CAPITOL
CHRONICLE

A NEW REALM
Launching esports at Capitol.

AT LONG LAST
Commencement is back at Capitol.

MAKE AN IMPACT
Give students the best possible start.

CAPITOL TECHNOLOGY UNIVERSITY'S BI-ANNUAL PUBLICATION FOR ALUMNI, FACULTY, STAFF, STUDENTS, PARENTS AND FRIENDS.

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

In late August we welcomed our incoming Freshman class – in-person. It is wonderful to have students back on campus after the long shutdown.

Capitol Technology University had no difficulty responding to the shutdown having introduced both synchronous and asynchronous course delivery years before the pandemic hit. Even now, we continue to develop online learning options for all our courses to provide easier access for adult/working students and those overseas.

This is more important than ever. In the wake of the global shutdown, millions of people are reassessing their employment choices. Just as we have in the past, Capitol Tech is responding to their demands with the introduction of new adult education degree courses focused both on the needs of the tech industry and its government partners as well as the interest of the wider public.

For example, in this issue of the Chronicle we interview the first student who will graduate from our Construction, Facilities and Safety program – Angela Okoro. With infrastructure needs a big priority nationwide, we know that many more qualified graduates from Capitol Tech will soon be following Angela into rewarding careers around the country.

As we get ready to roll-out even more industry-relevant degrees this spring, I would like to extend my personal thanks to all those on this year's Honor Roll. Your support of Capitol Technology University is deeply appreciated as we continue to provide multiple opportunities for students of all ages to pursue successful STEM careers in our rapidly changing world.

Bradford L. Sims, PhD
President

05

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Donor Honor Roll

July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021

Capitol Technology University appreciates the support of the following alumni, families, foundations, businesses, and organizations during our last fiscal year. We deeply appreciate your generosity.

President's Society
($5,000 and up)

General Dynamics

Haden A. & Cathy J. Land

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(Gifts up to $99)

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Sherri L. Miller

Rhonda O. Muhammad

Judith A. O'Connor

Jacqueline Ross

John M. Ryan

John M. Schiele

William P. Zoli

Mission Status: Complete

Visions of transforming this space have finally come to fruition. The esports arena features a raised floor, lighting upgrades, and, of course, gaming opportunities.

The space will then transition to the gaming area which will include 25 individual gaming stations with new, upgraded systems to allow for peak team practice and intramural competitions. This area will be flexible, allowing stations to be moved into any configuration possible based on need. The varsity team will compete as the Chargers.
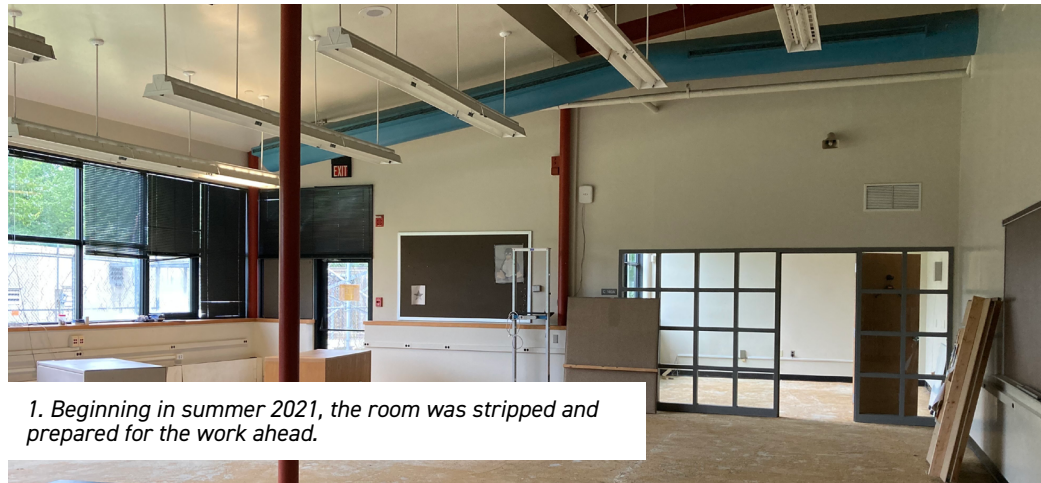
1. Beginning in summer 2021, the room was stripped and prepared for the work ahead.
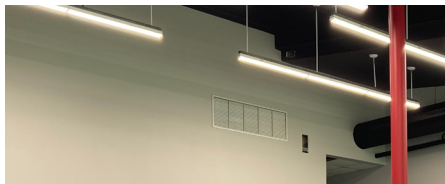
3. Raised flooring, a wheel-chair accesible ramp and carpeting were installed over electric and networking cables
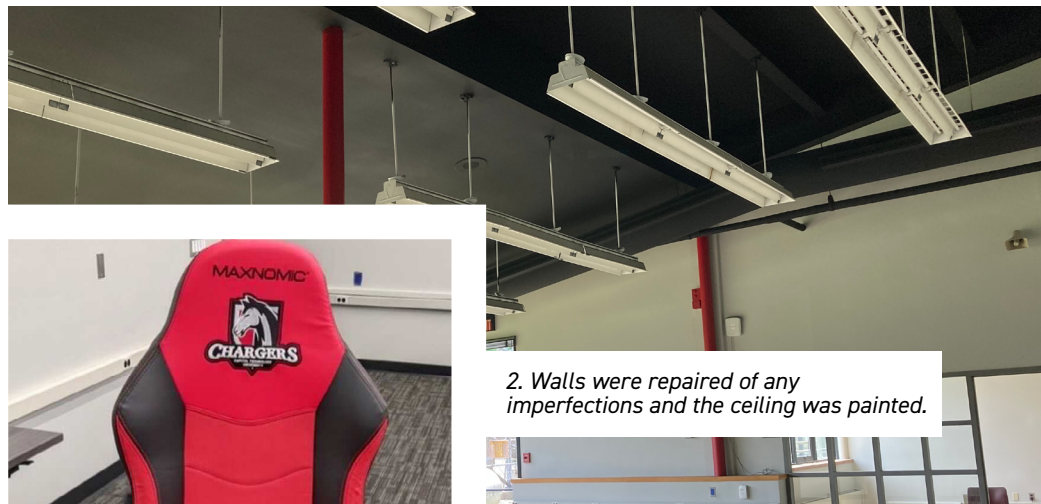
2. Walls were repaired of any imperfections and the ceiling was painted.

