEE from the University of California, Berkeley.

Keynote: AI and Defending Large Networks

This summer has demonstrated how teams of AI agents can swarm victims, create exploits in real time and move through networks at superhuman speed. This poses unique challenges to defenders who have spent years building defenses based upon the attack patterns and kill chains of human adversaries. In this session, Stamos will outline how organizations can prepare their networks and teams to keep pace with this emerging AI-driven threat landscape.

Speakers



MELONIE WHITE

UC Office of the President

Digital Risk Governance, Analytics, and Advisory Services Manager

Melonie White is the Digital Risk Governance, Analytics, and Advisory Services Manager at the University of California Office of the President, where she leads systemwide initiatives focused on digital risk governance, cybersecurity metrics, supplier risk management, and regulatory compliance. She serves as a strategic liaison between UC Digital Risk & Security and partners in Legal, Privacy, Procurement, Audit, Compliance, and other areas.

Melonie's expertise spans security and privacy frameworks including NIST, HIPAA, and GDPR, with extensive experience building and operationalizing risk management programs within complex higher education environments. Prior to joining UC, she served as Director of Risk, Compliance, and Privacy and as an Adjunct Professor teaching cybersecurity law, privacy regulations, breach response, and compliance at Florida State University.

A recognized leader in her field, Melonie has received multiple nominations for Rising Star of the Year by Women in Technology. She holds a J.D. from Florida State University College of Law and the CIPM and CISSP credentials.

Federal Rules, California Rights: Understanding Privacy and Security

Privacy and security are often discussed together, but they address different questions. While privacy and security are closely connected, they are not the same. This session will examine where privacy and security differ, where they intersect, and provide a high-level overview of the current laws and regulations that shape the privacy and security landscape. It will explore how federal requirements apply across specific industries and types of information, how California's protections supplement or extend those requirements, and what this means for Californians.

Attendees will gain a practical understanding of where privacy and security obligations differ, where they intersect, and how the interaction between federal and state law affects their personal information, individual rights, and available protections.

Speakers



CAESAR SEDEK

UCLA

Assistant Chief Information Security Officer

Caesar Sedek is the Assistant Chief Information Security Officer at UCLA, where he leads Security Operations, Incident Response, Vulnerability Management, Endpoint Security, and Security Engineering. His team is responsible for protecting one of the world's largest public research universities, supporting healthcare, research, academic, and administrative environments across a highly decentralized enterprise.

Prior to UCLA, Caesar held executive cybersecurity leadership roles across consulting, media, entertainment, and technology organizations, advising Fortune 500 companies on cyber strategy, incident response, and enterprise risk management. He has served as a CISO, Managing Director, and trusted advisor to organizations navigating complex security and operational challenges.

Caesar focuses on translating cybersecurity into business risk, building resilient security programs, and preparing organizations for emerging threats through pragmatic governance, cross-functional collaboration, and operational excellence.

Preparing UCLA for the 2028 Olympics: Cybersecurity at the Intersection of Public Safety, Research, and Critical Infrastructure

Hosting the Olympic Games creates a unique cybersecurity challenge that extends far beyond athletic venues. As one of the largest public research universities in the world, UCLA must prepare for increased cyber threats while continuing to support world-class healthcare, cutting-edge research, education, public safety, and thousands of daily operations.

This session explores how UCLA is approaching cybersecurity readiness for the 2028 Olympics through strategic planning, operational resilience, governance, and cross-functional collaboration. Rather than focusing on technology alone, the presentation examines how institutions can strengthen visibility, accountability, incident response, and organizational decision-making to prepare for high-profile events.

Speakers



MARTI DELIEMA

University of Minnesota

Associate Professor

Marti DeLiema, PhD, is a gerontologist and Assistant Professor in the School of Social Work at the University of Minnesota. She is the Associate Director of Education for the Center for Healthy Aging and Innovation (CHAI), and the faculty advisor for the student-led Aging Studies Interdisciplinary Group. She was selected as a 2026-2029 McKnight Presidential Fellow and was named a TIAA Institute Fellow.

