



# The Future of ISW

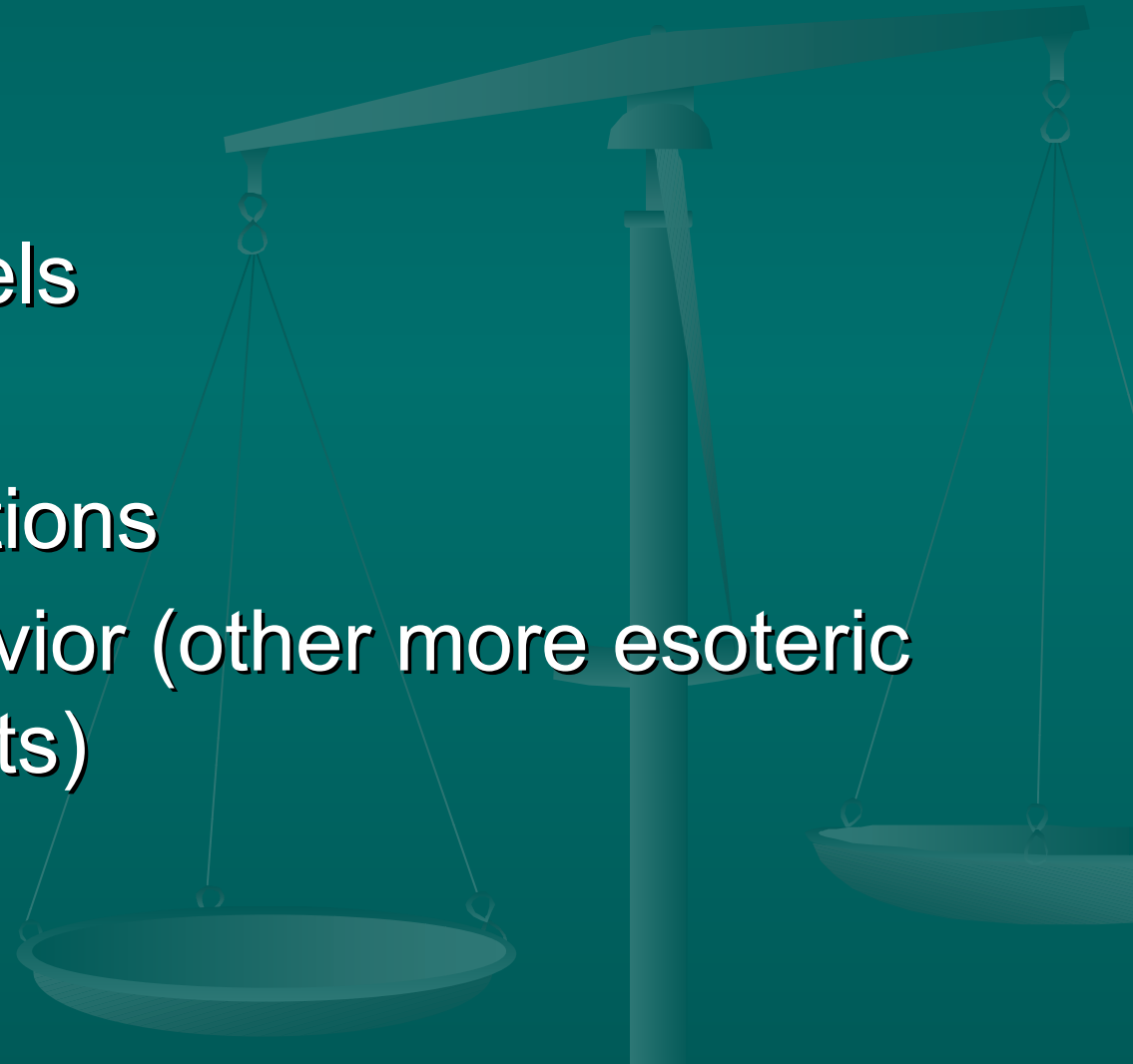
Tom Longstaff  
ISW Steering Committee

# ISW History

- ISW 2001/2002 is the 4th workshop
- Approximately 18 months apart
- Different program chair for each workshop
- Same steering committee
  - Tom Longstaff
  - Mario Barbacci

