HIGHLIGHTS

- The National Security Agency (NSA) and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) have designated Sam Houston State University as a National Center of Academic Excellence in Cyber Defense Education (CAE-CDE) through the academic year 2025 for the B.S. Degree in Computer Science, concentration in Information Assurance (IA).
- The CFIC is starting the Digital Forensics Information Intelligence (DFII) Research group for the fall semester.
- Stephen Miller from Eastern New Mexico University will be speaking at the CybeRsecurity EducATion InitiatiVEs (CREATIVE) in Higher Education Environments workshop at HICSS 2021.
The CFIC is actively working with the Department of Computer Science (DCS) to enhance the quality of education provided to our students. SHSU recently received a Center of Academic Excellence in Cyber Defense Education (CAE-CDE) for the B.S. Degree in Computer Science, concentration in Information Assurance (IA) from the National Security Agency (NSA) and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS).

The CAE designation is the first of many planned joint activities for DCS and the CFIC. Several grants are being actively pursued in conjunction with working with industry partners to generate internships for SHSU students. The CFIC and DCS are actively engaged in HICSS 54 this year with the Cyber Operations, Defense and Forensics Mini-track as well as a Cybersecurity Education Initiatives in Higher Education Environment workshop. The DCS and CFIC are continuing collaborative efforts and have launched two new series, the Digital Forensics Information Intelligence (DFII) Research group, and a podcast this fall. Both new series will highlight research and innovative thinking from SHSU students, faculty, and partners. These are exciting times to be apart of the CFIC. If you are interested in participating, please contact the CFIC.
The National Security Agency (NSA) and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) have designated Sam Houston State University as a National Center of Academic Excellence in Cyber Defense Education (CAE-CDE) through the academic year 2025 for the B.S. Degree in Computer Science, concentration in Information Assurance.

This governmental designation conveys the quality of education received by students at SHSU. We are pleased with the recognition that comes with being a Center for Academic Excellence and appreciate all the effort and hard work of our faculty and staff to receive such a prestigious designation from the U.S. Government.

The Department of Computer Science at Sam Houston State University offers a range of degrees and certifications for students and professionals at every stage of your career.

If you want to explore the research and new technologies being investigated at SHSU, please feel free to contact the Cyber Forensics Intelligence Center (CFIC).
Dr. Cooper has been the chair for the Department of Computer Science since January 2003. While being the departmental chair has been one of the highest honors of his career, he is looking forward to returning the faculty ranks for the remainder of his tenure with Sam Houston State University. Dr. Cooper is originally from the United Kingdom and has been educated in both the U.K. and the U.S. He has an M.A. and Ph.D. from the University of Missouri-Columbia (1993). His career experience includes teaching for 13 years in secondary education and 32 years in higher education. During that period, the department has added baccalaureate programs in Software Engineering and Cybersecurity, Master’s programs in Digital Forensics and Information Assurance and Cybersecurity, and a Ph.D. in Digital and Cyber Forensic Science. In his downtime, Dr. Cooper is the President of Sustain Huntsville, a registered non-profit organization whose mission is to provide free, locally grown produce to those in need. Dr. Cooper is stepping down as Chair in August; he remains passionate for seeing the department succeed and plans to stay active in the research aspects of growing the department’s interest in cybersecurity and cyber forensics.
Cyber Operations, Defence and Forensics Mini-track  
In the Software Technology Track

We welcome ideas from people in academia, industry, government, and law enforcement.

Topics of interest include but are not limited to:
- Threat tactics
- Cyber operations,
- Defences and forensics
- Malware analysis
- “Big Data” Investigation
- Device investigations
- Anti-forensics
- Network investigations
- SCADA
- Incident management
- Situational awareness
- Legal Topics

Paper Submissions Deadline  
July 15, 2020 11:59 PM HST

---

CybeRsecurity EducATion InitiatiVEs  
(CREATIVE) in Higher Education Environments

CREATIVE 2021's main objective is to bring together academic scientists, researchers and industry leaders to exchange experiences and research results concerning higher education cybersecurity programs across the United States.

Specific topics of conversation include:
- Identifying challenges
- Identifying opportunities
- Standardizing curriculum
- Identify collaborative funding opportunities

The workshop deliverable is a report that outlines the challenges and opportunities in cybersecurity education.

Join us at HICSS for the CREATIVE Workshop
Stephen Miller will be speaking at the CybeRsecurity EducATion InitiatiVEs (CREATIVE) in Higher Education Environments workshop.

Mr. Miller is currently the Director and a tenured professor for the Cybersecurity Institute – Eastern New Mexico University – Ruidoso Branch Community College, a CAE2Y NSA/DHS designated institution. Mr. Miller has been in the Information Systems Profession since 1966 working in business, government, and education sectors. He has a MS/MIS Managing Computer Technology from Houston Baptist University, BS/Business Services and BIS (Phi Kappa Phi honors) from the University of Houston - Downtown, and AAS/Business Data Processing & Technical Certificate from San Jacinto College.

Mr. Miller is retired from ExxonMobil Global Information Systems where he served in management, supervisory and technical roles over his 27-year career. He considers being a member of the NASA Mission Control on the APOLLO—including APOLLO 13, and Skylab Missions (Communications and Telemetry Systems Analyst) a highlight of his career. Mr. Miller developed the online Computer and Network Security Certification and Degree Programs offered since spring 2011 and is currently creating a Center of Excellence for Cyber and SCADA Forensics Security. Mr. Miller co-authored “Framework for SCADA Cybersecurity” after participating in the NIST Critical Infrastructure Framework workshops. He serves on many cybersecurity grants, committees, boards, and projects like the TACT SUN PATH grant, C5 CAE Mentor Project, NICE Collegiate Co-chair and Project 2 Leader, NCL Ops Team, CyberWatchWest CoPI, InfraGard, Houston Oil & Gas SIG/InfraGard, CoPI NSF CyberCorps Scholarship for Service, Colloquium For Information Systems Security Education (CISSE) Board Member.
Partnerships

Internship Program
Organizations partner with the Center to provide on-site internship experiences to students enrolled in the Department of Computer Science at SHSU to assist in workforce development.

Capstone Project
Provides students with the opportunity to interact with industry while simultaneously introducing them to practical research. These projects are conducted in conjunction with industrial partners at no cost to the organization.

Seminar Presentations
Industrial partners are invited to make presentations during the fall and spring semesters on challenges that they face from cybersecurity, digital forensics, and information assurance perspectives.

*Check the CFIC Web Site for Opportunities*
CONTACT THE CFIC

Cyber Forensics Intelligence Center
1803 Avenue I, AB1 Room 208
P.O. Box 2090
Huntsville, Texas 77341
Phone: 936.294.4768 Fax: 936.294.4312
Email: cfic@shsu.edu

CFIC MISSION

To conduct world-class, leading cyber forensics and security research, provide real-world training solutions, investigate cutting edge cyber forensic investigation resources; promote professional networking; and participate in open data exchanges.

GOALS

To bring together leading industry participants, practitioners, and faculty members from a variety of disciplines to research cyber forensic and digital security topics that are of interest to governmental, commercial and legal communities in order to:

- Deliver innovative, avant-garde, pioneering research expertise in security and forensics that solves real-world problems
- Partner with governmental, commercial, and legal communities to improve workforce education through world-class training programs
- Provide state-of-the-art research facilities, equipment, and training that empowers faculty to pursue substantial research funding
- Deliver to governmental, commercial, and legal communities a collaborative operational and investigative ecosystem for identifying and resolving cyber forensics and security challenges