THE CONFERENCE ON
TEST SECURITY

2024

VIRTUAL CONFERENCE

13th Annual

WELCOME
TO VIRTUAL COTS

Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to the 13th annual Conference on Test Security – the only event dedicated entirely to test security.

When COTS was first started in 2012, it was called the Conference on the Statistical Detection of Potential Test Fraud, and it focused primarily on statistics. In 2014, the scope of the conference broadened to encourage dialogue on all test security capabilities and enhancements. Now in its thirteenth year, COTS has rightfully gained a reputation for facilitating an atmosphere that encourages open and honest test security discussions amongst professionals across the testing industry.

While the ever-constant threats to the security of our tests continue, it is your zeal for wisdom and innovation that keeps those dangers at bay. It is my sincerest hope that this year's conference will be of the utmost benefit to you as we learn and network together. With over 50 sessions and attendees from across the world, we hope you'll find information and resources that are helpful for you and for your program's needs.

Finally, a special thank you to all our sponsors for making this year's conference possible. We appreciate their unyielding support. It is because of them that we can keep our registration costs low and successfully gather together every year, and forward our joint goal to protect the validity of test results and exam integrity.

We hope that you enjoy your time at the 2024 Conference on Test Security.

David Foster
CEO & President, Caveon Test Security
2024 Host of the Conference on Test Security

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VIRTUAL CONFERENCE

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12:10 - 12:15 PM Break

12:15 - 1:15 PM Closing Keynote Debates

OPENING KEYNOTE

9 – 10 AM

WELCOME!

**Cory Clark, Meazure Learning | Rachel Schoenig, Cornerstone Strategies
Ashley Norris, Meazure Learning**

Ease into the COTS spirit with the COTS Opening Debate. Our panelists will have a spirited debate regarding whether commercial test centers should employ front facing cameras and additional monitoring technologies at test centers in an effort to enhance exam security. Keep your cell phone's handy, because you'll have an opportunity to weigh in on this question, too! Following the debate, we will take some time to explore this topic further as part of a short panel discussion. Join us for a spooktacular start to the Virtual COTS program!

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WEDNESDAY, OCT 30

10 – 10:05 AM

BREAK

10:05 – 11:05 AM

HOW AI IS CHANGING THE LEGAL AND OPERATIONAL LANDSCAPE OF TESTING AND TEST SECURITY

Donna McPartland, McPartland Privacy Advising | Kim Brunnert, Elsevier | Rachel Schnoenig, Cornerstone Strategies | Claire McCauley, Cambridge English

When OpenAI launched ChatGPT in November 2022, it kicked off a storm across the education and assessment space. That storm has intensified as new tools and applications become easier to design and distribute. Generative AI provides exciting opportunities for testing programs to gain efficiencies and even change assessment item types. At the same time, it raises significant exam security, privacy and legal concerns.This session will explore how AI is impacting testing and test security from both a legal and operational perspective. We will discuss current uses by educators, testing programs, learners, workers, and commercial cheating entities, as well as current Legal efforts to address AI. You will come away with a better understanding of how AI is being used today and the legal guardrails that can help guide implementation for your program.

11:05 – 11:10 AM

BREAK

WEDNESDAY, OCT 30

11:10 - 12:10 PM

PROCTORING RECONSIDERED: FACING UNCOMFORTABLE TRUTHS AND FINDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE FUTURE

David Foster, PhD, Caveon

In this session, we confront the stark realities of proctoring's strengths and weaknesses, and its declining efficacy in the face of modern security threats. We'll focus on a sobering truth— The balance of power has shifted in favor of cheaters, driven by technological advancements and diminishing risks of detection. However, blaming proctors for these shortcomings is misguided. This session will use case studies and research to advocate for a strategic realignment of test security efforts. First, by focusing on the development of technology-enhanced assessments that possess innate defenses against cheating and theft. Second, by reimagining the role of human proctors and/or monitors during test administration process.

