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Cybersecurity Education at UMBC: Preparing the Workforce of Today and the Future

Dr. Antonio R. Moreira

Vice Provost for Academic Affairs Professor, Chemical, Biochemical & Environmental Engineering UMBC

moreira@umbc.edu



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Outline

- Cybersecurity curriculum characteristics
- Education and Training Programs at UMBC
- Partnerships
- Final thoughts











UMBC – Institutional Overview

• Founded in 1966

• 44 Major, 41 Minors and 20 Certificate Programs

• Physical and biological sciences, social & behavioral sciences, engineering, mathematics, information technology, humanities, visual & performing arts

• 24 PhD, 38 Master's and 21 Graduate Certificate Programs

 Natural and social sciences, engineering, information technology, public policy, arts and humanities, education, human services and others.

Student Enrollment, Fall 2014 – 13,979

- 11,379 Undergraduates, 2,600 Graduate Students
- Average Freshman GPA: 3.76
- Average SAT Score: 1216
- Minority Enrollment : 42%
- 657 Full-time Faculty
- Research Expenditures FY'14 \$74 M
 - Total Institutional Budget FY'15 \$405 M



Cyber Jobs Demand

• 13,400 Cybersecurity Jobs posted in Baltimore in 2013





Cybersecurity Curriculum

- A competent practitioner needs basic computer science and information systems practices.
 - There are varied expectations about what constitutes a "technical course" and (professional) student qualifications for them.
 - Practical and theoretical preparations needed.
- Programs should focus on context, practice, community, and professionalism to further one's cybersecurity "career" – not just impart "skills" for a series of "jobs".
- Curriculum needs to consider technical, social, policy and business components representing the challenges facing cybersecurity professionals.



Education & Training

- **Traditional degree programs** (bachelor's, master's, doctorate) in computer science, computer engineering, electrical engineering, and information systems with security-related concentrations. A large number of electives in security offered across these fields of study.
- Professional Degree (MPS) and academic certificates in cybersecurity across <u>two</u> campuses.
- Non-credit technical training courses offered by UMBC Training Centers for IT and cyber-professionals.



Undergraduate Cybersecurity (BS)

- Traditional CS/CE/IS degree
- Students can elect an Information Assurance concentration of four (4) security courses to gain cybersecurity exposure.
- Students may apply for a combined BS/MS or BS/MPS program to continue their studies in cybersecurity via continuous enrollment.
- Exploring: Introductory First Year Elective Course and a course in the Social Sciences tailored to cybersecurity students.



Graduate Programs

- Graduate Studies at the MS/PhD Level: graduate courses in computer security, network security, cryptology, coding theory, analytics, privacy, wireless, voting, e-commerce, etc.. Multiple Ph.D. and MS students complete dissertations in the security area every year.
- Graduate Certificate in Cybersecurity Strategy and Policy : non-technical graduate certificate that provides students the essential domain knowledge required to serve in decision-making roles throughout the cybersecurity industry.
- *Masters in Professional Studies: Cybersecurity* –prepares computer science, information systems, and other technical professionals to fill management and leadership roles in cybersecurity-related companies or agencies.
- Courses offered via traditional classroom instruction and via hybrid courses that replace 50% or more of class sessions with asynchronous on-line activities.



Professional Degree (MPS)

- Target audience: current IT/cyber professionals
- Curriculum mixes cybersecurity & professional skills development, technical & non-technical
 - Six Core Courses (18 credits)
 - Introduction to Cybersecurity
 - Cybersecurity Law and Policy
 - Cybersecurity Project
 - Managing Cyber Operations
 - Risk Analysis & Compliance
 - Management, Leadership,
 Communication

- Four Electives (12 credits) among
 - Software Security
 - Cyber Warfare
 - Mobile Device Security
 - Global Cyber Capabilities & Trends
 - Practitioner Development Lab
 - Malware Analysis (CMSC)
 - Reverse Engineering (CYBR/CMSC)

Increasing Enrollment Trends

UMBC's Graduate Cybersecurity Program (MPS)												
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Total Unduplicated Head Count	35	21	87	123	48	148	150	60	174	147	57	161



Cybersecurity Student Experience

• UMBC Cyber Scholars

Undergraduate students receive financial assistance and inclusion in an exclusive scholarship community that includes special on-campus housing, unique courses, mentoring, networking, and the chance to take part in cybersecurity research and internships early in their academic careers.

- Cyber Defense Competition Team
- hackUMBC innovative "hackerspace"







Cyber Scholars and Affiliates

- Fall 2014
 - 93 students total
 - 23 Cyber Scholars
 - 52% women
 - 17% underrepresented minorities
 - 70 Cyber Affiliates
 - 39% women
 - 46% underrepresented minorities



UMBC Training Centers

- The Center for Cybersecurity Training at UMBC Training Centers.
- Variety of programs ranging from entry-level cybersecurity foundations to advanced cyber warrior programs for the military, intelligence and contractors communities.
- Professional certification preparation to meet DoD Directive 8570 (CompTIA Security+, CISSP, etc.).
- Training delivered at UMBC, or at satellite locations in Northeast, MD, Rockville, MD or Tyson's Corner, VA.
- Mobile Cybersecurity Lab available for onsite training.
- UMBC Training Centers has been granted facility security clearance to be eligible for a broad range of training engagements.



Faculty Expertise

- Over 100 security-related research papers published since 2009.
- Over \$12M USD in external research funding.
- MPS adjunct faculty are recognized senior leaders & technical experts in the field.
- Faculty cybersecurity interests are interdisciplinary and found across UMBC's campus/programs.



Industry and Government Partnerships

- Recent cooperative agreements include: – NSA, ARL, USA RDECOM
- Recent research grants from:
 NSF, NIST, DARPA, NSA, ONR and AFOSR.
- Strong corporate support from:
 - Northrop Grumman, SAIC
- Entepreneurship @ BWTech
- UMBC co-directing research @ NCCoE FFRDC



UMBC Cybersecurity Overview





Final Thoughts

- Cyber landscape and cyber threat approaches evolve constantly
- Increased connectivity → Increased access to knowledge → Increased Global Innovation
- Cybersecurity is a highly innovative area → what will the jobs of the future look like?
- Need for information security as a national/international priority



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Any Questions?

Dr. Antonio R. Moreira

Vice Provost for Academic Affairs

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