5. In custom Chargers gaming chairs, students attend team practices.

4. Tables were built and gaming computers primed for play!

AT LONG LAST!

The Class of 2020 and the class of 2021 are recognized for their achievements

The sound of brass melodies floated through warm, early October air tinged with the scent of mums. Excited guests scurried about, greeting their graduates and helping to make last minute regalia adjustments. The sky was cloudy, but the spirits were bright. Commencement was back at Capitol once again.
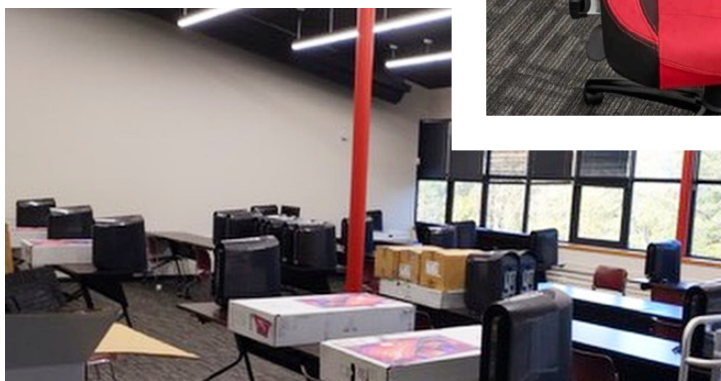
At long last, on Saturday, October 9th, the classes of 2020 and 2021 each had their moment to shine with the first in-person commencement ceremony to grace Capitol's stage since 2019. The ceremony looked a bit different than in previous years,

Thank you so much. It was a great ceremony ... and the entire day was a blessing! ... Thank you all for making it an absolutely great experience!

Doctoral Candidate, Dr. Eric Kareem

but face masks and social distancing didn't break our graduates' stride as they proudly marched on stage to receive the diplomas that were years in the making.

Maryland Senator Douglas J.J. Peters

Guests sat comfortably under a large tent, where they watched in splendor as graduates processed in. The class of 2021 was first at 10am, followed by the class of 2020 at 4pm.