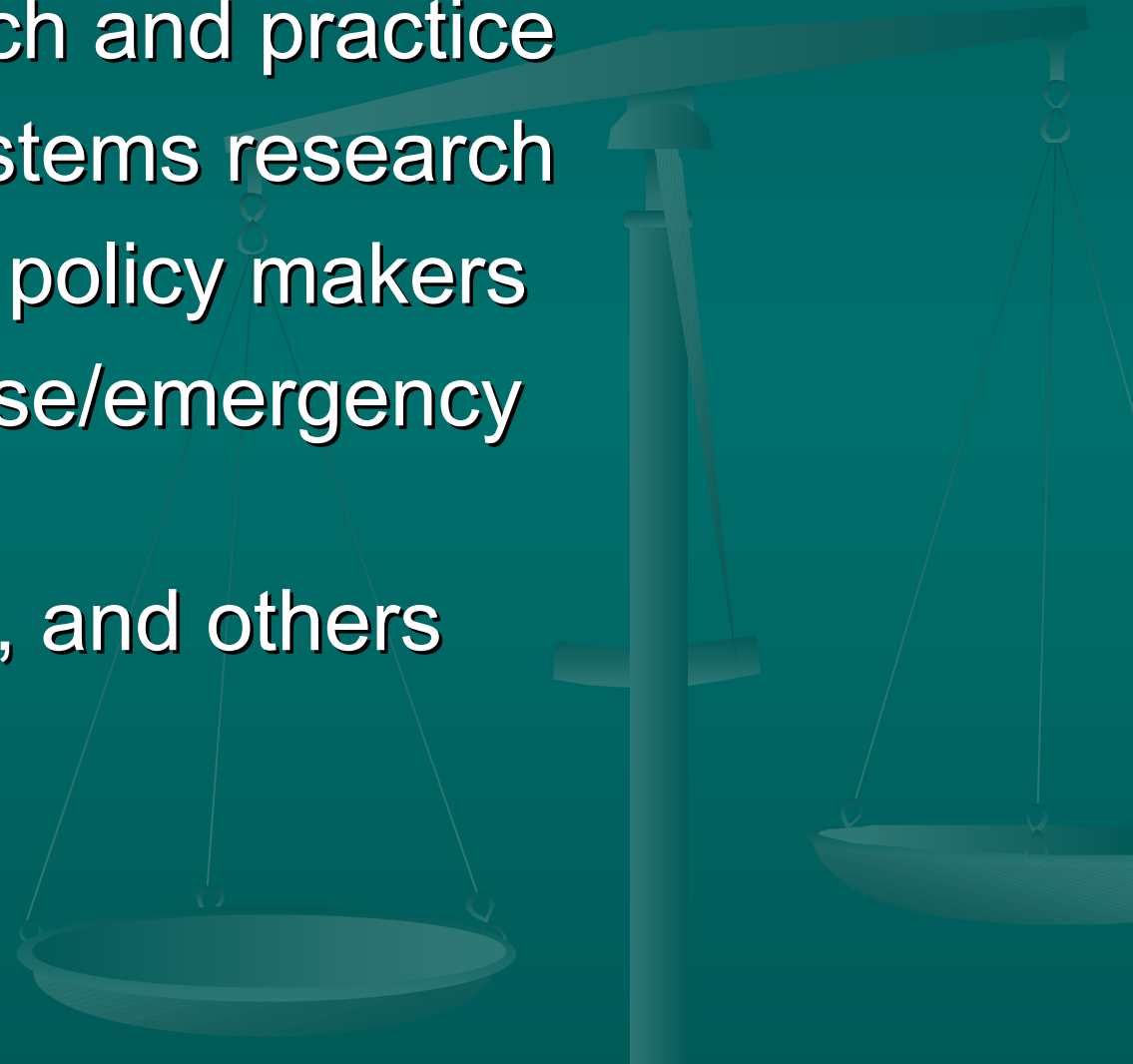
# Driving forces in our community

- CIP
- Utility tradeoffs
- Economic models
- Testing
- Military Applications
- Emergent behavior (other more esoteric research projects)

