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## THOUGHTS FROM THE DIRECTOR



Jim Jones

### CINA's Policy on Diversity and Inclusion:

Since the U.S. Department of Homeland Security established the CINA Center at George Mason University in 2017, we have worked hand in hand with many Minority Serving Institutions (MSI) to conduct research of consequence, to educate and inform MSI students and faculty, and to develop a diverse and highly capable workforce for DHS. We are proud of that work and honored to be a part of their accomplishments and contributions.

As with any good collaboration, we too have learned and grown from these partnerships, and for that, we are also grateful. We look forward to continuing to be a part of the important work that these scholars, scientists, and engineers are doing. We will continue to highlight their efforts and embrace their future potential as we move toward shared goals of diversity, inclusion, equity, and excellence.

## NEW RESEARCH

### COVID-19 White Paper

The spread of COVID-19 in the winter of 2019 and spring of 2020 and the associated response actions taken by governments, companies, and

individuals represent a significant environmental change for many organisms, including networked criminal organizations.

[Read the full white paper.](#)



## CINA Open RFP 2020-21

CINA is seeking white papers presenting research ideas intended to address questions and challenges that CINA, DHS, and/or its federal partners are currently facing, or are expected to be facing in the near future. This is an open, rolling RFP. Submissions will be accepted at any time during the RFP open period (June 2020 – June 2021). [Check our website for more information.](#)

## NEWS

### Lessons on How Not to Disrupt Crime

Most investigations of transnational criminal networks follow a known group or commodity such as the Italian Camorra, Chinese triads, or rhino or elephant poachers. By having a focus on key actors and commodities, much falls outside the attention of investigators. This fascinating analysis of a global Romanian crime group reveals a gaping hole in our transnational crime investigations. [Read Dr. Louise Shelley's article about how the OCCRP exposes a major transnational crime group.](#)



## CINA NETWORK

### CINA Summer Research Team

Welcome to [Frank Xu](#) of University of Baltimore's School of Criminal Justice and [Duminda Wijesekera](#) of George Mason University's Volgenau School of Engineering to the CINA Summer Research Team.

The program seeks to engage faculty led teams of undergraduate and graduate students, in research that provides opportunities to better understand the mission and research needs of DHS, strengthen the talent pool of scientists and engineers, and conduct collaborative research of mutual interest to the Team, the DHS Center and DHS.

The purpose of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Summer Research Team (SRT) Program is to increase and enhance the scientific leadership at Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs) in research areas that support the mission and goals of DHS.

[Read more about the program.](#)



## 2021 COE Summit

The third COE Summit will occur in May 2021, look out for more information in the coming months. Watch the recap and read more about the 2019 COE Summit [here](#).

Visit our website's [digital archive](#) to view more research and past events hosted by CINA.

You're invited to submit articles, photos, videos, and story ideas to include in upcoming newsletters. Submit your ideas on our [website contact form](#).

### Stay Connected



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