Each class heard opening remarks from President Sims, plus commencement speakers who imparted invaluable wisdom on the soon-to-be alumni. The class of 2021 was addressed by Maryland Senator Douglas J.J. Peters, while the class

of watching several of their distinguished peers receive awards for academics, service, and leadership. In addition, two awards, the Marilyn and Seymour Levinson Memorial Award and the Avrum Gudelsky Memorial Scholarship were presented to deserving honorees. Several faculty members were also recognized for their achievements with the faculty leadership and service awards.

opportunities around campus; the pots of yellow mums, picturesque pond and architectural marvel of the famous Capitol breezeway all made for excellent backdrops.

As the second group of graduates poured in, they were perhaps even more eager than the first, as they had waited since early 2020 for this moment. Teary-eyed family members beamed with excitement watching the students march in, a walk that was over a year in the making.

As we look ahead to spring 2022 when we will celebrate our next class of accomplished STEM innovators, we can hardly wait to do it all again. See you soon!

of 2020 heard from Dr. Sarbari Gupta, CEO of IT firm Electrosoft. Graduates and their families also enjoyed a hearty laugh at Dr. Mitchell Levy, Dean of Academics, as he gleefully shared his own bit of wisdom–get a good job so you can take care of your parents!

Students also had the pleasure

During the lull between the two ceremonies, energy remained high as parents and grandparents leapt from their seats to find their guests of honor. Campus was alive with groups of smiling families posing for photos, purchasing memorabilia, and simply embracing as they relished in the accomplishments of their loved ones. There were many photo

It was apparent the graduates and their guests had a wonderful commencement experience. The tent, the Chesapeake Brass Authority, the AstroTurf pathways, the program pamphlets, the banners and the program leaders carrying them, the check-in and processional lineup process, the grounds, the parking, thankfully the weather, and the welcoming campus environment. The cheers from family members in the crowd and the shouts from the bachelor's degree graduates. And to be hooded a doctor by Dr. Fain. Truly a life milestone for me. Thank you.

Doctoral Candidate, Mark Fearer

Dr. Sarbari Gupta, CEO of IT firm Electrosoft

Student Spotlight Angela Okoro:
Building Her Way to the Top

Angela Okoro, Class of 2022

Angela Okoro, like many other Capitol students, set out on her educational journey early with big aspirations. She began fostering her passion for construction from the moment she developed the interest as a teen, which allowed her to gain a significant amount of experience and crucial industry knowledge before even graduating high school.

Now, as a senior at Capitol Tech, Okoro will be not only the first female student to obtain a degree in Construction Management and Critical Infrastructure, but the first student overall to earn this degree.

Beginning in high school, Okoro joined an extracurricular group called "Project Lead The Way" (PLTW), a STEM club that provides hands-on learning opportunities for preK-12 students. Through PLTW, Okoro was exposed to industry-standard construction practices and building design software. She was instantly captivated, her intrigue growing with each mock project she worked on. After researching the field and learning about the different paths that were available, she knew that this was the area for her.

The combination of generous financial aid paired with a curriculum that hit every area of interest for Okoro was what helped her seal the deal to attend Capitol. "I compared Capitol to other universities saw that Capitol would be the one university to give me exactly what I wanted education-wise so that's why I came here!" she says. Although she initially began as a cybersecurity major in order to gain additional experience in a new area of study, she quickly realized it would be best to follow her true passion and switch to the Construction Management and Critical Infrastructure program. It ended up being the right decision, as her time at the university has afforded her various unique opportunities to help further her career.

In June 2021, Okoro began her

Listen to Angela on Build Your Path's podcast, hosted by Mattew Pyne on youtube.com.

or anyone really, who wants to pursue construction that it's not just all hard labor. It's also having the brains for construction and managing the process. So I definitely want to encourage others to go into construction, it's just as much fun as you can imagine!"

first industry internship with Southway Builders, a Baltimore-based construction firm. Her wealth of knowledge from coursework at Capitol paired with her inquisitive, passionate nature made landing the job a simple and straightforward process. "Getting my first internship with Southway Builders was quite easy. I had done research on different general contractors in Maryland and I liked Southway Builders so I applied through their website. They contacted me within 2 weeks and after several interviews I was given the offer!" she recalls. After her internship concluded, she was able to snag a full-time role as a project administrator at another Baltimore-area firm. Plus, she already has yet another full-time opportunity lined up at Volvo as an Operations Management intern for when she graduates, demonstrating the unique and varied career options available with a Construction Management degree.

