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on the cover

Maryland is fast becoming an epicenter for the newest (and most critical) of technology fields – information assurance.
In the Santa Clara Valley within the San Francisco Bay Area in northern California, there resides the hub of the technical world - a place that houses more than 200 of the top global high-tech companies employing more than 386,000 highly educated and highly intelligent information and computer technology professionals.

More than 2,000 miles to the east in the Baltimore/Washington Corridor, a second “Silicon Valley” is emerging, one that is decidedly just as high-tech, but a bit more defensive in its practices. Unbeknownst to many of the area’s residents, the information assurance industry within the region is one of its major assets.

Information assurance (IA), the practice of managing risks related to the use, processing, storage, and transmission of information or data and the systems and processes used for those purposes, is a growing field, rising parallel to the unstoppable advances in the technology sector.

While focused dominantly on information in digital form, the full range of IA (sometimes called cyber security) includes digital, analog and physical form data. The practices of IA are increasingly complicated, currently light years ahead of the time when information security was as simple as locking the door of the computer room and placing guards to protect it. High levels of complication require high-level professionals, every bit as educated and intelligent as those entrepreneurs in Silicon Valley.

Why is IA, and IA education, so important? While more confidential and personal data is being transferred to networks and computer systems, more hackers and cyber terrorists are trying to steal that information. Information assurance has become a critical issue for businesses in the current era as they wrestle with the problems of external and internal network attack, cyber terrorism, access control systems and regulatory compliance requirements. Because of this, there is a current and future need for information assurance professionals to support the security needs of the world’s information infrastructure.

“Cyber security touches everything we do – from grocery shopping to banking, to heating our homes and talking on cell phones,” said Governor O’Malley in a recent press release. “With 50,000 new computer viruses emerging every day and hackers becoming increasingly advanced, the need to protect our country, our companies and our families has never been more urgent.”

A recent report released by the Maryland Department of Business and Economic Development, called CyberMaryland, is the first comprehensive inventory of any state’s cyber security assets. The report calls for a partnership involving the federal and state governments, the private sector and academic institutions by establishing a National Center of Excellence for Cyber Security in Maryland. The report also recommends making the cyber security industry in Maryland a focus of state government and marketing the state as the “national epicenter” of cyber security, and points out that Maryland must provide adequate training in its schools to prepare people in math and science skills to qualify them for jobs in the field.
There doesn’t exist a conversation about information assurance in Maryland that does not include a mention of BRAC, or Base Realignment and Closure. BRAC is the process by which the Department of Defense (DoD) has previously used to reorganize its infrastructure to more efficiently and effectively support its forces, increase operational readiness and facilitate new ways of doing business. As a result of the 2005 BRAC decisions, Maryland will become the future home to thousands of our country’s military families, who bring with them numerous national defense and security activities and jobs associated with this expansion.

To support the cyber industry, Maryland also has the nation’s top-rated public school system and is developing an education pipeline to produce highly-skilled workers trained in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM); more than 20 colleges and universities that offer computer science degrees, including six institutions that are certified by the Department of Homeland Security and National Security Agency (NSA) as Centers of Academic Excellence in Information Assurance Education; and is home to the Chesapeake Innovation Center, the nation’s first business accelerator for government innovation, homeland, national and cyber security initiatives.

Already established as a National Center for Academic Excellence in Information Assurance Education, Capitol College is rising to the challenge of advancing STEM and information assurance education. A significant STEM outreach agenda, one that includes K-12 education and awareness programs, supplements bachelor’s and master’s degrees, certification courses, and an upcoming doctor of science degree in information assurance (see page 5). Capitol graduates are routinely employed by local defense contractors and federal agencies alike, such as DoD, NSA, National Institute of Standards and Technology, Lockheed Martin, Science Applications International Corporation, and others.

So as state officials continue working towards the new Maryland, a state that will be home to the nation’s new cyber security command, many a computer genius studying in California dream about working at Google. But many more mid-Atlantic students, such as those here at Capitol College, are now dreaming about defending Google’s data.
Emerging STEM Leaders Program

With funds donated from the Lockheed Martin Foundation and Maryland Space Consortium, Capitol established the Emerging STEM Leaders Program, a partnership with Prince George's Community College. This program encourages community college students to not only earn a bachelor's degree in a STEM field, but to emerge from their education as skilled professionals and innovative leaders in those fields.

