

October 16, 2007

Subject: The University of Tennessee at Chattanooga Letter of Intent to Apply for CAE Certification

National Security Agency
Attn: Ms. Christine Nickell, I02E
9800 Savage Road, SAB 3
Fort Meade, MD 20755-6744

Dear Ms. Nickell:

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that The University of Tennessee at Chattanooga (UTC) intends to submit an application for an initial certification as a National Center of Academic Excellence (CAE) in Information Assurance Education (IAE). The Center for Information Security and Assurance (CISA) at UTC is housed within the Computer Science and Engineering Department of the College of Engineering and Computer Science.

The University of Tennessee at Chattanooga is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACSCOC). More information and verification of this accreditation can be found at <http://www.utc.edu/About/Accreditation.php> and <http://www.sacscoc.org/searchResults.aspx>. Additionally, the B.S. Computer Science Software Systems concentration and the Scientific Applications concentration are accredited by the Computing Accreditation Commission/ABET (<http://abet.org/schoolstatecac.asp>), the national accrediting agency for computer science programs. We anticipate seeking accreditation of the Information Security and Assurance concentration within the next two years. Verification of the UTC College of Engineering and Computer Science departmental accreditations can be obtained from the Dean of the College of Engineering and Computer Science (423)425-2256 or by contacting the ABET organization at (410)347-7700.

CAE activities at UTC including teaching and research are carried out by a team of three faculty members that include Dr. Li Yang, Ms. Kathy Winters, and Dr. Joseph M. Kizza, Professor of Computer Science and Engineering and Director of the InfoSec Center. Further information about the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga Information Security Center (UTC InfoSec Center) can be found at <http://www.utc.edu/cisa>.

The UTC Department of Computer Science and Engineering has sufficient faculty and resources to run the activities of the center. The Center has carried out and is planning more outreach activities in the security area. These outreach activities included hosting of a NIST/FBI/ISBA workshop and establishing collaboration with Grambling State University (<http://www.Grambling.edu>) in the state of Louisiana, a historically black university. We are also collaborating in CAE and CA-R activities with several other universities, many of them historically black schools. These include Louisiana State University, University of Nevada-Reno, Southern University, Miami University of Ohio, Louisiana Tech and South Carolina State University.

We at UTC are excited about the prospect of becoming a part of this national program, and the contributions we can make through it.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "James R. Cunningham". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent initial "J".

James R. Cunningham, Ph.D., P.E.
Professor and Acting Dean