



## Liberty Alliance Member Newsletter, January 2006

### INSIDE LIBERTY ALLIANCE – FEATURING ABHILASHA BHARGAV-SPANTZEL, PURDUE UNIVERSITY



#### **What do you do in Liberty?**

I am specifically involved with the Identity Theft Special Interest Group. Our group here in Purdue is at the initial stages of working with the Liberty Alliance and hopes to contribute significantly in the future. I have been following the Liberty Alliance since September 2004 as a part of my research work and was very lucky to have attended the first Liberty Identity Theft Workshop in Chicago in July 2005. The group of people I met there was experienced, extremely energetic and receptive to new ideas. The discussion hit on real problems and progressed towards clear possible solutions. The group overall was very welcoming and I knew I could work well with them. With the help of my research advisor Prof. Elisa Bertino and Prof. Eugene Spafford, Randy Bond and Jennifer Kurtz here in CERIAS (Center for Education and Research in Information Assurance and Security), Purdue University is now an affiliate of Liberty Alliance.

I am currently pursuing a computer science doctoral degree at Purdue University with my research focus on Identity Management and Theft Protection.

#### **What do you like best about your work in Liberty?**

Liberty brings together a diverse group of individuals from different institutions all around the world to achieve common goals. I like their enthusiasm and genuine interest in finding solutions to the increasing challenges in identity management. Above all, I like the possibility of growing with the group. I am sure the synergy of our group effort will promote and accelerate the progress of various individual efforts and add significantly to the upcoming standards in identity management.

Overall, it is a wonderful learning experience and a lot of fun to be a part of Liberty!

#### **What do you do with your non-Liberty time?**

As you can guess, graduate student life is very interesting :) I enjoy a lot of research work including brainstorming, writing papers, implementing solutions and again, writing papers. To add to the fun, I love to read magazines and identity blogs. I actually leave the lab to spend some time in the gym. My husband and I practice karate. Just like every living soul, I enjoy art, music and science fiction.