Cyber Battle Laboratory

In December 2009, Capitol received one of twelve BRAC Higher Education grants in the amount of $92,992, made available through legislation passed by the Maryland General Assembly (the Higher Education Investment Fund). The BRAC grant supports the initial development of a Cyber Battle Laboratory, expanding the information assurance laboratory capacity on campus (see page 7).

Information Assurance Education

In addition to traditional university degrees such as the master of science in information assurance, the IA field boasts an extensive set of technical and professional certifications, used to indicate specific training or experience in certain IA practices, at many levels.

An important aspect of these certifications is that, unlike university degrees, they are not lifetime credentials. Rather, each certification authority requires continuing education and re-testing in order to retain the credential. The IA and security certification marketplace is crowded and rapidly changing; here is a partial list of currently recognized certifications from the Information Systems Security Association:

- Certified Ethical Hacker
- Certified Information Privacy Professional
- Certified Information Security Manager
- Certified Information Systems Security Professional
- Certified Identity Theft Risk Management Specialist
- RSA Certified Security Professional
- EC-Council Certified Security Analyst
- Global Information Assurance Certification
- International Systems Security Professional Certification Scheme
- Licensed Penetration Tester
- Professional in Critical Infrastructure Protection
- Computer Technology Industry Association (CompTIA)
- Systems Security Certified Practitioner

Although the certification knowledge base is usually updated and renewed on a much faster schedule than is possible with university curricula, Capitol College offers certificates and certification exam preparation focused on keeping all IA professionals current with the education their industry requires. Learn more about the courses and classes offered by the Critical Infrastructures and Cyber Protection Center on page 6.
Cyber security: More than just the technical issues

February 16, 2010 was a typical Tuesday morning for me; I poured a cup of coffee, opened my Washington Post, and read the first lines of print that I saw:

Scene: The White House Situation Room
Event: A massive cyber attack has turned the cell phones and computers of tens of millions of Americans into weapons to shut down the Internet.

My first thoughts were, 'My God, it has finally happened. After years of blatant warnings and foreshadowing, our nation has finally suffered a catastrophic cyber attack.' But then I backtracked to read the title of the article, “War game reveals U.S. lacks cyber-crisis skills.”

Curious about this event, I read a commentary in the Federal Times outlining the February 13 cyber war game conducted in Washington, DC. The article explained how General Michael V. Hayden, the former director of the National Security Agency, created a cyber security crisis scenario and had many former officials reprise roles they had previously performed in federal service, including Jamie Gorelick (former deputy attorney general), General Wald (former deputy commander of United States European Command), and even a former White House Press Secretary.

The war game was conducted as a test to ascertain just how ready our government is in preventing and resolving cyber crises. After the drill, some of the participants concluded that the government, in this case, needed to take action to counter the threat. As an educator, what I find alarming in this outcome is the fact that the participants wanted to implement federal policy which is not currently in effect. In other words, this country’s governing body is not prepared to take on cyber crises at all.

So what does this have to do with the state of information assurance education? Just about everything.

Before technologists can stop a massive cyber hemorrhage, certain key items of governance must be available, agreed upon, and then implemented. Hence, cyber security is full spectrum warfare and, by its very nature, involves governance as well as technological issues. A 2009 report by Booz Allen Hamilton that stated that the U.S. is facing threatening attacks against critical government computer systems that hold secure and confidential data, also mentioned that “previous initiatives and debates, however, have given scant attention to a crucial element in the cyber war - building the capability and caliber of the government’s cyber security workforce.” That emerging workforce must include skilled technologists as well as extremely capable managers and executives (i.e., governance). As in any war, front line troops are just as important as skilled leaders, enabled and empowered to do what is necessary to protect our sovereign cyber networks, be they private or government.

Capitol College is providing full spectrum cyber security readiness for America’s workforce. We offer bachelor’s and master’s degrees with a focus on information assurance/cyber security, with a curriculum that infuses IA training into virtually every other area of available study, and will be enhanced by the introduction of a doctor of science in information assurance (see next page). Those programs, while focused on the technological aspects of information assurance, are infused with crucial leadership preparation scenarios that build the currently undersupplied governing IA workforce. Someday, when the headlines are not about a cyber game, but about a cyber reality, leaders that call themselves Capitol graduates will be there to answer the call to duty.

