

News Release



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UW-Platteville Foundation Receives \$7,000 AT&T Award to Support New Cyber Security Course

Specialized Curriculum to Train Students in How to Recognize and Pursue Perpetrators of Cyber Crime

PLATTEVILLE, Monday, January 28, 2013 — The UW-Platteville Foundation was presented with a \$7,000 Innovation & Investment Award from AT&T today to support the development of a new **cyber security program** in the university's Department of Criminal Justice.

Currently, the educational sector in the Tri-State area is not set up to supply the private and public sector with graduates who are educated and trained in cyber security. The new course will provide specialized training to UW-Platteville students on how to recognize and pursue perpetrators of cyber crime, as well as how to help businesses and individuals prevent these crimes.

"We are very proud that UW-Platteville has one of the best Criminal Justice programs in the nation," said UW-Platteville Chancellor Dennis J. Shields. "With this donation from AT&T, we will be able to enhance our program even more by providing critical cyber security training to not only help our graduates prosecute this type of crime, but prevent it in the first place."

In today's digital information age, cyber crimes are a real threat to personal security and to our country's national security. More than 1.5 million people become victims to cyber crime every day around the world, according to the 2012 Norton Cybercrime report. In 2011, victims in Wisconsin, Illinois and Iowa lost a combined \$18.8 million due to cyber crime, according to the FBI's 2011 Internet Crime Report.

UW-Platteville's Department of Criminal Justice is currently developing the cyber security curriculum in consultation with faculty from the School of Engineering and experts from the field. The new course is expected to be available to undergraduate students beginning **spring of 2012**. The university is also developing an online graduate course in cyber security to be taught starting in the spring of 2014.

The course will be designed to educate students on how to recognize cyber criminals and their tactics, identify what evidence should be seized to prosecute cyber criminals, and prepare reports that will hold up in court. Students will also learn what the vulnerabilities are in the public and private sectors, how to identify security concerns and illicit activity, and methods to prevent future attacks.

"Unfortunately, cyber crimes are on the rise in today's connected world – and individuals and businesses need to know what to do to protect their online identities and assets," said State Rep. Travis Tranel (R-Cuba City). "We already have one of the best Criminal Justice Departments in the country at UW-Platteville, and

this new course will help strengthen that program by training students on the ever-increasing threat of cyber crime.”

Long committed to cyber security, AT&T is a leader in helping businesses – large and small – manage the increasingly complex and critically important security of their IT networks and assets. AT&T’s network security solutions rely on three key ingredients: the expertise of its security experts, the scale and reliability of its global IP network, and the innovation and research of AT&T Labs. Through its annual AT&T Cyber Security Conference, the company also gives businesses some of the most powerful weapons available today in the battle against cyber security attacks.

“At AT&T, we are always working to improve and strengthen online security methods through new technologies being developed, as well as products offered to our business customers,” said Jim Jermain, Regional Vice President of External Affairs for AT&T Wisconsin. “We are proud to help UW-Platteville train its students on how to combat cyber security attacks, especially as we encounter increasingly sophisticated cyber criminals.”

The AT&T Wisconsin Innovation & Investment Award program provides funding to organizations and programs that improve the community by: advancing education, enhancing the environment, promoting economic development, or delivering other community services. This is the 12th award under the new program designed to support local organizations that enhance and give back to their communities.

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