Adding to her list of achievements, Okoro was recently featured on the "Build Your Path" podcast, hosted by Matthew Pyne, which tells the

stories of various individuals in the construction industry. "I was invited by Mr. Gary Burke, the chair of my major at Capitol, to come and speak at the National Association of Women in Construction. This was a camp for girls in 7th-12th grade from Baltimore and surrounding areas to learn all about construction and related topics... Later on after that I was contacted by Jennifer Sproul and Matthew Pyne from MCCEI who asked to feature me on a podcast to learn more about how I got into construction, what I'm doing, and how I got to where I am," she explains.

Perhaps the most important part of Okoro's professional journey is the fact that through her love for what she does, she will pave the way for other students, especially women, to follow her footsteps. When she graduates in the spring of 2022, Okoro will be the first graduate of Capitol's Construction Management and Critical Infrastructure program, and she couldn't be more proud. "I feel elated," she gushes, "Because there aren't many women in construction, and I want to use this medium to encourage any female,

The Online Bachelor of Science (BS) in Construction Management and Critical Infrastructure

By working towards an online bachelors degree in Construction Management and Critical Infrastructure like Angela, you'll bring a unique skill set and understanding to your role in the construction industry.

You'll graduate prepared to manage a variety of construction projects, from the field or home office. At the same time, your enhanced IT skills in cybersecurity make you uniquely qualified to handle the nation's critical infrastructure. Protecting physical buildings, industrial plants, transportation – as well as the computer networks that remotely operate these facilities – is crucial to our society and the way we live. Finally, you'll complete an unmanned systems course.

Alumni Feature: Dr. Kellep Charles

Q: What initially brought you to Capitol, and what has kept you here all these years?

A chairperson heard me speak at a presentation back in 2001, and asked me if I'd be interested in teaching a class at what was formerly "Capitol College." It was supposed to just be for one semester, but several semesters passed and I was still there, and my interest piqued the more I learned about the school. So then I decided to go to the next level and get my doctorate. No better place than where I'd been teaching the last couple years!

Q: What kind of support did you receive throughout your journey as an adjunct?

The former network security program chair was the one who asked me to teach. We had a good peer relationship and I felt compelled and honored to take the role. When it comes to public speaking and teaching, I also had a professor as a mentor and he helped guide me to become an educator through challenging me and asking me to explain concepts.

Q: What was your main motivation for getting your doctorate?

I had always wanted to go into academia, and by getting a doctorate, I could live out that dream. I attempted to do this once before to no avail, but recently I had another opportunity and the timing was right so I took it. And now I'm employed as Assistant Professor of Cybersecurity!

Q: What has surprised you most about your new role as Assistant Professor of Cyber at Capitol?

Student engagement. As an adjunct you can interact and engage with students too, but with being an assistant professor they look up to you and ask for more advice, life advice, and it's kind of remarkable that you can have that type of impact on these people. With a doctorate, your opinions are taken "more seriously" and you have to watch what you say because people will take your advice to heart.

Q: What parts of the job are most challenging?

Learning all of the processes and procedures. Since I have experience in the cyber industry, I was comfortable with that setting and understood the rules of corporate America. I've had to learn a whole new industry area with academia. But, since I already had a lot of background at Capitol, that made the transition easier.

Q: Can you discuss the inception of your website, SecurityOrb.com?

This got started as part of teaching at Capitol College. For the first few years, we had faculty websites and I used to create custom slides and documentation for my classes for students to review and access. Other professors would always ask me if it was okay to use this stuff for their sites. After 2-3 years of teaching at Capitol I took a break, so my site was dormant but professors still were interested in it. So after months of answering case by case requests for resources from fellow professors, I decided to restart my own site for sharing news articles, current events, industry news, blogs etc. I use it as a supplement to my teaching for my students. Some of the resources on the site are original works and some are from other academics.

Q: What area of cybersecurity is your favorite?

Security assessment/scanning and forensics are my top areas of interest. My dissertation was about security scanners and I love the subject. Capitol encouraged me to write about something I enjoyed because I'd be working with it a lot. I also enjoyed computer forensics and would like to see that lab eventually brought back.

Q: What is the most unique part of Capitol for you?

The instructors here are really good. The fact that they are industry professionals with different specialties provides an extra something so that students are not only getting textbook information but also practical, industry-standard stuff. The lab envionrment is also great, with our cyber lab, students have the ability to conduct research along with practicing their hacking. There is also a lot of fellowship with events and demonstrations and I witness introverted students watching and learning from their peers to gain the confidence to make moves themselves.