Dr. W. Vic Maconachy, Vice President for Academic Affairs
What’s up, Doc? Introducing the information assurance doctorate degree

As the national and regional demand for qualified professionals in critical areas of cyber security expands, Capitol College has answered the call for advanced information assurance education by the Obama administration, the expected increase in federal spending on information assurance, and the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) plans currently underway. Each instance has made it evident that advanced education and leadership is critical to the security of our regional businesses and our nation.

As a result of these actions, and in anticipation of a burgeoning career field of cyber and network security, the college announced the addition of a doctor of science (DSc) degree in information assurance to its academic programs (pending MHEC approval), representing a new level of academic excellence in IA education for the institution and the activation of the college’s strategic goal of advancing learning opportunities to the doctoral level.

Part of the School of Business and Information Sciences, the doctoral program will enable professionals from the IA industry to understand and evaluate the scope and impact of systems and technology from institutional, industry and global perspectives. The academic environment provides students with the support they need to develop high-level critical thinking, leadership and technical skills, and to facilitate positive doctorate research experience.

"As a leader in information assurance training and education, and as a National Center of Academic Excellence in Information Assurance Education, the college has strategically expanded academic offerings to include high-level degrees that complement the undergraduate offerings," said Dr. Michael Wood, president. "This doctoral program provides a balance between a strong theoretical foundation, hands-on experience and research, and we hope that it will encourage innovative and practical contributions to the field’s body of knowledge from our students.”

Capitol’s unique geographic proximity to Baltimore and the Washington, DC metropolitan area gives the DSc program a substantial advantage over other doctoral programs in the information assurance arena. Designed as a predominately online program, employed professionals who are seeking advanced education that will allow them to perform as senior leaders, program developers and policy makers in the information assurance field will be tempted to enroll. And, just as Capitol’s graduate programs, the doctoral program takes into consideration the busy nature of working professionals attempting to balance education with life’s other priorities.

“We have over 100 people with graduate degrees in information assurance related disciplines waiting for this doctorate to get under way,” said Dr. Helen Barker, dean of the School of Business and Information Sciences. “We anticipate working government professionals, military service members and veterans, representatives from professional organizations and private industry with a focus on information security, and recent graduates with degrees in computer science, engineering or homeland security to be excited about the prospect of receiving the highest level of education possible.”

When they graduate, doctorate students will be able to conduct research as a foundation for executive action, demonstrate innovation and creativity as it relates to the strategic performance of an agency or organization, and apply a local, national, and global perspective to the decision-making process. With the highest level of IA education, Capitol graduates can expect to be hired into senior leadership positions in industry, government and academia, as they will be well prepared to lead local, national or global organizations in IT-related fields and provide expert guidance for the protection of information assets."
Information assurance is a difficult discipline to keep up with. Although the certification knowledge base is usually updated and renewed on a much faster schedule than is possible with university curricula, the Critical Infrastructures and Cyber Protection Center (CICPC) at Capitol College attempts to address the rapidly changing landscape that is IA certification and knowledge requirements.

The CICPC was established to support students as they navigate the technical and managerial needs of the information assurance workforce, particularly for working professionals or those seeking to enter the IA workforce. CICPC programs provide these lifetime learners with technical skills training, focused professional development, certifications in various specialty areas, and examination review opportunities for individuals and organizations seeking industry-recognized security certifications.

Much of the curriculum is based on Department of Defense Directive 8570.1, or “Information Assurance Training, Certification, and Workforce Management.” This directive provides some guidance for procedures for training, certification, and management based on the requirements of the DoD workforce, originally the leading information assurance professionals in the country.

Directive 8570.1 and its requirements act as a recipe for success for most IA professionals, regardless of their employer. It stipulates that all authorized users of information systems shall be fully qualified, trained and certified to baseline requirements to perform their IA duties.

“The CICPC supports the information assurance community in both the public and private sectors, catering to the needs of all information assurance professionals,” said Ken Crockett, director of the CICPC. “Whether these needs are driven by the Department of Defense Directive 8570.1 or from another federally approved act such as the Federal Information Security Management Act, we are attempting to go above and beyond our part in professionalizing this special workforce.”

