

# Ben Weinshel

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## Education

**University of Chicago**, Chicago, IL

*Bachelor of Science, Computer Science*

GPA: 3.7

*Selected Coursework:* Topics in Computer Security (Graduate), Intro to Computer Security, Operating Systems, Networks & Distributed Systems, Data Visualization

Expected June 2019

## Publications

### *Conference Publications*

**Unpacking Perceptions of Data-Driven Inferences Underlying Online Targeting and Personalization**

Claire Dolin,\* Ben Weinshel,\* Shawn Shan, Chang Min Hahn, Euirim Choi, Michelle L. Mazurek, Blase Ur.

*ACM SIGCHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI '18)*, Montreal, QC, Canada, 2018.

(\* Equal contribution)

### *Poster Presentations*

**Unpacking Perceptions of Data-Driven Inferences Underlying Online Targeting and Personalization**

Claire Dolin, Ben Weinshel.

*FTC PrivacyCon*, Washington, DC, 2018.

**Data-Driven Transparency About Online Tracking**

Euirim Choi, Claire Dolin, Aaron Goldman, Chang Min Hahn, Shawn Shan, Ben Weinshel, Michelle L. Mazurek, Blase Ur

*Thirteenth Symposium On Usable Privacy and Security (SOUPS '17)*, Santa Clara, CA, 2017.

**Distinguished Poster Award**

## Honors and Awards

CRA Outstanding Undergraduate Researcher Honorable Mention, 2019

Dean's List, University of Chicago, 2016–2018

Distinguished Poster Award, SOUPS 2017, for "Data-Driven Transparency About Online Tracking"

## Employment

**University of Chicago Computer Science**, Chicago, IL Jan 2017—Present  
*Research Assistant*

Developing transparency tools and conducting user studies to explore perceptions of algorithmic targeting and personalization, with focus on demystifying interest-based advertising

Built browser extension to approximate the inferences companies make from browsing data and provide users with new transparency into online tracking and ad targeting

**Computer Science Instructional Laboratory**, Chicago, IL Jan 2017—Present  
*CSIL Tutor (System Administrator)*

Manage Mac imaging for 80-seat computer lab supporting Computer Science teaching.

**Instructure**, Chicago, IL June—Sept 2018  
*Software Engineering Intern*

Developed quizzing software for Canvas Learning Management System, other education products

Built feature giving teachers granular control over results and feedback shown to students

**Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory**, Batavia, IL July—Sept 2016  
*Mobile Development Intern, Director's Office*

Built mobile app to provide info about the lab to visitors, employees, and public

## Activites

**Uncommon Hacks** 2016—Present  
*Director*

Manage 16-person organizing team for student group running events to build tech community

Led creation of new one-day mini-hackathon for UChicago students, with focus on providing learning opportunities for students at all skill levels

Lead organizer for annual hackathon, 36-hour event where 250 students work on self-directed tech-related projects in an environment that encourages creative thinking