

# Xiaofeng Wang (computer scientist)

**Xiaofeng Wang** (Chinese: 王晓峰; pinyin: *Wáng Xiǎofēng*) is a computer scientist known for his research on computer security, cryptography, privacy, and cybersecurity. He served as a professor and the Associate Dean for Research at [Indiana University Bloomington](#) (IUB).<sup>[1]</sup>

Wang graduated from [Carnegie Mellon University](#) with a [PhD](#) in electrical and computer engineering in 2004. Wang joined Indiana University Bloomington in 2004 as a faculty member. He served as assistant professor from 2004 to 2010, as associate professor from 2010 to 2015, and as full professor since 2015. He was named the James H. Rudy Professor of Computer Science, Engineering, and Informatics in 2017. He has been the Associate Dean for Research since 2023, as well as serving as the Director of Center for Security and Privacy in Informatics, Computing, and Engineering and the Director of Secure Computing.

He is the author of hundreds of papers on [computer security](#) and is a fellow of the [Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers](#) (IEEE), of the [American Association for the Advancement of Science](#) (AAAS), and of the [Association for Computing Machinery](#) (ACM). He has been the [principal investigator](#) of research projects totaling more than \$20 million during his time at IUB.<sup>[1][2]</sup> In the ACM, he has been the chair of the Special Interest Group on Security, Audit and Control (SIGSAC) since 2021 and was its vice-chair for 2017 to 2021.<sup>[3]</sup>

On 30 March 2025, Wang and his wife's profiles were removed from the IUB's website, and their homes in [Bloomington](#) and [Carmel, Indiana](#), were searched by the United States federal agencies [FBI](#) and the [Department of Homeland Security](#). The couple's whereabouts are unknown, and the university has made no public statements about their action or his current status.<sup>[1][2]</sup>

## Biography

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### Education

Wang received a [Bachelor of Engineering](#) in computer science from the [Nanjing University of Aeronautics and Astronautics](#) in 1993, a [Master of Engineering](#) in computer science from [Shanghai Jiao Tong University](#) in 1996, and a Doctor of Philosophy in electrical and computer engineering from [Carnegie Mellon University](#) in 2004.<sup>[4][5]</sup> His doctoral dissertation is titled "Multiagent coordination under untrusted and uncertain environments".<sup>[6]</sup> His doctoral advisor was [Pradeep Khosla](#), currently serving as the eighth chancellor of the [University of California, San Diego](#).<sup>[6][7]</sup>


## Career

After PhD graduation, Wang joined Indiana University Bloomington's [School of Informatics, Computing and Engineering](#) in 2004 as a faculty member. He served as assistant professor from 2004 to 2010, as associate professor from 2010 to 2015, and as full professor since 2015.<sup>[4]</sup> He was named the James H. Rudy Professor of Computer Science, Engineering, and Informatics in 2017.<sup>[8]</sup>

In 2024, Wang was the lead principal investigator at the Center for Distributed Confidential Computing. This [National Science Foundation](#) project in Secure and Trustworthy Computing involved faculty from IU (the lead), Carnegie Mellon University, [Duke University](#), [Ohio State University](#), [Penn State](#), [Purdue University](#), [Spelman College](#) and [Yale University](#).<sup>[9]</sup> Wang is the director of Indiana University's Center for Security and Privacy in Informatics, Computing, and Engineering (SPICE).<sup>[9][10]</sup>

In the ACM, Wang has been the chair of the Special Interest Group on Security, Audit and Control (SIGSAC).<sup>[3]</sup>

As of early March 2025, Wang served as the Associate Dean for Research; James H. Rudy Professor of Computer Science, Engineering and Informatics; Director of Center for Security and Privacy in Informatics, Computing, and Engineering; and Director of Secure Computing.<sup>[11]</sup>

Xiaofeng Wang	
王晓峰	
	
Alma mater	<a href="#">Nanjing University of Aeronautics and Astronautics</a> (BEng) <a href="#">Shanghai Jiao Tong University</a> (MEng) <a href="#">Carnegie Mellon University</a> (PhD)
Awards	<a href="#">IEEE</a> Fellow (2018) <a href="#">AAAS</a> Fellow (2022) <a href="#">ACM</a> Fellow (2023)
Scientific career	
Fields	<a href="#">Computer security</a> <a href="#">Cryptography</a>
Institutions	<a href="#">Indiana University Bloomington</a>
Thesis	<i>Multiagent coordination under untrusted and uncertain environments</i> ( <a href="https://www.proquest.com/docview/305202662/">https://www.proquest.com/docview/305202662/</a> ) (2004)

## Disappearance

On 30 March 2025, the university removed his profile and the profile of his wife and their contact information from its website, and their two homes were searched by the United States federal agencies [Federal Bureau of Investigation](#) and [Department of Homeland Security](#).<sup>[1][2]</sup> His whereabouts are unknown. The university has not explained its action.<sup>[1]</sup> According to CNBC, Wang was fired by the university on the same day as the raid on his house.<sup>[12]</sup>

## Honors

Wang was recognized as a [fellow](#) of the [IEEE](#) in 2018, of the [AAAS](#) in 2022, and of the [ACM](#) in 2023.<sup>[13]</sup>

## Personal life

Prior to their disappearance, Wang lived in [Bloomington, Indiana](#), with his wife Ma Nianli (马念莉), who has been a systems analyst and programmer at the Library Technologies division of Indiana University Bloomington.<sup>[1][2]</sup>

## References

- Goodin, Dan (March 30, 2025). "FBI raids home of prominent computer scientist who has gone incommunicado" (<https://arstechnica.com/security/2025/03/computer-scientist-goes-silent-after-fbi-raid-and-purging-from-university-website/>) . *Ars Technica*. Retrieved March 31, 2025.
- Lane, Laura (March 28, 2025). "FBI, Homeland Security agents search house on Xavier Court in Bloomington" (<https://eu.heraldtimesonline.com/story/news/local/2025/03/28/fbi-department-of-homeland-security-agents-search-house-in-bloomington-indiana/82710451007/>) . *The Herald-Times*. Retrieved March 31, 2025.

