**CINA 2021 Annual RFP Now Open for Submissions**

CINA is now accepting proposals that advance our mission to support DHS, including research, equipment, and technology. This year’s call for proposals includes multiple areas of interest, and submissions will be accepted through January 29, 2021.

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CINA’s 2021 Annual RFP invites proposals that will address main areas of interest to CINA and our DHS sponsors. Proposals are invited that will build upon CINA’s 27 years of focus on three core activities—helping to establish and maintain the foundations for the field of forensic science and related sciences for years to come.

CINA recently brought on Deanna Austin to head Workforce Development. We are proud to support that mission and work, and we are happy to report two items related to these efforts. First, we recently hired a full-time CINA Workforce Development Lead, which is fortunate to have her, and we look forward to the high quality programs and efforts that Deanna will be leading. Second, we released our Spring 2021 Upcoming Events CINA Distinguished Speaker Series:

Deanna Austin, Associate Professor, Criminology and Criminal Justice, Academic Affairs, Mason to unveil its new Forensic Science Laboratory in the Spring 2021 semester.

**CINA Director, Mary Ellen O’Toole**

The opening of George Mason University’s new Forensic Science Laboratory establishes Mason as a leader in forensic science and related sciences, and one in Education with an emphasis on managing and using technology within criminal investigations and the law enforcement.

The highly ranked security studies programs at the Schar School of Policy and Government at George Mason University, the key partner in this initiative, is well poised to turn Mason into a leader in the field of forensic science and related sciences.

The Diana Davis Spencer Foundation Scholarship is intended to develop and prepare future national security professionals and leaders who will study in one of the Schar School’s four security-oriented master’s programs: Master’s in International Security, Master’s in Global National Security Management, Master’s in Geopolitical Analysis, and one in Education with an emphasis on managing and using technology within criminal investigations and the law enforcement.

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