Q: Since this is the cyber program's 20th year, are there any major milestones or signifiers of growth that you've experienced in the program?

When I first started the program was narrow, not catered to the career industry, didn't follow a specific cert track, etc. Now we have professors who are straight from the industry and can teach students hands-on, industry-standard practices that they can take with them to the job field. That transition to a more hands-on learning environment was huge for Capitol, and we're in a really good situation now.

20 YEARS

"*I had always wanted to go into academia, and by getting a doctorate, I could live out that dream.*"
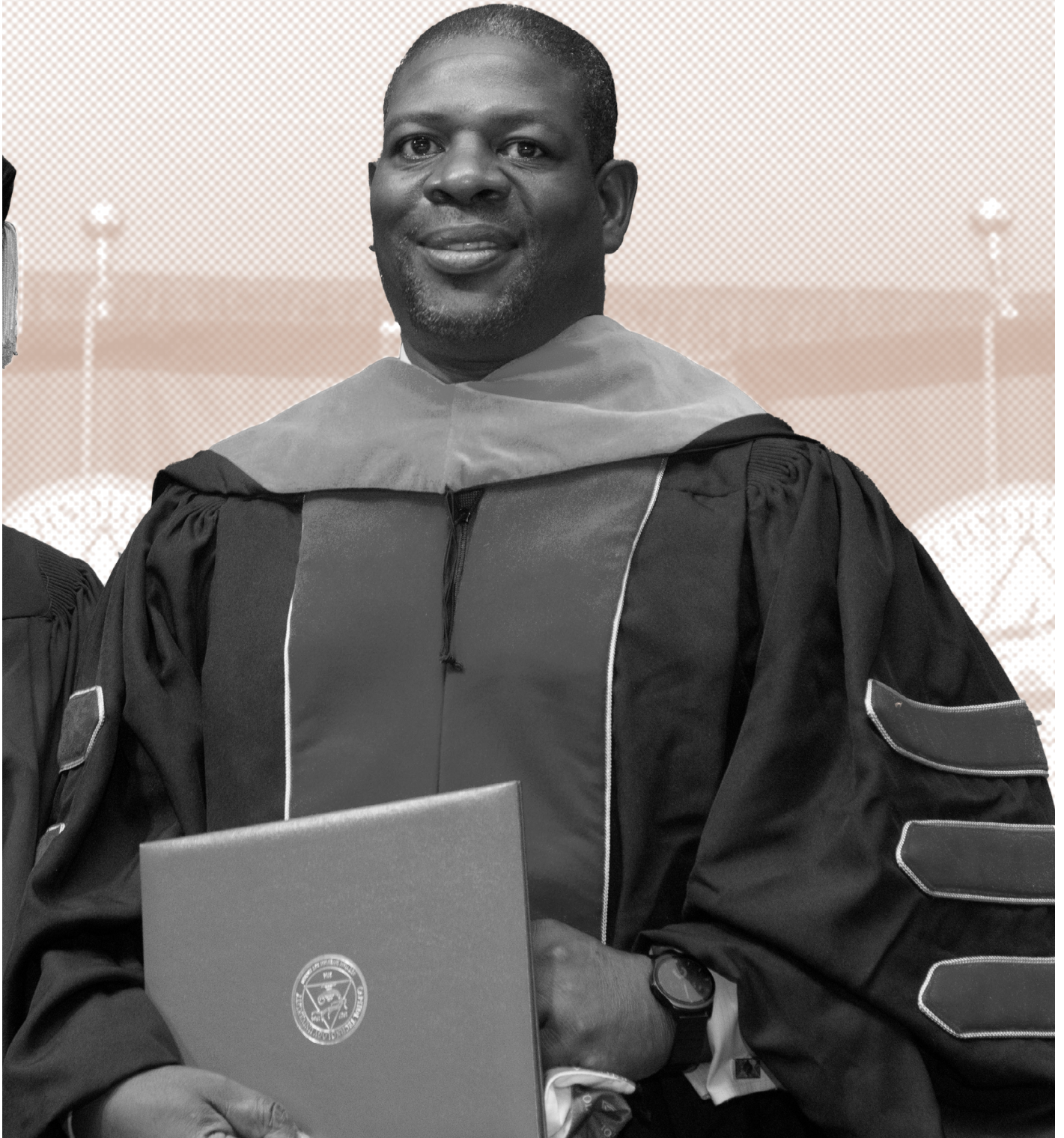
New to Capitol: Master of Research in Cyberpsychology

At Capitol Technology University, we are delighted to share that in Fall 2021 we will be offering a Master's of Research degree in Cyberpsychology. Your master's degree in this fascinating, highly in-demand subject can be completed 100% online from anywhere in the world.

