The DHS Centers of Excellence SUMMIT program kicked off on July 11-15, 2021, to a completely virtual format, the second in a series of successful (pre-COVID) venues. Over 800 registrants participated, representing 134 institutions, including 62 universities, 100 federal agencies, 75 state and local governments, 25 corporate partners, and 25 industry groups. There was an overwhelming positive response from our university colleagues and industry partners, and the CINA team worked tirelessly for months leading up to the event to coordinate logistics and create content for the two-day event.

As many of you know, the DHS Centers of Excellence have staggered life cycles dating back to 2002, and the CINA Center will soon enter its fifth year of operation. We are proud of our accomplishments of the past, and our high expectations for the future. Thank you to all who supported and attended the Third Virtual DHS COE Summit. We look forward to continuing to collaborate and meet the challenges to come.

Limiting the spread of COVID-19 infections is a priority for everyone, which is why we made the decision to go virtual once again. The speakers and experts will provide an engaging agenda that is customized for attendees and rooted in our center’s research and technology. CINA will work closely with the DHS Office of University Programs, multiple DHS components, our fellow COEs and partners, and our high education partners to ensure the summit had a record number of registrants (over 1,200) including government, law enforcement at all levels, academia, and 65 different industry counterparts.

Students from 51 different colleges and universities. Such an event does not happen without tremendous effort and cooperation across multiple entities, and the COEs worked closely with students to strategize and present about their research and technologies.

For the third time running, the 2021 COE Summit features a dynamic tabletop exercise which simulated a supply disruption due to COVID-19. First Virtual DHS COE Summit Highlights COVID Operational Impact and Research For the first time ever, our students presented their research and technologies in a dynamic tabletop exercise which simulated a supply disruption due to COVID-19. Facilitated by ADAC COE Director Dr. Jeffrey Hardy, MS2A1, CINA nominated students participated in virtual, discussion-based tabletop exercises where they strategized, worked closely with their peers, and successfully engaged in this year’s Student Grand Challenge, a tabletop exercise which simulated a supply disruption due to COVID-19.

Participants in the tabletop exercises included state and local authorities, and industry groups. Help students understand the perspectives and priorities of DHS component agencies, help to link research to policy, and successfully engage in this year’s Student Grand Challenge, a tabletop exercise which simulated a supply disruption due to COVID-19.