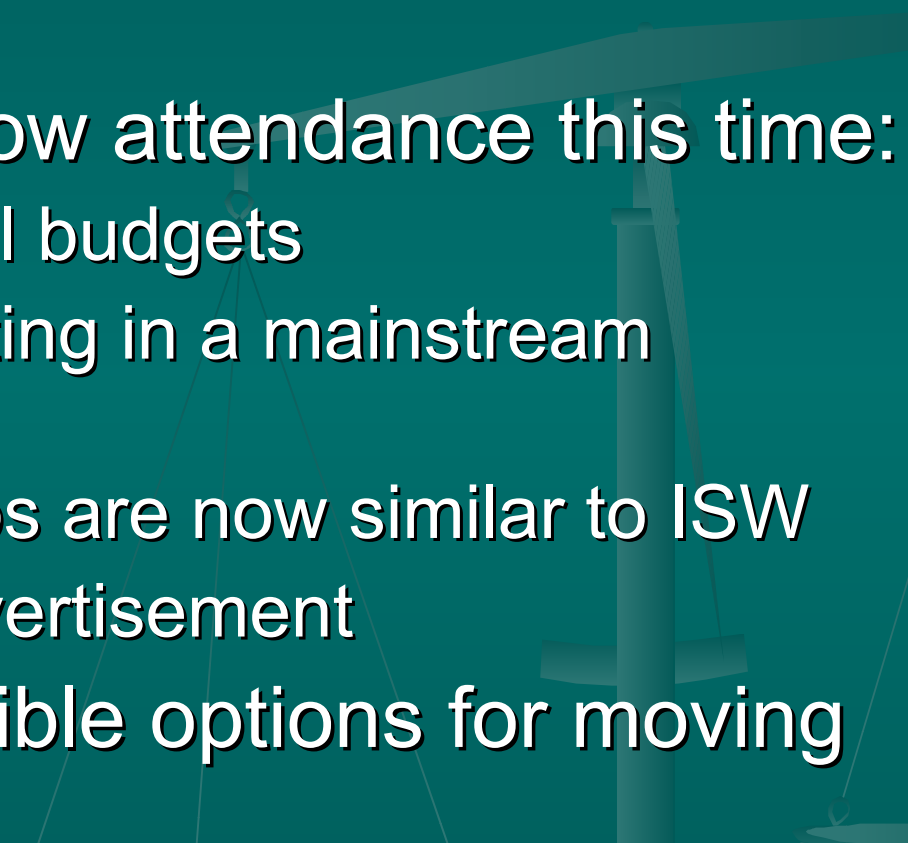


# Communities that participate


- Security research and practice
- Dependable systems research
- Military/political policy makers
- Incident response/emergency preparedness
- Banking, power, and others



