



January 11, 2011

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is a formal declaration of support for the newly established Center for Information Assurance and Security Education at the School of Information Systems and Applied Technologies (CIASE @ ISAT) at Southern Illinois University Carbondale (SIUC). As Interim Director of ISAT, I hereby formally recognize CIASE @ ISAT as an independent entity within the School of Information Systems and Applied Technologies and jointly headed by Associate Professor Belle Woodward and Assistant Professor Tom Imboden. While this formal recognition is proclaimed on January 11, 2011, it should be noted that preparation for and activities associated with the goals and missions of CIASE @ ISAT have been ongoing since May of 2010.

The purpose of the Center for Information Assurance and Security Education at the School of Information Systems and Applied Technologies is to promote information assurance education and practices in Southern Illinois and among students at ISAT. Association with CIASE @ ISAT will provide students with valuable IA education opportunities and the ability to participate in student organizations that focus on information technology and information assurance activities, and promote IA to the greater community.

Stated goals of and benefits to students by the creation of CIASE @ ISAT include:

- Collaboration with industry partners to enhance ISAT information assurance curriculum and courses
- Provide opportunities for undergraduate students to work with faculty on information assurance projects and research
- Create a regional, centralized location for information assurance student internship positions
- Promote information assurance practices within the Southern Illinois region by providing community members access to workshops and courses relating to IA
- Provide assistance in grant writing to secure funding for information assurance research.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ralph F. Tate".

Ralph F. Tate, Interim Director
School of Information Systems and Applied Technologies
Southern Illinois University Carbondale