12:10 - 12:15 PM

BREAK

12:15 - 1:15 PM

DRAWING THE LINE: DATA-DRIVEN INSIGHTS DRIVE TEST SECURITY AND PROGRAM LEVEL DECISION-MAKING

Sarah Toton, Caveon | Timothy Muckle, NBCRNA

Data forensic analysis (DFA) is used to identify breaches and test security vulnerabilities, but leveraging this information with a broader focus can help to fortify a testing program and ensure the integrity of results. In this session, we will cover foundational elements of a successful data forensics program and how to customize an analysis plan based on the unique needs of an individual program. Then, as a case study, we will share how the National Board of Certification and Recertification for Nurse Anesthetists (NBCRNA) has evolved since embarking on a journey to explore and utilize data forensics, both conducted internally and then by a vendor. We will discuss observed impacts to program-level thinking, policies, procedures, and stakeholders after receiving and utilizing DFA results. Through a real-world example and practical insights, this session will help attendees to understand and navigate the complex landscape of test security and how it interacts with program level decision-making to ensure the integrity of assessments.

THURSDAY, OCT 31

9 – 10 AM

EXAM SECURITY FOR LONGITUDINAL ASSESSMENTS: WHAT WE'RE LEARNING BY PLAYING THE LONG GAME

Andy Dwyer, American Board of Pediatrics | Cathy Koenig, American Board of Pediatrics | Rachel Schoenig, Cornerstone Strategies

Longitudinal assessments provide testing programs with a means of measuring knowledge over a period of time. By administering shorter assessments and providing feedback, longitudinal assessments provide users with an opportunity to learn and testing programs with assessment information over a longer time frame. Often, longitudinal assessments are delivered remotely and without live proctoring, which poses unique challenges from an exam security perspective. The American Board of Pediatrics (ABP) previously required board-certified pediatricians to pass a proctored examination delivered at a test center once every 10 years in order to maintain certification. Today, ABP offers the MOCA-Peds, a longitudinal assessment for board-certified pediatricians that can be used to meet the examination requirement for maintaining certification. During this session, attendees will learn the types of security measures implemented by ABP to secure the MOCA-Peds, including contracting, messaging, and data analytics. Presenters will share analysis results, provide examples of collusive behavior, and discuss ABP's decisions to help ensure the validity of MOCA-Peds results.

10 – 10:05 AM

BREAK

10:05 - 11:05 AM

STANDARD PRESENTATIONS

Engaging an Independent Test Security Auditor: A Case Study

Colin Finnerty, Oxford University Press

Oxford University Press (OUP) publishes a suite of online adaptive English language proficiency tests for adults and young adults. The tests are used as evidence of English language proficiency to gain access to education and employment and so test security is essential for the maintenance of the integrity of the tests. To that end, OUP engaged an independent test security company to audit its security practices.

This case study gives an inside look into the experience of engaging an external security auditor. The case study will be of particular interest to those new to test security standards, or to organizations considering engaging independent test security auditors.

Industry Standards and their References to Test Security

Michael Clifton, Cornerstone Strategies | Erica Brown, ASIS International

This presentation will identify various industry standards that have been published related to assessment and credentialling, describe the organizations to which they are intended to apply, and survey those standards as they relate to test security. The presenters will discuss test security themes that run throughout the standards and offer practical suggestions for complying with various test security related standards. The presentation is useful for test security practitioners who are looking to ground their organization's test security program in industry recognized materials. It is also useful for test security practitioners whose organization's testing programs may be used in across various industry sectors.

THURSDAY, OCT 31

11:05 - 11:10 AM

BREAK

11:10 - 12:10 PM

PANEL PRESENTATION

OBJECTION! LEGAL TIPS FOR NON-LAWYERS

Jennifer Semko, Baker McKenzie | Michael Clifton, Cornerstone Strategies
Rachel Schoenig, Cornerstone Strategies | Camille Thompson, College Board

Ever wondered why candidate agreements matter, or why registering your copyright is helpful? Curious about how to handle evidence during an investigation, or how to respond to threats of litigation? The reality is, testing professionals bump up against the law in a number of context, from contracts with vendors and test takers to copyright protection and litigation threats. You don't have to be an attorney to understand how the law can help your program. This session will break down basic legal concepts for non-lawyers and provide a more concrete understanding of the legal principles that underpin assessment. We will touch on the key terms that form our relationships with test takers, key considerations for vendor agreements, legal protections and legal remedies available in the event of an exam security incident, and common threats from test takers.

