



ICWD

Advisory Board

Minutes from virtual meeting held September 30, 2019

On 9/30/19 – The following message was emailed to the advisory board. Prior to this message, conversations with the advisory board were ad hoc around security education events like the SECCDC and on-campus guest speaker presentations. With the development of the ICWD, it is important to increase the formality of the advisory board and increase their input into the curriculum governance process.

Greetings!

You are currently listed as an advisory board member for the Kennesaw State University Center for Information Security Education. We haven't met formally met as a group, but our team has worked with most of you in recent years on Center activities and regarding the IS Department's degree programs.

We are restarting the advisory board and in order to get the ball rolling, I'd like to conduct ongoing virtual advisory discussions by email, beginning with this one. In the future, we will plan for a synchronous meeting hosted on campus with remote access for those who cannot make it in person.

Please respond to me privately with your answers to the following questions:

The Center has now been inactivated. I am now the Executive Director of the Institute for Cybersecurity Workforce Development. The ICWD (cyberinstitute.kennesaw.edu) is responsible for KSU's role and presence in Cybersecurity and also home to the BS degree in Cybersecurity. I will still teach and work on the initiatives that were begun by the Center such as the Cyber Defense competition and the annual conference.

1) Are you willing to continue to serve, now on the advisory board for the ICWD? There will be a scheduled meeting once/year - most likely around May, but you can attend via Video Conferencing if you're not local to the Atlanta area.

2) If you are willing to serve on the advisory board for the ICWD, are you also willing to serve on the advisory board for the Department of Information Systems - the home of the BBA in Information Security and Assurance? We will whenever possible host joint advisory board meetings.

3) If yes to at least one of the above questions, we would welcome your perspective on our security-related degree programs and submit whatever recommendations you have for new topics, courses, etc.

- BS-Cybersecurity (BS-CYBR) http://catalog.kennesaw.edu/preview_program.php?catoid=44&poid=5361
- BBA-Information Security and Assurance (BBA-ISA) http://catalog.kennesaw.edu/preview_program.php?catoid=44&poid=5201

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- BS-Information Technology (BS-IT) with the Information Security and Assurance Track http://catalog.kennesaw.edu/preview_program.php?catoid=44&poid=5272

4) There is some discussion in the academic cyber community for increased coverage of controls and auditing functions (such as CISA & COBIT). Do you think this is worth pursuing in these degrees?

5) What other technical/managerial topics should be considered?

6) The ICWD is considering hosting an annual CISO roundtable - where regional CISOs are invited to share their perspectives on the role of education in developing the Cybersecurity Workforce. Do you feel this is a worthwhile approach? Should it be hosted in collaboration with an organization like the Metro Atlanta ISSA chapter?

7) Any other topic of interest related to Cybersecurity education, please let us know - I'll summarize the responses and resent to the group for additional discussion.

Thank you in advance for your time, and I appreciate your contribution.

Advisory board members receiving and responding to this message, and whether they confirmed intent to continue serving (Yes/No/NR: No Response):

- Martin Fisher – Manager, IT Security, Northside Hospital (YES)
- Katherine Fithen – Director, McKesson (YES)
- Stephen C. Gay – Chief Information Security Officer and Director, Information Security Office, Kennesaw State University (YES)
- Brad MacKenzie - CEO, Clear Skies Security (YES)
- Tim O'Neill - Chief Contributing and Technology Editor (YES)
- Nick Owen - CEO, WikID Systems (Pending)
- Mike Rothman - Analyst and President, Securosis (NO)
- David Rowan - Senior Vice President, Director of Technology Risk and Compliance, SunTrust Banks (Retired)
- Dave Shackelford - Principal Consultant, Voodoo Security (YES)
- Chris Silvers - Principal Consultant, Foundstone (YES)
- Eric Smith - Senior Partner, Principal Security Consultant, Lares Consulting (YES)
- Walter Tong - Cyber Analytic Lead, Georgia Technology Authority (Retired)

New Board members added 10/19:

- Reid Eastburn, President, ISACA Atlanta
- Christopher Cutts, Director of Student Relations, ISSA Atlanta

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Summarized responses to questions 3-7:

3: Recommendations for new topics, courses etc. in existing degree programs:

None at this time

4: Increased coverage of controls and auditing?

Yes. I think a good working knowledge of those controls is crucial out of the gate.

Audit frameworks are auditing frameworks. Once you know one, and how to objectively and accurately measure a system/program against it, then you can use this same knowledge to learn another framework and use it. I think there should be a greater focus on the NIST CSF, as it is comprehensive and the measure to which all federal systems are currently evaluated.

No, I do not think these are worth the effort as they are moving targets and few domestic companies refer to them.

5: Other technical/managerial topics:

This is my passion: I think there should be additional information about leadership, professional management, and the "Process By Which Companies Make Money" education and, where possible, practical labs. Too many young professionals have no idea how this works or what to expect and flounder for too long.

6: CISO Roundtable?

IF the agenda can be tight and well-managed and the CISOs invited reflect the best of what is available then, yes. Otherwise I'd be concerned it would become "just another roundtable". As much as possible I wouldn't tie it to other organizations as their goals, interests, and audience are probably not best aligned.

CISO roundtables can be informative and educational if properly moderated. I think a roundtable on the "role of education in developing the cybersecurity workforce" could be tricky, as the industry has been largely ignoring formal education recently in favor of experience and (to a lesser extent) certifications. While I believe in KSU and the value of a formal cybersecurity education, this is a tough reality that all institutions are facing and something you may want to consider prior to organizing a roundtable.

I suggest anytime we can get students together with the industry from network Teams to CISO or C-level people is great.

7: Other topics?

I hope that we can get more from the technical community engaged with your department, profs and students.

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