The CICPC offers three certification exam preparation courses (CISSP, SSCP and Security+) that together provide complete coverage for the three technical (IAT) and three management (IAM) level certifications required under Directive 8570.1. The classes offer a solid exam review strategy for IA professionals in government and industry. Other certificates and courses are tailored for specific levels of compliance and certification standards.

CICPC program offerings include:

- Industry certification preparation (CISSP, SSCP, Security+, IdM)
- Certification and accreditation certificate tailored for government, DoD, or the commercial sector
- FISMA compliance certificate
- National information assurance training standards certificates
- Digital forensics certificate
- System life cycle security testing and evaluation certificate

All programs are taught by subject matter experts from government and industry, many of whom also serve as faculty in the master of science program in information assurance. As all graduate programs and certificates, CICPC offerings are delivered online through real-time classes recorded for later playback, enabling program participants the ability to review the course material as their schedule permits.
By receiving one of twelve Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) higher education grants in December 2009, Capitol became one of the foremost institutions in Maryland for information assurance education. The majority of the $92,992 grant will support the college’s development of a Cyber Battle Laboratory, expanding the laboratory capacity on campus.

The Cyber Battle Laboratory will provide intensive hands-on laboratory experiences to increase the information assurance knowledge of students enrolled in both undergraduate and graduate degree programs, offering a secure learning environment where various hacker attacks can be simulated, detected, analyzed, and defeated.

As a multiple-audience approach, the lab will increase the number of Capitol graduates who are educated in securing information systems and well-qualified for positions with BRAC agencies. In addition to providing essential hands-on practice for students, the lab will provide much needed STEM awareness outreach to middle and high school students, as well as increase professional development and training options for college partners in IA education, including agencies like NSA and Fort Meade, employers, and corporate partners such as SAIC and Lockheed Martin. The program could potentially involve all full-time faculty and students in the IA program.

“The funds from the BRAC grant are an essential part of moving forward with our information assurance focus,” commented Dr. Michael T. Wood, Capitol College president. “Technology is always moving forward, and the Cyber Battle Lab will not only prepare our students for an evolving workforce, but can also raise the level of skill in the current information assurance workforce and set the standard for laboratory facilities in this critical industry.”

Recently, current students have also taken up the task of helping create aspects of the Cyber Battle Laboratory. Introduction to Internet Applications, a typical web design and HTML class taught by Associate Professor Andrew Mehri, usually involves a small lab project which allows students to showcase their understanding of core concepts. This year’s task: construct the initial design for the Cyber Battle Lab website.

Teams of students representing project management, marketing, art, editing, tools, design and engineering disciplines work together collaboratively to design the initial prototype for the webpages. The exercise increases skills in marketing analysis, project management, and various web tools – groups have to identify the path by which they will complete their end of the project, research more efficient ways to deploy their design, and create structure and architecture reflective of the Cyber Battle Lab’s mission and vision.

“Our students are excited about this group project because it allows them to apply skills they have already learned to a real-life situation with a real outcome,” said Mehri. “They truly feel this project is empowering them to learn. It’s a great opportunity for students from different backgrounds and enrolled in different majors to share their knowledge base with one another.”
In brief

Capitol sponsors FIRST LEGO League team: Mighty Mecha Knights emerge victorious

Against teams with years of experience, rookie team #4002 of the FIRST LEGO League showed their grit. The Mighty Mecha Knights, a team of fifth-grade boys based in Ellicott City, Md., took first place overall in a state qualifying tournament on January 16, 2010 at Liberty High School in Eldersburg, Md. The Mighty Mecha Knights progressed to the Maryland State Championships held at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County campus, on January 30 and took second overall in teamwork and eleventh in robot performance.

“With a serious investment in the advancement of STEM programs regionally, and in the lives of those young students who would one day go on to college to become engineers and technology professionals, Capitol is honored to co-sponsor the Mighty Mecha Knights along with Black & Decker and Alliant Techsystems, Inc.,” said President Michael Wood. “We are also proud to be associated with FIRST’s work in developing the minds of our potential future college students and the country’s future technology leaders.”