Using both quantitative and qualitative research methods, Dr. DeLiema studies financial victimization using focus groups, in-depth interviews, experiments, surveys, and panel data. She regularly collaborates with financial institutions, AARP, the FINRA Investor Education Foundation, and U.S. federal protection agencies to analyze fraud victimization risk factors and test efforts to inoculate consumers from fraud and abuse through enhanced consumer education and advance care planning interventions. Her research has been funded by the National Institute of Justice, the National Institute on Aging, the Social Security Administration, the Administration for Community Living, AARP, and the FINRA Investor Education Foundation.

Prior to joining the School of Social Work, Dr. DeLiema was a Research Scholar at the Stanford Center on Longevity and graduated with her doctorate from USC School of Gerontology.

Fraud: Aging and Retirement Security

Everyone is at risk of scam victimization, but adults aged 70 and older are targeted more frequently and have more money stolen per incident. In this presentation, gerontologist and associate professor Marti DeLiema will talk about how cognitive changes in financial decision-making capacity and greater wealth make older adults more vulnerable to scams, and what cybersecurity professionals can do to safeguard older adults' retirement resources.

Event Moderator



MONTE RATZLAFF

UC Office of the President

UC Chief Information Security Officer (CISO) and UC Health Data Warehouse CISO

Monte Ratzlaff is the University of California Chief Information Security Officer (CISO) and UC Health Data Warehouse CISO at the University of California Office of the President, where he works with UC leaders to establish cyber risk strategic plans and objectives.

In his prior role at UC Davis Health System, Ratzlaff managed the IT Security department and also served as the Chief Security Officer. He has extensive experience in information security within the higher ed, banking, and health care industries, and holds Certified Information Systems Security Professional (CISSP) and Certified Information Systems Auditor (CISA) professional designations. As a cybersecurity leader with over 25 years of experience, he has been a speaker at numerous events.

Cybersecurity Trivia Host



ADRIAN MOHUCZY-DOMINIAK

UC Office of the President

Systemwide Cybersecurity Threat and Risk Manager

Adrian serves as Systemwide Cybersecurity Threat and Risk Manager at the University of California Office of the President, while also teaching at UCLA Extension to share his expertise with future cybersecurity professionals.

UC Community Partners

UC TECH NEWS

UC Tech News connects those working closely with university technologies. Top topics include AI, privacy, cybersecurity, digital accessibility, and user experience. Visit the [UC Tech News site](#), visit our [LinkedIn](#) page, and [email UCTechNews](#) to subscribe to the monthly newsletter or to submit a story.

UC CYBERSECURITY AWARENESS WORKGROUP

The UC Cybersecurity Awareness Workgroup’s mission is to protect the UC’s people, data, and digital infrastructure by reducing human-driven cybersecurity risks through coordinated strategy, technical mitigation, and behavioral insight, in support of a strong, proactive security culture.

Event Sponsors

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Fortinet (NASDAQ: FTNT) is a driving force in the evolution of cybersecurity and the convergence of networking and security. Our mission is to secure people, devices, and data everywhere, and today we deliver the largest integrated portfolio of over 50 enterprise-grade products. With over half a million customers, Fortinet is among the most deployed, patented, and validated in the industry. Collaboration with **esteemed organizations** from both the public and private sectors, including Computer Emergency Response Teams (“CERTS”), government entities, and academia, is a fundamental aspect of Fortinet’s commitment to enhance cyber resilience globally.

Learn about end-to-end protection for higher education institutions.

We've already begun planning the 2027 Cybersecurity Summit! Keep up-to-date on the [UC Cybersecurity Summit website](#).

We welcome your suggestions, possible topics and speakers.
Please contact uccybersummit@ucop.edu.

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