

ConSeRNS:
A Strategic Research Initiative for Security and
Robustness of Networked Systems

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Background

There was no security group at the department.

Univ. of Oslo (UiO) invited to general Strategic Research Initiatives.

- ▶ two research groups at the department, PMA and ND, had both proposals for security-related research
- ▶ merged and added Simula,
- ▶ prof. **Olav Lysne** at Simula as leader

ConSeRNS, the [strategic research initiative for information security](#) research, was approved and established in 2014.

Some members of ConSeRNS



Figure: Some members of ConSeRNS

About

Participating research groups at UiO:

- ▶ ND (Networks and Distributed Systems)
- ▶ PMA (Precise Modeling and Analysis)
- ▶ Simula Research Lab. (Design of Information Systems)
- ▶ UNIK and others on information security and robustness
- ▶ DESIGN group at the department

Objectives

ConSeRNS focuses on

- ▶ network security and robustness,
- ▶ system security and robustness,
- ▶ identity and trust management,
- ▶ security usability,
- ▶ application security
- ▶ formal modeling of security protocols and systems.
- ▶ verification of security protocols and systems.

Aims

Through excellence in research, teaching, student supervision and exchange, ConSeRNS aims at

- ▶ designing, developing, testing and commercializing innovative security solutions and technologies,
- ▶ cyber security for the government, industry and private domains,
- ▶ training experts in IT security who will contribute to building a robust national IT infrastructure.

Strategic Aims

Hoping for

- ▶ strengthening of the research on security
- ▶ strengthening of the research cooperation between the involved groups
- ▶ forming a basis for security-related research projects, externally funded

Man power

Participating research groups at UiO:

- ▶ 10+ professors
- ▶ 5+ assoc prof.
- ▶ 5 PhD fellows sponsored by UiO
- ▶ 3 more PhD fellows to be hired

Note: Only PhDs funded by UiO.

Note: the groups are not co-located.

Success?

Strategic success

- ▶ **Strengthened security research?** Yes, through the PhD students.
- ▶ **Strengthened research cooperation?** Limited.
- ▶ **Basis for projects?** Yes, successful: Several new projects funded this year. Center application in progress.

All in all, good results out of a modest investment for UiO.