InfraGard Maryland Members Alliance, Congressman Sarbanes on campus

Capitol hosted the January 13, 2010 chapter meeting of the InfraGard Maryland Members Alliance, entitled “Protecting America’s Infrastructures Critical for Sustaining Human Life: Public Health, Food/Agriculture, and Emergency Services.” The IMMA welcomed Congressman John Sarbanes to discuss the importance of information assurance in the public health arena. IMMA President Allan Berg, formerly of Capitol College, delivered the welcoming remarks.

“Having the InfraGard Maryland Members Alliance on our campus is always a pleasure,” said Dr. Michael Wood, Capitol College president. “As an organization they are foremost in Maryland in matters of cyber security and have values which are aligned with Capitol’s when it comes to providing education to the future information assurance workforce.”

Hosting FIRST

For the sixth consecutive year, Capitol hosted the Maryland kickoff for the 2010 FIRST Robotics Competition on Saturday, January 9, attended by representatives from 30 teams of high school students from all across the state. The FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) competition is a unique sport of the mind designed to help teenagers discover how interesting and rewarding careers in engineering can be.

Over 200 students and mentors from these teams watched a live worldwide broadcast from FIRST Headquarters in Manchester, N.H. that unveiled the rules of this year’s game, called “Breakaway.”
Teams then picked up their kit of parts that will aid them on their six-week journey designing and building their robots. The tournament will continue through the month of March, culminating in the FIRST Championship held at the Georgia Dome in Atlanta, Ga. in April 2010.

UMUC partners with Capitol College

University of Maryland University College and Capitol College are pleased to announce the institutions have signed a memorandum of understanding to expand educational opportunities for Maryland students pursuing careers in cyber security. This partnership comes in direct response to Maryland Governor Martin O’Malley’s STEM Taskforce, which was established to increase the number of graduates in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

Under the agreement, Capitol students who complete a post-baccalaureate certificate in network protection or security management will be able to transfer those credits into UMUC’s master of science in cyber security. Additionally, UMUC will take advantage of Capitol’s preparatory course for the CISSP certification examination (through the Critical Infrastructures and Cyber Protection Center) by pointing its students to the course as a resource to advance their career.

Foreign relations

In an effort to increase international efforts, representatives from both China and Japan were welcomed to campus in late 2009. Representatives from China’s Shandong University of Science and Technology visited with Capitol leadership with the intention of fostering international cooperation and exchange in education and research. On this visit, the first of many more to come, all representatives signed an agreement that begins the process of negotiation for a future partnership.

Also visiting campus in December was Takaaki Matsuzawa, deputy director of Japan’s Aerospace Exploration Agency, who visited to tour the Space Operations Institute and learn more about the institute’s partnership with NASA Goddard Space Flight Center and the new Center for Space Science Education and Public Outreach.

On Wednesday, March 3, 2010, Capitol welcomed the first of the spring semester’s Innovation and Leadership Institute speakers, Kevin McGuire, vice president of business and technology at the National Telecommunications Cooperative Association. McGuire focused his presentation on the history and future of rural telephony in the United States, including the next technologies having to do with voice, video, and data.

According to McGuire, the history of the telephone is as important as the current marketplace; ten years after Alexander Graham Bell invented the telephone, his patent expired, allowing thousands of small, local telephone companies to spring up before 1900. This “mom and pop” style of business has grown into the monstrosity that is telecommunications today, but with a twist – most people have gone cellular.

“We have more cellular lines in the U.S. than we have ever had with access lines,” says McGuire. “Eighty percent of children ages 11 through 22 have a cell phone. This is kind of scary, since out of the 80 percent, 76 percent are getting their phone from a national company, not a local company.”

Cable and Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP), says McGuire, are the future of telecommunications, and it’s what the remaining small local companies will need to focus on if they want to stay competitive.

Far left: Congressman John Sarbanes addressed IMMA meeting attendees on the importance of information assurance and cyber security in the arena of public health. Below left: Members of a regional FIRST Robotics team pick up their kit of parts after the announcement of this year’s game and rules. Above: ILI speaker Kevin McGuire (center) poses with members of Capitol faculty and staff.
New campus fitness center encourages healthier students

When Capitol's bookstore went virtual in the fall of 2007, students and campus leaders alike debated the future of the empty space left in the student lounge. Thanks to a recent survey sent to students, the answer was overwhelming, and now a new fitness center will be a hot spot on campus.