A Master's of Research is a unique degree consisting of 30 credits divided into 5 courses and designed for research-focused professionals who want to explore a specific subject in-depth.This program is open to those with a bachelor's or master's degree who are curious about graduate research in their area of study, as well as PhD holders in Cybersecurity or Psychology who wish to bridge the gap in their knowledge.

So, why cyberpsychology? This new field of study is being recognized worldwide as critical to the protection of nations, companies, and individuals. What makes a person want to be a cyber criminal and how do you identify the traits at an early stage? How do you protect systems from attacks caused by human factors? All of these areas warrant research, and your research can be specific, general, or balanced between these. Research helps cyber experts and psychologists to merge their skillsets and advance the subject.

In this degree program, you will study the principles, ethics, planning, and research fundamentals in the first two courses. The final three courses will be where you develop, plan, undertake and present a major research problem under the guidance of a research committee. Your thesis will be the completion of 18 credit hours of directed research.

This exciting degree is unique in that no other Master's of Research in Cyberpsychology currently exists in the United States. Not only will you receive a master's degree specific to your research interests, but you will also have the opportunity to advance in this field, as this program directly leads into several PhD options. Cyberpsychology department chair, Dr. Mary Aiken, is the world leader and recognized research expert needed to champion the subject, and she is thrilled for this program that began in Fall 2021.

Faculty Profile: Dr. Mary Aiken

Dr. Mary Aiken serves as Chair and Professor of the Cyberpsychology Department. She holds a Ph.D. in Forensic Cyberpsychology. Professor Mary Aiken is a world leading expert in Cyberpsychology – the study of the impact of technology on human behaviour and is a Professor of Forensic Cyberpsychology in the Department of Law and Criminology at the University of East London. Dr. Aiken is a member of INTERPOL's Global Cybercrime Expert Group and an Academic Advisor to Europol's European Cybercrime Centre (EC3). She is a Fellow of The Royal Society of Medicine, Global Fellow at the Washington DC Wilson Center, a member of the Medico-Legal Society, an International Affiliate Member of the American Psychological Association (APA) and a Fellow of the Society for Chartered IT Professionals.

Doctor Mary Aiken is a Professor and Chairwoman of the Department of Cyberpsychology at Capitol Technology University. Her work as a Cyberpsychologist inspired the CBS primetime show CSI: Cyber, and she is currently appearing in the new HBOMax documentary "15 Minutes of Shame," which explores cyberpsychological aspects of online trolling and cancel culture.

With the brand-new Master of Research (M.Res.) now available at Capitol Tech, I got in contact with her for a Q and A

style degree spotlight to discuss all the opportunities this online degree has to offer.

Q: Tell me a little about yourself. How did you come to get into cyberpsychology and work for Capitol Tech?

I first studied psychology in the 80's prior to technology and the Internet as we know it now. I worked for a number of years in consumer behavioral profiling in the Marketing and Advertising Services Sector, and first came across AI in the 90's in the form of a Chatbot "Jabber Wacky," developed by a colleague of mine. I was captivated by this stunning new technology and quickly realized that nothing in my training at that point equipped me to understand the impact of these powerful and pervasive innovations. I decided to return to academia and undertake a Masters of Science in Cyberpsychology and a PhD in Forensic Cyberpsychology. I have worked for many years in research

at an international level, as an expert advisor to Industry, Governments and to global law enforcement agencies such as Europol and INTERPOL. I was introduced to Capitol Tech by my good friend and colleague Diane Janosek, NSA Training Director/Commandant of the National Cryptologic School.

Q: What exactly is cyberpsychology?

Cyberpsychology is the study of the impact of technology on human behavior. My specialist area is Forensic Cyberpsychology which focuses on the study of Criminal, Deviant and Abnormal behavior online.

Q: What will the new Master of Research in Cyberpsychology at Capitol entail, such as classes and opportunities?