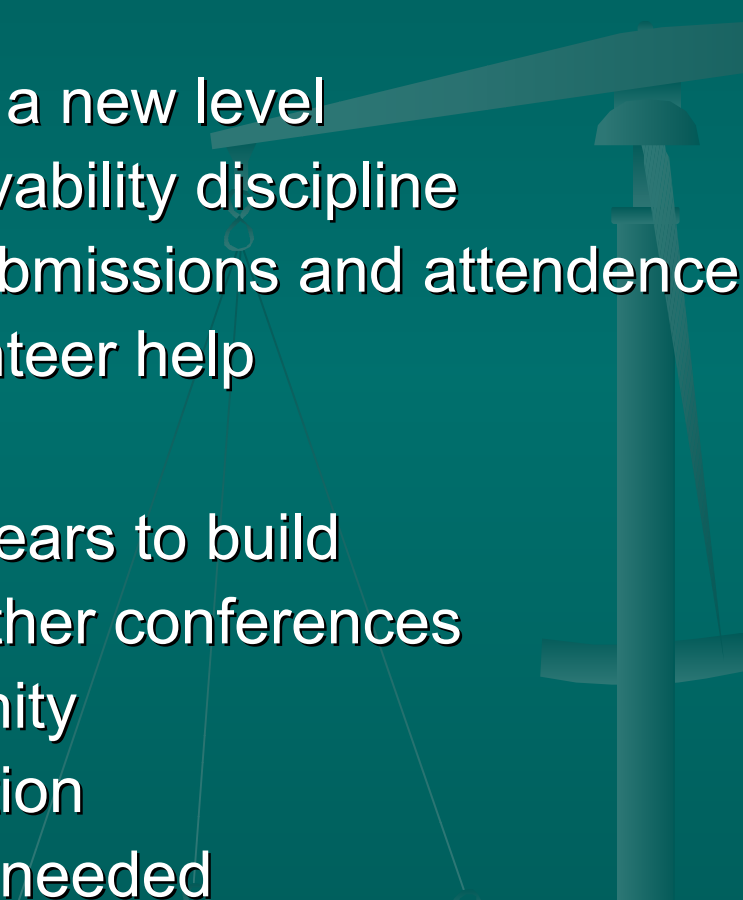
# Who is already served by existing venues?

- Everyone
  - Hypothesis for low attendance this time:
    - Restricted travel budgets
    - Already presenting in a mainstream conference
    - Other workshops are now similar to ISW
    - Not enough advertisement
  - Leads to 6 possible options for moving forward
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# 1. Continue ISW with expanded publication

- Benefits:
    - Serves multiple communities
    - Stays focused
    - Continuity
  - Challenges:
    - Continued IEEE support
    - Attendance
    - High cost to organize
    - Many other places with which to compete
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# 2. Information Survivability Conference

- Benefits:
    - Takes research to a new level
    - Stimulates a survivability discipline
    - Easier to justify submissions and attendance
    - Easier to get volunteer help
  - Challenges:
    - Will take several years to build
    - Completion with other conferences
    - Uncertain community
    - Timing for publication
    - Lots of volunteers needed
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# 3. Join with ACSAC

## ■ Benefits:

- Supports the security view of survivability
- Easier logistics
- “friendly” committee
- Many of the individuals from our community already there
- Fewer advocates needed

## ■ Challenges:

- Ignores other parts of our community
- Survivability becomes synonymous with security
- Very US based
- ACSAC steering committee controls ISW

# 4. Join with DSN

## ■ Benefits:

- Similar to previous option
- More internationally focused
- Already has a larger subset of the survivability community involved
- '03 conference assured

## ■ Challenges:

- Steering committee for DSN not fully supportive
- Focus depends year to year on the program chair
- DSN is a large conference of which we would be only a small part
- Survivability becomes a subset of dependability

# 5. Support both DSN and ACSAC

## ■ Benefits:

- Supports all participants and areas of survivability
- There is always someplace to publish your work

