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Contents of this Month's Update
Annual report.

about what our team does to help support these functions by reading our most recent CINA activities related to its mission of disabling transnational criminal organizations. Learn more

The CINA Center pursues three categories of workforce and professional development

teams received this funding to further develop their research.

Congratulations to our MSI research partners as this year, all three CINA summer research summer program ends, follow-on funding may be awarded to projects that show superior

University of New York, Jackson State, and the University of North Texas, collaborated and

the DHS mission and its research needs. In 2021, CINA's partner teams from The City

Each summer, CINA selects faculty and student teams from Minority Serving Institutions

funding from DHS S&T

to help combat the growing threat of transnational crime.

The CINA center pursues a comprehensive set of programs and activities that are designed to

CINA's Research Portfolio

flowers can be a tool to solve criminal cases and locate missing persons.

O'Toole, they aim to find whether analyzing the honey produced by bees after feeding on

Mason Forensic Science Program Director and CINA Science Committee member, Mary Ellen

Molecular Medicine

between George Mason University's Honey Bee Initiative,

Newsweek

Research using honey bees to solve

three problem statements.

and the University of the District of Columbia who formed

GMU-MSI affiliated students from the Sul Ross University

Threats to Critical Infrastructure.  CINA solicited interest

learn about and suggest solutions to

On February 25-27, 2022, a collaboration of DHS

Mason student team wins $3,000 prize

participate in DHS COE's Critical

CINA sponsored students

We can provide the data we need for research, but in most cases, we can't provide the

With the right access to the real data. In other words, we can have our cake and eat it too, but we may have

Researchers explore, develop, and test tools and methods on the proxy or synthetic data, then

alternate data set 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

and then shared. In other cases, the collected and possibly cleansed data can't be openly

information is not critical to the research and those sources can be safely collected, cleansed,

example, some data sources are loaded with personal information, but the personal

useful? Answer: by understanding exactly what the researchers need (and don't need). For

we provide data for researchers that is ethically collected, privacy-preserving, accurate, and

Given ethical and privacy concerns, and the relevance of so much open source data, how do

networks from data, and we can't succeed without good data

a critical aspect of what we do - the CINA portfolio is anchored by efforts to discover and model

consideration of the department. But the third leg of that stool - data - is much trickier, and it is

money to do it, and data. Perhaps a bit simplistic, but it really does capture the essence of

to succeed. A colleague recently summed it up as a three-legged stool: problems to solve,

positive impact for DHS. Some of this thinking focuses on our researchers and what they need

time thinking about how we initiate, execute, and communicate research that will have a

positive impact for DHS. Some of this thinking focuses on our researchers and what they need

we need to be focused on how we use our data in helping to impact that research.

The CINA Center pursues eight categories of initiatives: anti-terrorism and counterterrorism

On March 10, 2023, CINA hosted a virtual Distinguished Speaker Series

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

Distinguished Speaker Series

to view research and

Submit your ideas on our website's

News about our research portfolio.

Learn more about the program

Workforce Development Overview

The CINA Center pursues eight categories of initiatives: anti-terrorism and counterterrorism.

Please let us know how we can help.

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