The UC Irvine Cybersecurity Policy & Research Institute (CPRI) is a multidisciplinary, collaborative effort among the University’s schools of Information and Computer Sciences, Engineering, Law, Physical Sciences, Social Ecology, Social Sciences and the Division of Continuing Education. CPRI brings a holistic, focus to difficult technology, legal and policy challenges in combatting cyber threats, while working to protect individual privacy and civil liberties. CPRI is supported by more than 80 participants from critical infrastructure-related businesses, law enforcement and government agencies, economic development organizations, and the privacy and civil liberties community.

Mission Statement

CPRI’s mission is to find multidisciplinary legal, policy and technological solutions to combat cyber threats while protecting and enhancing individual privacy and civil liberties.

Research:
The Institute will identify, facilitate, and seek funding for, high-impact, multidisciplinary cybersecurity research projects.

Training and Education:
CPRI is helping to develop cybersecurity-related training and educational programs, including cybersecurity and digital evidence handling training for law enforcement officers.

Community Outreach:
CPRI’s community outreach activities include launching a Cyber Victims Defense Clinic and supporting the development of a cybersecurity curriculum for high-school students.

Policy Analysis & Development:
The Institute also is conducting policy analysis and development on critical cybersecurity-related topics, and will host public conferences and public meetings on emerging issues.

Our growing community of participants includes:

Academia: All relevant UCI components as indicated above;

Government/Law Enforcement: The Los Angeles Police Department, LA County Sheriff’s Department, Orange County Sheriff’s Department, and multiple other federal, state and local law enforcement and other government agencies;

The Privacy & Civil Liberties Community: The Center for Democracy & Technology, the Electronic Frontier Foundation and leading academics in this area;

The Legal Community: The law firms of Alston & Bird, Gibson Dunn, Newmeyer Dillion, & Rutan & Tucker, among other Southern California and national law firms; and

The Business Community: In addition to the Executive Committee members indicated below, CPRI participants include prominent companies in key critical infrastructure sectors, including: aerospace; big data and technology; energy; finance; healthcare; and telecommunications.

Contact

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Institute Governance

CPRI is managed by an Executive Director and overseen by a committee of faculty members and Deans from across UCI, with the advice and counsel of CPRI’s Executive Committee and participants.

The current Executive Director is Bryan Cunningham, a cybersecurity and privacy lawyer who has advised clients on data and critical infrastructure protection and privacy programs. Cunningham served in senior intelligence and law enforcement positions in the United States Government for Administrations of both political parties, most recently as Deputy Legal Adviser to then-National Security Advisor Condoleezza Rice, where he helped develop the first National Strategy to Secure Cyberspace. He also served six years in the Clinton Administration, as a senior CIA officer and federal prosecutor, and has advised police forces on security and privacy-related issues. Cunningham was founding vice-chair of the American Bar Association Cybersecurity Privacy Task Force and served on the National Academy of Sciences Committee on Biodefense Analysis and Countermeasures, the non-partisan Markle Foundation Task Force on National Security, and the Bipartisan Policy Center’s Cybersecurity Task Force. He also is the principal author of legal and ethics chapters in information security textbooks. Cunningham has worked with privacy and civil liberties organizations.

Participants, Subcommittees, and Executive Committee

CPRI seeks a broad and diverse range of expertise and viewpoints and has benefitted from the experience and input of more than 80 participants. A smaller group of participants constitute the CPRI Executive Committee. Executive Committee members:

- Provide financial and other support for CPRI’s work;
- Offer strategic advice to the CPRI Executive Director;
- Act as advocates for CPRI and promote community interest in the institute; and
- Assist in seeking additional members and seeking financial support.

The CPRI Executive Committee currently includes: former Rockwell Chairman Don Beall and experts from [Anthem-Pending], Qualcomm, Rockwell Collins, Verizon, Cylance, The Irvine Company, the Los Angeles Police Department, Gigamon, First American Financial Corp., IBM, Alston & Bird, Avast, the Center for Democracy and Technology, University of California, Irvine, and University of San Francisco, and the Anaheim Union High School District. We invite interested companies and individuals to consider joining CPRI’s Executive Committee. Please contact Bryan Cunningham at: b.cunningham@uci.edu.

CPRI also has established several participant subcommittees, including Law Enforcement, Legal, and Technology & Big Data Subcommittees.

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