Dr. Ryan Kastner is a professor in the Department of Computer Science and Engineering at the University of California, San Diego.. He received a PhD in Computer Science (2002) at UCLA, a Masters degree in engineering (2000) and Bachelor degrees (BS) in both Electrical Engineering and Computer Engineering (1999) from Northwestern University. He spent the first five years after his PhD as a professor in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering at the University of California, Santa Barbara.

Professor Kastner leads the Kastner Research Group whose current research interests fall into three areas: hardware acceleration, hardware security, and remote sensing. He is the co-director of the Wireless Embedded Systems Graduate Program — a specialized Masters degree targeting individuals working in local industries. He co-directs the Engineers for Exploration Program, which pairs undergraduates in research experiences with domain scientists in archaeology, conservation, and cultural heritage. He is the co-founder of the company Tortuga Logic that develops hardware security solutions based upon technology developed in his research group.