February 2021 COE Summit

Hosted by the DHS Centers of Excellence (COE), this event is a unique opportunity for COE students to address a significant Homeland Security issue. By bringing together interdisciplinary student teams from across the country and challenging them to work with the DHS Science and Technology Directorate to improve the future of the HSE workforce, the COE Summit fosters a sense of community and collaboration.

While data on this clandestine activity has previously been scarce, there is mounting evidence that the economic impact of human and wildlife smuggling is significant. From smuggling, counterfeiting, and tax evasion, to the trafficking of goods and services, illicit trade holds back progress, increases costs, and pushes the goals of global security and transnational organized crime.

To combat this issue, the Centre for Information and National Assurances (CINA) continues to welcome research ideas intended to address questions and challenges that emerge from this illicit trade. The Centre for Information and National Assurances is the DHS CoE that focuses on global security and transnational organized crime. CINA research portfolio includes:

- Dynamic solutions to secure our Homeland
- Protecting the Homeland from catastrophic risks
- Risking Lives for Important Data
- Student research presentations responding to current & emerging DHS threats
- University research public/private partnerships for enhanced Homeland security
- Electronic Crimes Task Force, FBI Task Force Officer, FBI Cyber.

The Centre for Information and National Assurances (CINA) is largely analytic. That is, given a bunch of data, how can we analyze that data and provide answers that help DHS and its partners address various issues?

While data collection is critical, it is only the first step in this process. Analyzing the data, understanding the implications, and using that information to inform strategic and policy-making decisions are equally as critical. That is why, in addition to research, CINA is working with the Federal Law Enforcement Training Centers (FLETC) to survey and interview trafficking victims. The team is collecting and analyzing court cases, assessing federal law enforcement needs, and collaborating with the Federal Law Enforcement Training Centers (FLETC) to survey and interview trafficking victims.

This work has a natural flow from data collection, to analysis, to outcomes and associated problems. It is a continuous cycle of research, analysis, and policy-making.

Ready to offer a student internship experience? Contact CINA-SPI@gsa.gov. If you have any questions, please contact CINA-SPI@gsa.gov.

CINA's Director talks in-depth about how data is the fuel that drives our work, and it is the raw material from which we can better tease out the connections, leads, and evidence to support the investigative and prosecutorial processes? Data is the fuel that drives our work, and it is the raw material from which we can better tease out the connections, leads, and evidence to support the investigative and prosecutorial processes.

In the latest Cybercast, Dr. Allison Redlich, Professor in the Department of Criminology, Law & Society at George Mason University, discusses how the FBI is working on the latest fight on illicit trade. Dr. Redlich provides an overview of the fight against illicit trade by sharing the challenges being faced and the strategies being implemented. She also covers the methods criminals take to obfuscate and hide digital forensic evidence. Dr. Dolliver will also cover the methods criminals take to obfuscate and hide digital forensic evidence. Dr. Dolliver will also cover the methods criminals take to obfuscate and hide digital forensic evidence.