## ■ Challenges:

- Survivability as an area may die
- Continuing focus can be lost or splintered

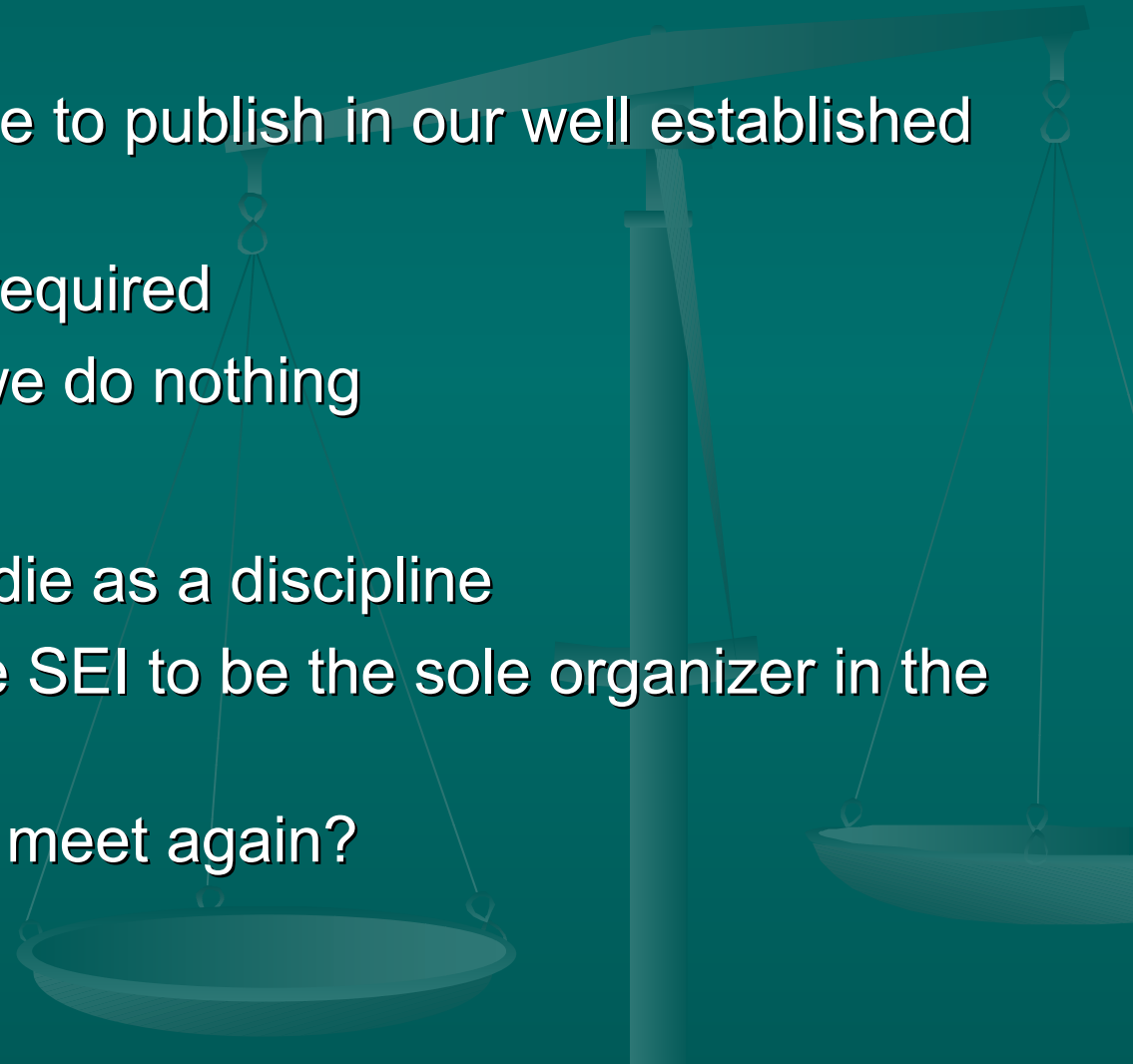
# 6. Stop doing ISWs

## ■ Benefits:

- We will all continue to publish in our well established venues
- No heroic efforts required
- Will happened if we do nothing

## ■ Challenges:

- Survivability may die as a discipline
- Can't count on the SEI to be the sole organizer in the future
- When shall we all meet again?



# Current feedback so far

- Strong push for a conference
  - Seems to be a consensus that we want to do something
  - Some push for joining with an existing conference
    - Split on whether this should be the same conference every year
  - Other community-building activities suggested (listserv, tutorials, ...)
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