The development of the fitness center is an endeavor spearheaded by Beyan Johnson, a senior computer engineering major working on campus as the intramural and recreational sports coordinator, with the help of Nina Acree, Fit Club president, and the members of Fit Club. Johnson and his peers will also facilitate a naming process for the space within the next year. Capitol's partner gym, World Gym of Laurel, already provides discounts to students, and is now working with the Office of Student Life to donate used equipment to the new facility.

Travis Anderson, director of student life and residential services, says “This gym is a big step forward in addressing the needs of our students. Capitol is constantly striving to provide our students with quality activities, facilities, and services.”

College withstands biggest snowstorm in a century

With an average of 55 inches of snow this winter, the Baltimore/Washington, DC metropolitan area experienced a record amount for the most snowfall ever in the region, beating out a record set over 100 years ago in 1899. Capitol College did not escape the blizzard of 2010 unscathed, and joined many businesses and schools during the clean-up effort in mid-February after two feet of snow fell in Laurel and surrounding towns.

The vast amounts of snow and ice caused campus to close for six working days, from February 5 through February 12. Even with the campus closed, the graduate online classes continued thanks to Capitol’s online learning system, Capitol Live. The entire college community expresses our thanks to those who worked so very hard during the snow storm to ensure the campus was ready to return to normal operations.

Capitol attends Maryland MESA pre-college fair

Associate Professor Angela Walters, Dr. Michael G. Gibbs, vice president for advancement, and Justin Gronert, a Space Operations Institute student, attended a pre-college career fair sponsored by Maryland MESA in February. The fair was held at the Baltimore Convention Center where Gronert shared with attendees his experiences working on NASA missions and the ways in which SOI has helped him further his educational and career goals.
Looking Ahead

Innovation and Leadership Institute Events

This spring, the ILI welcomes distinguished speakers to campus to share their insights on innovation, entrepreneurship and leadership. Save the date for these upcoming presentations:

Speaker Series

**Wednesday, April 7, 2010**  
Dr. Susana Deustua, AURA Term Scientist, Space Telescope Science Institute (STScI)  
Topic: Hubble Space Telescope

**Wednesday, April 14, 2010**  
Dr. Denise Smith, Office of Public Outreach, Space Telescope Science Institute (STScI)  
Topic: Women in Science

Information Operations Seminar

**Friday, April 30, 2010**  
Dr. Leigh Armistead, Director of Business Development, GbHawk, LLC  
Topic: Information Operations

Commencement

Save the date: On Saturday, **May 15** on the Laurel campus, our graduates will walk across the stage to be awarded with a degree that signifies their hard work and achievements during their Capitol years. Attendance for the day is open, and all friends and alumni of the college are invited to attend. More information available: [www.capitol-college.edu/commencement](http://www.capitol-college.edu/commencement)

Graduate Virtual Open House (and one free credit!)

Graduate students, now is the time to continue your education! Capitol is offering one free credit towards your first enrollment in a master’s degree program when you attend a Virtual Open House. Learn about our programs, speak directly to faculty and deans, ask questions, and most importantly experience first-hand our unique online platform, Capitol Live. Don’t miss these upcoming VOH dates:

- **April 8, 2010** at 7 p.m.
- **June 3, 2010** at 7 p.m.

Register to attend: [www.capitol-college.edu/voh](http://www.capitol-college.edu/voh)

Above: A light dusting on the Capitol College welcome sign was just the beginning of what local media dubbed “Snowmageddon” in February 2010. Below: Justin Gronert, an astronautical engineering major, presents to MESA students and parents on his experiences as an SOI student.
'42 Carl Stierheim, AAS, retired from his career in 1983 and lives with his wife Marie in Vassar, Mich. At the time of his graduation, he and his fellow classmates were in the armed forces and Capitol, or CREI as it was known in 1942, functioned as a training detachment for the signal corps in the U.S. Army.

'59 Perry F. Cannady, AAS, retired from his position as senior engineer at Contel Federal Systems in 1991, after previously retiring from his position at Unisys as a technical marketing consultant. Currently, he is president of the Personal Computer Business User Group in Naples, Fla., where he resides with his wife Kathy. Cannady received his MBA from California Western University in 1982 after graduating from CREI, where he was a member of IEEE.