Doctoral advisor	Pradeep Khosla
Website	Department page (archived) ( <a href="https://web.archive.org/web/20241205182256/https://cs.indiana.edu/contact/profile/?XiaoFeng_Wang">https://web.archive.org/web/20241205182256/https://cs.indiana.edu/contact/profile/?XiaoFeng_Wang</a> ) Faculty page (archived) ( <a href="https://web.archive.org/web/20240930195057/https://homes.luddy.indiana.edu/xw7/">https://web.archive.org/web/20240930195057/https://homes.luddy.indiana.edu/xw7/</a> ) Google Scholar page ( <a href="https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=pONu-5EAAAAj">https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=pONu-5EAAAAj</a> )

3. "ACM Special Interest Group on Security, Audit and Control (SIGSAC) – Chairman: XiaoFeng Wang" (<https://www.sigsac.org/>) . *Association for Computing Machinery*. Retrieved March 31, 2025.
4. "XiaoFeng Wang – Curriculum Vitae" (<https://web.archive.org/web/20240721214735/https://homes.luddy.indiana.edu/xw7/CV.pdf>) (PDF). *Indiana University School of Informatics, Computing and Engineering*. Archived from the original (<https://homes.luddy.indiana.edu/xw7/CV.pdf>) (PDF) on July 21, 2024. Retrieved July 21, 2024.
5. "Department of Computer Science at North Carolina State University" (<https://www.csc.ncsu.edu/research/colloquia/seminar-post.php?id=388>) . *www.csc.ncsu.edu*. Retrieved March 31, 2025.
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8. "IU cybersecurity researchers awarded multi-institutional NSF grants to protect data, user privacy" (<https://news.iu.edu/live/news/28018-iu-cybersecurity-researchers-awarded>) . *news.iu.edu*. Retrieved March 31, 2025.
9. "Xiaofeng Wang" (<https://web.archive.org/web/20240911122716/https://alliance.iu.edu/members/member/8580.html>) . *Indiana University Alliance of Distinguished and Titled Professors*. Archived from the original (<https://alliance.iu.edu/members/member/8580.html>) on September 11, 2024. Retrieved March 29, 2025.
10. "Siek, Wang named ACM Distinguished Members" (<https://news.luddy.indiana.edu/story.html?story=Siek-Wang-named-ACM-Distinguished-Members>) . *Luddy School of Informatics, Computing, and Engineering: News Archive*. Retrieved March 31, 2025.
11. "Profile – XiaoFeng Wang" ([https://web.archive.org/web/20241205182256if\\_/https://cs.indiana.edu/contact/profile/?XiaoFeng\\_Wang](https://web.archive.org/web/20241205182256if_/https://cs.indiana.edu/contact/profile/?XiaoFeng_Wang)) . *Indiana University Bloomington*. Archived from the original ([https://cs.indiana.edu/contact/profile/?XiaoFeng\\_Wang](https://cs.indiana.edu/contact/profile/?XiaoFeng_Wang)) on December 5, 2024. Retrieved March 29, 2025.
12. Mangan, Dan (March 31, 2025). "Indiana U. fired cybersecurity professor XiaoFeng Wang on day FBI searched his homes: Union" (<https://www.cnbc.com/2025/03/31/fbi-searches-xiaofeng-wang-homes-indiana-university-cryptography-computer.html>) . *CNBC*. Retrieved April 1, 2025.
13. "Luddy's Wang receives ACM Fellow honor" (<https://news.luddy.indiana.edu/story.html?story=Luddy%E2%80%99s-Wang-receives-ACM-Fellow-honor>) . *Luddy School of Informatics, Computing, and Engineering: News Archive*. Retrieved March 31, 2025.

## External links

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- Homepage at Github.io (<https://wangxiaofeng7.github.io/>)
- Faculty page on the IUB Computer Science Department ([https://web.archive.org/web/20241205182256/https://cs.indiana.edu/contact/profile/?XiaoFeng\\_Wang](https://web.archive.org/web/20241205182256/https://cs.indiana.edu/contact/profile/?XiaoFeng_Wang))
- Personal webpage hosted on the Luddy School (<https://web.archive.org/web/20240930195057/https://homes.luddy.indiana.edu/xw7/>)
- XiaoFeng Wang (<https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=pONu-5EAAAj>) profile at Google Scholar
- ACM Special Interest Group on Security, Audit and Control (SIGSAC) (<https://www.sigsac.org/>) (chaired by XiaoFeng Wang)
- Center for Security and Privacy in Informatics, Computing, and Engineering (<https://spice.luddy.iu.edu/>) at Indiana University Bloomington
- XiaoFeng Wang ([https://awards.acm.org/award\\_winners/wang\\_0175109](https://awards.acm.org/award_winners/wang_0175109)) awards page at ACM
- Xiaofeng Wang (<https://ieeexplore.ieee.org/author/37293614000>) author profile at IEEE

Portals:  **United States**  **Biography**



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