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THOUGHTS FROM THE DIRECTOR

Mike lawn

The CINA team at George Mason University (GMU) is engaged in an exciting project aimed at combating crime through the use of honey bees and flower petals. The objective is to develop a technique for Crime Event Modeling (CEM), a method of predicting and mitigating crime patterns. This innovative approach leverages the unique ability of honey bees to detect high-density crime areas and the behavior of flower petals to collect information on crime events. By integrating these natural phenomena into a comprehensive system, the CINA team is working to enhance public safety through advanced data-driven strategies.

CINA-sponsored students participate in DHS CINA Critical Infrastructure Network Analysis Summer Research Teams

Each summer, CINA selects faculty and student teams from Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs) to help combat the growing threat of transnational crime. These teams receive funding to conduct research under the guidance of CINA researchers at GMU and other universities. In 2021, CINA's partner teams from The City College of New York, Jackson State University, and the University of North Texas collaborated and conducted their studies at George Mason University's campus in Fairfax, VA. The research focused on identifying and addressing transnational criminal organizations and their activities. The teams received follow-on funds to continue their work.

CINA's Research Portfolio

CINA is dedicated to supporting research that addresses critical needs in the field of criminal investigations and network analysis. The center's mission is 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. The CINA center pursues a comprehensive set of programs and activities that are designed to meet these needs.

Research using honey bees to solve criminal cases and locate missing persons

The CINA center is leading a transdisciplinary research initiative that aims to develop a method for Crime Event Modeling (CEM), a technique for predicting and mitigating crime patterns. This innovative approach leverages the unique ability of honey bees to detect high-density crime areas and the behavior of flower petals to collect information on crime events. By integrating these natural phenomena into a comprehensive system, the CINA team is working to enhance public safety through advanced data-driven strategies.

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WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

The CINA Center offers a comprehensive set of programs and policies that are designed to support the workforce needs of practitioners and subject matter experts. These programs are designed to equip practitioners and end users with state-of-the-art knowledge, expertise, methods, tools, and technologies. The center is committed to helping practitioners develop new skills and knowledge, and to support the development of the next generation of experts.

Distinguished Speaker Series

Marie Tillyer: "Open Source Data and Predictive Modeling for High-Density Crime Areas"

Marie Tillyer, Professor of Criminology & Criminal Justice at the University of Texas at San Antonio, is a leading expert in the field of crime analysis and predictive modeling. Her talk will focus on the use of open source data and predictive modeling techniques to identify and mitigate high-density crime areas. Attendees will gain insights into how these tools can be used to improve public safety and enhance decision-making processes.