

Current Topics in Privacy Seminar



Privacy Engineering
& AI Governance

From Classroom to Code: Navigating Careers in Privacy Engineering Alumni Panel

Abstract:

Hear directly from program alumni as they share their experiences, day-to-day responsibilities, and strategies for breaking into the privacy field. Learn what skills matter most and how to leverage your CMU education into a rewarding career.

Panelists:

Katie Earles, Technical Program Manager at Microsoft

Jack Gardner, Privacy Engineer at GM Financial

Geetika Gopi, Senior Responsible AI and Privacy Specialist at Amazon

Gianna Jiang, Privacy Risk Analyst at TikTok

Yash Mehta, Privacy Engineer at Google

Bios:

About Katie Earles

Katie is a Technical Program Manager in Microsoft's Cloud + AI division, where she specializes in information privacy and security. Her work sits at the intersection of policy, engineering, and product — ensuring that the systems we build respect user privacy by design and meet evolving regulatory expectations. Before joining Microsoft, she earned an M.S. in Privacy Engineering from Carnegie Mellon University and a B.S. in Public Policy from Georgia Tech — a combination that grounds her technical work in a deep understanding of the societal and regulatory dimensions of privacy and security.

About Jack Gardner

Jack is a Privacy Engineer at General Motors Financial. As one of two privacy engineers, he works to support technical policy and procedure definition to scale the impact of GM Financial's privacy team while engaging hands-on with teams throughout the business to promote privacy in specific projects. Jack lives in Brooklyn, NY.

About Geetika Gopi

Geetika is a Senior Responsible AI and Privacy Specialist at Amazon, where she works at the intersection of AI governance, privacy engineering, and regulatory compliance. She leads WILMA, Amazon's internal governance program for reviewing Amazon's high-risk AI/ML systems — building tools, frameworks and processes to evaluate AI at scale. She is currently leading Amazon's EU AI Act compliance effort, including the design of pan-Amazon AI development standards ahead of regulatory enforcement.

Geetika is an alum of CMU's Privacy Engineering program and is currently pursuing a Doctor of Engineering degree in AI at Penn State University. She's passionate about the evolving role of privacy and governance professionals in shaping how AI systems are designed, audited, and held accountable.

About Gianna Jiang

Gianna Jiang is a risk management professional at TikTok, focusing on privacy and security risk management, data governance, and privacy-enhancing technologies (PETs) for compliant and responsible data sharing. She was part of the PE 2022 cohort.

About Yash Mehta

Yash is a Privacy Engineer at Google specializing in Extended Reality (XR) products. Prior to Google, he focused on privacy engineering across XR and AI initiatives at Meta. His background also includes foundational work at an early-stage startup, where he helped build out a suite of privacy products.