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4400 University Drive

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Contents of this Month's Update

The CINA Center pursues a comprehensive set of programs and activities that are designed to help combat the growing threat of transnational crime. The CINA center pursues three categories of workforce and professional development programs that are designed to equip practitioners, end users, decision makers, and U.S. policy makers in the homeland security enterprise with state-of-the-art knowledge, expertise, methods, tools, and technologies. Each summer, CINA selects faculty and student teams from Minority Serving Institutions (MSI) to partner with our center's research leads to develop projects focused on understanding exactly what the researchers need (and don't need). For example, some data sources are loaded with personal information, but the personal information is not critical to the research and those sources can be safely collected, cleansed, and then shared. In other cases, the collected and possibly cleansed data can't be openly shared but can be shared on a limited basis.

The center is fortunate to have a rich collection of problems thanks to strong relationships with our national partners. So how well does CINA meet these basic needs? Doing research. So how well does CINA meet these basic needs?

Given ethical and privacy concerns, and the relevance of so much open source data, how do we provide data for researchers that is ethically collected, privacy-preserving, accurate, and useful? Answer: by understanding exactly what the researchers need (and don't need). For example, some data sources are loaded with personal information, but the personal information is not critical to the research and those sources can be safely collected, cleansed, and then shared. In other cases, the collected and possibly cleansed data can't be openly shared but can be shared on a limited basis. In other cases, the necessary data just isn't available and must be created. Such solutions require forethought, documented and clear policies and procedures, and alternate data sets that mimics the critical properties of the desired data set), or synthetic data technology - all of which we know how to do. In other cases, the necessary data just isn't available and must be created. Such solutions require forethought, documented and clear policies and procedures, and alternate data sets that mimics the critical properties of the desired data set), or synthetic data technology - all of which we know how to do.

Research using honey bees to solve criminal cases gains national attention

O'Toole, they aim to find whether analyzing the honey produced by bees after feeding on flowers can be a tool to solve criminal cases and locate missing persons. "We found that the honey bees can gather samples from different flower species, and that the presence of certain species in the honey can help identify the location, " said O'Toole. "This is a promising technique that could be used to solve criminal cases and locate missing persons."

CIMA sponsored students participate in DHS CIMA Critical Infrastructure Hackathon

All 2021 CINA Summer Research Teams receive follow on funding from DHS S&T

On February 25-27, 2022, a collaboration of DHS and universities held the CINA-sponsored Critical Infrastructure Hackathon. Winning CINA hackathon team members won $3,000 prize

Research by CINA Summer Teams was featured in Newsweek

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