March 25, 2010 (Thursday), 12:30 PM – 1:45 PM

Coach House 101B

**Speaker:** William Cheswick (AT&T Labs – Research)

**Title:** Rethinking Passwords

**Abstract**

Passwords and PINs are used everywhere these days, but their use is often painful. Traditional password advice and rules are seldom appropriate for today’s threats, yet we labor with the password rules and servers of yesteryear. Strong passwords are weakening our security, and it is time to fix that.

There are numerous proposals for new password solutions. I will present a few half-baked ideas. But there are good solutions available now.

We are facing much more worrisome security challenges: we ought to get this easy stuff right.

**Biography**

Ches is an early innovator in Internet security. He is known for his work in firewalls, proxies, and Internet mapping at Bell Labs and Lumeta Corp. He is best known for the book he co-authored with Steve Bellovin and now Avi Rubin, Firewalls and Internet Security; Repelling the Wily Hacker.

Ches is now a member of the technical staff at AT&T Labs – Research in Florham Park, NJ, where he is working on security, visualization, user interfaces, and a variety of other things.

All are welcome. For further information, please contact Linda Kaufman (ext. 2952), kaufmanl@wpunj.edu, or Cyril S. Ku (ext. 2960), kuc@wpunj.edu