CFIC@SHSU

Sam Houston State University

Cyber Forensics Intelligence Center Newsletter

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HIGHLIGHTS

- The CFIC is recruiting for the next National Collegiate Cyber Defense Competition. If you are interested in participating as a student or a coach, please contact the CFIC.

- Mr. Andy Bennet with Apollo Information Systems is this month's highlighted CFIC and Computer Science Advisory Board Member.

- If you are interested in internships, be sure to sign up for CFIC News and Opportunities notifications on the CFIC Web site .

- Dr. Min Kyung An is this month's highlighted Department of Computer Science Faculty Member.

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

The continued escalation of malware, ransomware, and general cyber-attacks highlights the need for cybersecurity professionals in today's networked world. In addition, the escalating shortage of qualified cybersecurity professionals in the industry fosters natural collaborations between industry and academia.

Future cybersecurity solutions will consist of combinations of topics such as machine learning, network security, artificial intelligence, neural networks, and hardware solutions that are tailorable to a multitude of environments based on specific organizational needs. Therefore, we invite companies to collaborate with the CFIC and the Department of Computer Science at SHSU to research solutions to your cybersecurity needs and maintain your workforce requirements.

I hope everyone is having a great and successful summer! It is never too early to start thinking about fall participation. If you would like to talk about research opportunities, competitions, and collaboration opportunities, please contact the CFIC.

Advisory Board Highlight:
Andy Bennett

Andy Bennett is a straight-shooting, boot-wearing native Texan who rolls up his sleeves to build business-centric information security solutions. Andy works with Apollo's clients to help them fully understand their risk exposure and create a strategy to mitigate those risks in alignment with the needs and risk appetite unique to their business. From developing a strategic roadmap to reviewing and designing security architectures and how they fit into the broader enterprise, Andy ensures Apollo's clients are able to securely and confidently conduct their business and serve their customers. Andy specializes in incident response and preparedness and can help customers prepare to weather the worst threats cyberspace has to offer.

Andy Bennett has been in Information Technology since 1996 with experience in industries including retail, higher education, banking and finance, Fortune 500 consulting, oil and gas, applied research, law enforcement, and government.

Andy's professional credentials include business continuity and disaster recovery planning (CBCP certified), change management, enterprise architecture, enterprise operations (ITIL certified), cloud migrations, incident preparedness and response, security architecture (on prem, in the cloud and hybrid), regulatory compliance and industry-standard assessments and certifications, vulnerability management, overall security program design management (CISM certified), and teaching security education at SHSU.

Andy's recent achievements include leading the successful response to the August 2019 Ransomware attack in Texas, the implementation of a statewide Identity and Access Management system to deliver IAM, MFA, and SSO to the entire state of Texas as a unified identity solution, and the design, negotiation, and implementation of a multi-billion dollar contract to deliver the next generation of IT and security services to every governmental entity in Texas. Andy also continues to contribute to the security community at large and he took on the role of President of the Capitol of Texas ISSA chapter in February of this year.

Andy Bennett earned a Bachelor of Arts degree and a Masters of Information Assurance and Security from Sam Houston State University. Andy is currently working on his Ph.D. in Learning Technologies from Pepperdine.

Computer Science Faculty Member Highlight: Dr. Min Kyung An

Dr. Min Kyung An joined the Department of Computer Science at Sam Houston State University as an Assistant Professor in September 2013 and then was promoted to an Associate Professor in September 2019. She received her Ph.D. in Computer Science from the University of Texas at Dallas in August 2013, under the supervision of her thesis advisor, Dr. Dung T. Huynh. She received her M.S. in Computer Science from the University of Texas at Arlington in August 2007. During her M.S. studies, she received the Graduate Studies Abroad Program Scholarship funded by the South Korean government.

Her research includes Wireless Sensor and Ad Hoc Networks, Internet of Things (IoTs), Design and Analysis of Approximation Algorithms, Graph Theory, and Program Analysis. She has over 30 peer-reviewed conference/journal publications and also served in the Technical Program Committee (TPC) of several journals and conferences.

Since Fall 2020, she has served as a graduate advisor for the Master's Programs in Computing and Data Science, Digital Forensics, and Information Assurance and Cybersecurity, and also for Graduate Certificate Programs.

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.

*Check the CFIC Web Site for Opportunities

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.

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

Please follow us @

Directions

I-45, Huntsville, TX 77340 to Avenue I, Huntsville, TX 77340

1. Depart I-45, Huntsville, TX 77340
2. Turn East onto US-190 [SR-30] for 1.1 miles.
3. Turn Right(South) onto SR-75 [N. Sam Houston Ave] for 0.4 miles.
4. Turn Left(East) onto 16th St. for 0.2 miles.
5. Turn Right(South) onto Avenue I for 0.1 miles.
6. Arrive Avenue I.

The Cyber Forensics Intelligence Center is located in AB1 Room 208