

Nomination Statement

I am pleased to nominate Brittany Boles for her insightful paper titled “Deciphering Discrepancies: A Comparative Analysis of Docker Image Security.” In an era where microservices are rapidly becoming the backbone of modern software architecture, the security implications of Docker images cannot be overstated. Boles’ research addresses a critical concern in this field—how to effectively identify vulnerabilities in Docker images, which constitute an increasingly large attack surface.

In her comprehensive analysis involving 927 Docker images, Boles employs two prominent static analysis tools, Trivy and Gripe, revealing significant discrepancies in their vulnerability reports. This divergence raises essential questions about tool reliability and the validity of the results that practitioners rely on for safeguarding their applications. The study's findings underscore that the inconsistencies are partly a byproduct of the tools' interactions with external vulnerability databases, which often have overlapping yet contradictory data.

Through her work, Boles not only advances our understanding of tool efficacy in detecting vulnerabilities but also provides essential guidance for practitioners navigating the complexities of Docker image security. This New Ideas and Emerging Results (NIER) study is an invaluable contribution that equips stakeholders with critical insights to improve security practices in an evolving digital landscape. I highly recommend her for recognition in this esteemed forum.

Sincerely,

Ronda Black

Program Director - Information Technology

Gallatin College Montana State University

705 Osterman Drive, Suite C P.O. Box 170515

Bozeman MT 59717

Tel: (406) 994-9136 Cell: (937)207-9534 Fax: (406) 994-9127

Email: ronda.black@montana.edu