THOUGHTS FROM THE DIRECTOR
Jim James
On August 26, 2020, I delivered one of my last Annual Meetings as the Director of the Criminal Investigations and Network Analysis (CINA) Research Center to a virtual audience. The Annual Meeting reflected on the last 12 months during which we helped plan and execute a running virtual conference with over 100 attendees from government, industry, and academics. This was a virtual meeting where we showed up and listened, not a virtual conference where we showed up and talked. It was a virtual conference, in which everyone was welcomed to come in and participate, to increase research project agility and timeliness, continued a multi-year white paper project, and supported three MSI Summer Research Teams, all while managing a director transition and the effects of the pandemic.

My two big takeaways from this last year are (1) the only constant in life is (unexpected) change and (2) professional growth and learning cannot wait on life to change. We are going to get through this, and will go where life changes us into the new organizations we need for the world we need.

We have to demonstrate the value and necessity of research and analysis to government, industry, and our communities. We have to go where we are needed. We cannot wait for others to find us.

It is a time to criticize and a time to reflect. As we reflect on the past year, let us remember this now and plan for the future. This is an open, rolling RFP. Submissions will be accepted at any time. CINA is seeking white papers 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 is an open, rolling RFP. Submissions will be accepted at any time. CINA is seeking white papers 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 is an open, rolling RFP. Submissions will be accepted at any time. CINA is seeking white papers 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 is an open, rolling RFP. Submissions will be accepted at any time. CINA is seeking white papers 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 is an open, rolling RFP. Submissions will be accepted at any time.

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