12:10 - 12:15 PM

BREAK

CLOSING KEYNOTE

12:15 – 1:15 PM

CLOSING KEYNOTE DEBATES: A MONSTROUSLY GOOD TIME

**Basim Baig, Duolingo | Rachel Schoenig, Cornerstone Strategies
Rose Hastings, Duolingo**

Join us for a hauntingly helpful Closing keynote debate regarding whether testing programs using generative AI to produce large numbers of items need to continue to monitor online test takers for content theft and crawl the web for content offerings. Hang on to your heads and your cell phones, because we want to hear from you on this topic as well! Following the debate, we will take some time to explore this topic further with a short panel discussion. Be sure to join us for this COTS closing keynote debate - we'll have a monstrously good time!

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SHOWCASE YOUR ORGANIZATION'S COMMITTMENT TO ADVANCING TEST SECURITY!

As a host, you'll have the unique opportunity to highlight your innovative practices and engage in meaningful discussions that shape the future of testing. Join us and make a lasting impact in the field!

LEARN MORE: CONFERENCEONTESTSECURITY.ORG/CONTACT-US

duolingo english test

Innovation in assessment

The Duolingo English Test leverages the latest assessment science and human-in-the-loop AI to empower anyone to test where and when they're at their best.

✓ **Digital-first**

The Duolingo English Test leverages AI to personalize itself in real-time to every test taker, honing in on their true proficiency more quickly, precisely, and securely than traditional fixed-form tests.

✓ **Accessible administration**

The Duolingo English Test is designed to radically improve English language proficiency assessment for test takers and score recipients alike, by providing a testing experience that is accessible while remaining accurate and secure.

✓ **Secure certification**

Unprecedented security technology and a 1:1 candidate-to-proctor ratio ensure that the Duolingo English Test is extremely secure. Every proctor has access to AI tools that monitor dozens of categories of biometrics and behavioral data.

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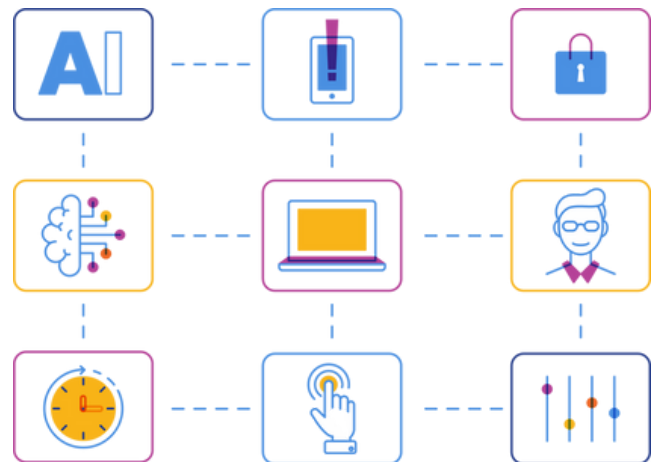
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Honorlock combines the power of live proctoring with AI to protect exam integrity and enhance the testing experience. From detecting cell phones and speech to preventing the use of ChatGPT, Honorlock's remote proctoring secures exams from all angles

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Attend Honorlock's Session:
Harness AI: Strategies for Maintaining Test Integrity and Validity

When
Thursday, 10/17 at 11:00 a.m. MDT
Where
Uintah Room (2nd floor)

Visit us at Honorlock.com

PRESENTER RESOURCES

REMINDER:

Presenters are responsible for managing their own time during the session. Please be mindful of the schedule and ensure your presentation, *including any Q&A*, stays within your allotted time.

Phone Support:

- Call Brinnlie Knavel (801) 520-8758 for immediate assistance

Virtual Platform Support:

- Email Carol Eckerly for assistance with the virtual platform: ceckerly@ets.org

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