

## FEAST '24 Chairs' Welcome

It is our great pleasure to welcome you to the *Sixth Workshop on Forming an Ecosystem Around Software Transformation* – FEAST 2024. This year’s FEAST revives the series, with the original five events taking place from 2016-2020. FEAST is concerned with all aspects of achieving effective, robust, and appraisable late-stage transformation of software for security. Late-stage transformations allow third parties to deeply tailor existing software to their mission, customizing it with little to no access to source code or support from the original developer.

Research has shown that late-stage software customization is of particular benefit to security-conscious software consumers who must use closed-source or source-free binary software components in mission-critical settings, or who must harden software against newly emerging attacks not anticipated during the software’s original design and development. However, there is still a long way to go toward achieving sound and robust transformations whose holistic benefits to deployed software are fully appraisable. Motivated by these outstanding challenges, FEAST continues in its goal to form an active ecosystem of strategies and tools for accomplishing source-free binary code transformation reliably and on-demand.

The call for papers attracted submissions from Europe, Asia, and the United States. In recognition of the practical nature of software transformation, we were pleased to offer a lighter-lift talk proposal track that added a broad set of perspectives to this year’s program. Academia, industry, non-profits, and government are all represented in the following:

<i>Venue or Track</i>	<i>Reviewed</i>	<i>Accepted</i>	
Full Papers	4	4	100%
Talk Proposals	11	10	91%

Putting together *FEAST'24* was a team effort. We especially wish to thank the authors for their excellent contributions that will enable an exciting and thought-provoking program. We are also very grateful to the FEAST program committee, ACM CCS 2024 workshop chairs, our venue hosts, ACM SIGs, and our home organizations for their support that enabled us to bring this community together again. Finally, we wish to acknowledge the work of past chairs of FEAST, upon whose efforts we build.

We hope that you enjoy the workshop, participate in discussion, and that you find it to be a valuable opportunity to share ideas with other researchers and practitioners in the software transformation community.

**Ryan Craven**  
*FEAST '24 Co-Chair*  
*Office of Naval Research, USA*

**Matthew Mickelson**  
*FEAST '24 Co-Chair*  
*MITRE, USA*