'62 Gustavo A. Taylhardat, AAS, retired from his career in 2001 and now resides in Margarita, Venezuela with his spouse Alejandrina. While at CREI, Taylhardat was a member of IEEE and graduated from the program of electronic engineering technology.

'64 Jess C. Tidmore, Jr., AAS, retired from his career in 1994. During his time at Capitol, Tidmore was a member of IEEE, the Alpha Chi National Honor Society, and Tau Alpha Pi. He received his master’s degree from New Mexico Highlands University in 1980, and currently resides in Albuquerque, N.Mex. with his wife Jane.

'66 Barry L. Cliff, AAS, currently resides in Montgomery Village, Md. with his wife Kris. He has been the president of AFC Asset Management Services, Inc., for the past 20 years and is also a registered investment advisor. “I was a member of Sigma Beta which was at Capitol College on 16th Street, NW in Washington DC,” says Cliff. “I would like to connect with some of my fellow students from ‘yester year.’”

'73 Michael DerGurahian, BS, received his master’s degree from Union College in 1982 and has worked as an engineering manager at Sun Microsystems, Inc., for the past eight years. He resides in Waterford, N.Y.

'75 Arthur D. Gray, BS, works as a system security engineer at Northrop Grumman Electronic Systems in Linthicum, Md. Certified for Security +, he is working towards certifications in CISSP, Cisco CCNA, CCDA, CCDP, and CCNP. Gray currently resides in Phoenix, Md. with his spouse, Mary Clare.

'03 Robert E. Jackson, MS, has worked as a mechanical engineer for Naval Air Systems Command in Lakehurst, N.J. for 24 years. He is an IEEE Communications member and an acquisition professional, and is currently working to complete his dissertation to earn his PhD from Capella University. Jackson lives in New Castle, Del., with his wife Juliane.

'05 Philip Marechal, MS, a current resident of Mountain View, Calif., works as a TelePresence product manager at Cisco Systems in San Jose, Calif.

'09 Marc Saltysiak, BS, is a junior systems engineer at TRG Networking in Owings Mills, Md. He is a Microsoft Certified Professional and a member of the Alpha Chi National Honor Society. Saltysiak currently resides in Hampstead, Md.


Submit your class note at www.capitol-college.edu under the Alumni section or mail it to Capitol College, Office of Marketing and Communications, 11301 Springfield Road, Laurel, MD 20708.

Each issue of Capitol Chronicle, including class notes, is posted on Capitol College’s website.
To accommodate growing numbers and advancing technology, Capitol welcomed several new members to the faculty and staff this spring, including Sarah Aaron, library manager, Jason Copley, Sarah Aaron, library manager, Jason Copley, and Darren Rogers, database report writer. Adjunct Professor Rodney A. Colton also recently joined Capitol College after serving for more than 20 years in the U.S. Navy as an engineering officer and line officer on Nuclear Submarines. “I’ve worked at many different technology companies and taught at various institutions, but my fondest hope was to someday join the Capitol family because of the “hands-on” philosophy of teaching and learning technology,” says Colton. “I’m looking forward to passing on some of my 40 years of engineering and electronics experience to the next generation.”

Megan Campbell, director of marketing and communications, attended the Baltimore Washington Corridor Chamber’s economic forecast luncheon on December 10, 2009.

Dr. Michael G. Gibbs, vice president for advancement, and Associate Professor Angela Walters gave a presentation regarding the importance of STEM education and the college’s Space Science Education and Public Outreach Center at the American Astronomical Society National Conference in Washington, DC in early January 2010.

Dr. Michael T. Wood, president, and Dr. Michael G. Gibbs, vice president for advancement, represented the college at the Maryland Chamber of Commerce Business Day in Annapolis on January 15, 2010. Wood and Gibbs also participated in the 2010 Technology Council of Maryland Leadership Dinner, which included a presentation by Maryland Governor Martin O’Malley regarding the proposed state budget and the governor’s priorities for 2010 on STEM education and cyber security.

In February, Dean Helen Barker earned her doctorate degree in Management and Leadership from the University of Phoenix. The topic of her dissertation focused on blended distance learning in higher education.