Criminal Investigations and Network Analysis
A DHS CENTER OF EXCELLENCE

GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY

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THOUGHTS FROM THE DIRECTOR

Jim Jones

Organizations form advisory boards for many reasons, and CINA is no exception. The center actually has three boards which serve different but complementary purposes: a Board of Directors which advises on the overall operation of the center with a particular focus on DHS component needs and challenges, a Science Committee which advises on the current and emerging science and technology landscape as it applies to DHS needs and challenges, and a Transition Advisory Board which advises on transition paths and potential for the center research portfolio.

The Transition Advisory Board was formed this Fall and met in full on November 5, 2020. The board consists of professionals with expertise in transitioning technology to DHS, other government entities, and the commercial sector, as well as experts in technology commercialization. The board reviewed four center projects nearing transition-ready status, asked a lot of good and insightful questions, and provided suggestions on DHS components that could benefit from the research products, other government entities with potential interest, and possible industry and commercialization paths.

Our first Transition Advisory Board meeting provided a wealth of ideas, directions, and suggestions, exceeding even our high expectations. The access to expertise and decades of experience which all of our boards provide is fundamental to the center's success. We appreciate the time all of our board members dedicate to guiding the center's work, and we look forward to continuing to work with you all as we develop multidisciplinary approaches to address the disruption of criminal activities across the physical and cyber spaces.

CINA Research Student Awarded Fellowship To Support Research in Disrupting Human Trafficking Networks

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute mathematics student Daniel Kosmas has been awarded a National Institute of Justice Graduate Research Fellowship. The three-year award will support Kosmas' research in disrupting human trafficking networks.

Kosmas is exploring how to model and disrupt human trafficking with a goal of developing quantitative tools to assist criminal justice practitioners in policy making for combatting human trafficking. His work will expand upon network interdiction models to appropriately model the nuances of how trafficking networks operate, and develop new solution methods that account for these nuances.

Learn more about the award

CINA Welcomes 2020-21 Open RFP White Paper Submissions

CINA continues to welcome white paper submissions 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 rolling RFP provides an opportunity for submissions to be accepted at any time during the RFP open period (June 2020 – June 2021). Learn how to submit your proposal.

NEWS

Weisburd Ranked One of the World's Top Criminologists

David Weisburd, CINA Science Committee Member and professor in the Department of Criminology, Law, and Society at George Mason University was recently named one of the world's top criminologists. Read about his academic influence here and his latest interview in Moment Magazine, Should We Rethink the Police?

CINA NETWORK

CINA PI, David Maimon Recognized as Influential IT Educator

EdTech has compiled a list of higher ed IT influencers who are using social and digital media to inform, engage and inspire their colleagues in the higher education field. Below are 30 of the savviest higher education IT leaders, bloggers, podcasters and social media personalities you should follow. If you're on the list, spread the news, and don't forget to grab our influencer images for your social media pages or websites. Read the full article here.

DISTINGUISHED SPEAKER SERIES

Session Recap: "Transaction Laundering and the Facilitation of Cybercrime Through the Online Payment Ecosystem"

Did you miss the last Distinguished Speaker Series? Watch speakers Lilly Richardson and Jenny Mosbacher from Legitscript talk about transaction laundering and cybercrime. View the presentation here.

Event Brief: "Social Outlaws: What Network Data Tells Us About Gangs" with Martin Bouchard

Watch the most recent Distinguished Speaker Series event with Martin Bouchard from Simon Fraser University as he discusses what network data tells us about gangs.

Save the Date: CINA Distinguished Speaker Series - Spring 2021

Save the date for our upcoming Distinguished Speaker Series events. More information regarding event topics will be listed in next month's newsletter.

February 17: Celina Realuyo, Professor of Practice, William J. Perry Center for Hemispheric Defense Studies, The National Defense University

March 17: Diana Dolliver, Associate Professor, Criminology and Criminal Justic, Academic Director, Joint Electronic Crimes Task Force, FBI Task Force Officer, Redstone Arsenal BH Squad 12/Cyber

April 14: Jeffrey Hardy, Director-General, Transnational Alliance to Combat Illicit Trade

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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.

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