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Grant to enhance cyber-focused education

By Dawn Pauli, staff writer

Three professors with expertise in cyber security and cyber crime were awarded a \$115,000 grant from the National Science Foundation in its Course, Curriculum, and Laboratory Improvement (CCLI) program.

Huirong Fu, professor, School of Engineering and Computer Science; Xiaodong Deng, professor, School of Business Administration; and Patrick Corbett, professor, criminal law and procedure at Thomas M. Cooley Law School, earned one of 150 CCLI awards, from a pool of 893 proposals.

"This project is unique because it brings together three aspects of cyber crime and security, including the business, technology and legal perspective," said Deng, who has research interests in information assurance and information privacy in electronic transactions. "We can increase awareness of this information as a whole package, provide a broader view, and enhance the understanding of this issue."

The trio will revise and enhance several courses at OU and Cooley Law School by incorporating an integrative approach. The partnership between the three areas will provide more opportunities for students to register for information assurance and security related courses and encourage more students to enter the fields of information assurance and computer security.

"We'll develop education, training, and research programs to satisfy the increased needs of Information Assurance and Security (IAS) in academia, business and government," said Fu, an expert in cyber security and assurance of networks.

The interaction between OU and Cooley is expected to have a synergistic effect on collaborative activities, to promote effective instruction, and to support rapid dissemination and adaptation of successful educational innovations.

Corbett has presented extensively on cyber crime, including to the Michigan Judicial Conference of the State Bar of Michigan.

"Cooley Law School students will definitely benefit from the expertise of Oakland University professors," said Corbett. "Bringing a technical perspective to a law-related course will enhance the law students' ability to understand the need to integrate legal decisions with the help of individuals who have a more advanced technical background."

SUMMARY

Three professors with expertise in cyber security and cyber crime were awarded a \$115,000 grant from the National Science Foundation in its Course, Curriculum, and Laboratory Improvement (CCLI) program.

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