The Master of Research (M.Res.) in Cyberpsychology degree is a unique program designed to meet the long-standing needs of disseminating research skills to those dealing with

and working at the interface between humans and technology. It is a new and essential area attracting the need for research combining two fields of study: human behavior and technology. The M.Res. in Cyberpsychology program is designed as a degree of research primarily, where students will quickly become able to engage in leadership, research, and publishing. It is aimed at those that may want to explore research studies before starting a Doctorate by research. Likewise, those that work in research and want a master's qualification but in a subject specific to their work.

Q: How long has planning for this degree been in the works? What sparked the inspiration to create this M.Res.?

For many years I have been searching for an opportunity to develop an online Masters and Doctoral program in Cyberpsychology. I am delighted that with the help of Cap Tech Dean Ian McAndrew and President Brad Sims that we are now the first University worldwide in a position to offer both of these higher degrees online—an incredible outcome in terms of global accessibility.

Q: What careers could one be able to gain with an M.Res. or PhD in Cyberpsychology?

Graduates are likely to find employment or promotion opportunities across a wide range of sectors including but not limited to industry, the technology sector, cybersecurity, infosec, financial services, education, e-commerce, healthcare, government, law enforcement, military and academia.

Looking for Ways to make an Impact?

There are many ways you can help Capitol Tech give students the best possible start to their career. However you choose to support the university - through a direct gift, tribute gift, or leaving a bequest in your will – you will be making a real difference to the university and in the lives of our students.

Honor or Memorial Gifts

Remember and/or honor loved ones by supporting Capitol Tech. Each honoree or next of kin will receive a personalized card letting them know of your thoughtful gift.

Make a tribute gift at,
www.captechu.edu/tribute

Gift of Securities

You may choose to support Capitol Tech by donating gifts of stock or appreciated securities. In addition to providing Capitol Tech with vital financial support, you can save on capital gains taxation on your appreciated securities.

For further information contact,
Melinda Bunnell-Rhyne
mabunnell-rhyne@captechu.edu

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For more information contact
Jacky Wershbale
jwershbale@captechu.edu

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Many of our region's employers participate in a matching gift program so your company will match the contributions that you donate to Capitol Tech.

Ask your Human Resources department for details.

Shop on AmazonSmile

It's the same Amazon.com you know – same products, same prices – and 0.5% of each purchase price is donated back to Capitol Tech.

*Go to **smile.amazon.com** and click Get Started to start supporting Capitol Tech.*

Leave a Legacy

With your continued support, we can ensure the best education for students for years to come.

Discover the charitable gift that's right for you by contactingJacky Wershbale at
jwershbale@captechu.edu

Make a direct gift at: *www.captechu.edu/support*

Looking Ahead:
Capitol Events

CAP TECH
TALKS ▶

Expand your mind with Cap Tech Talks—webinars presented by faculty, alumni, and special guests. Each presenter is an expert in their field. All sessions are free and are one hour long. Each session offers a Certificate of Completion.

Please join us for sessions below from noon to 1 pm (Eastern) **!**
www.captechu.edu/webinar-series/cap-tech-talks

Thursday, November 18, 2021
Maximizing Your Transfer Credit and Apprenticeship Experience to Complete a Degree
Presented By Dr. Bradford Sims

Thursday, January 20, 2022
Building Relationships to Mitigate Cyber Risk in Aviation
Presented By Steve Luczynski

Thursday, March 17, 2022
Infrastructure: Critical Challenges and Differences between the Private and Public Sectors
Presented By Dr. Nikki Robinson

Thursday, April 14, 2022
The Importance of Skills Identification and Communication in Writing a Resume
Presented By Connie Harrington, JCTC, JCDC

Thursday, May 19, 2022
Tips for Future Career Success in Technology
Presented By Vennard Wright

Upcoming Events

DECEMBER 12
Master's Virtual Info Session, 1 pm
Doctoral Virtual Info Session, 3 pm

JANUARY 9
Master's Virtual Info Session, 1 pm
Doctoral Virtual Info Session, 3 pm

FEBRUARY 5
Cyber Saturday, 9:30 am - 4 pm

FEBRUARY 13
Master's Virtual Info Session, 1 pm
Doctoral Virtual Info Session, 3 pm

FEBRUARY 18
Career Day, 11 am – 3 pm

FEBRUARY 25
Employment Fair, 10 am – 2 pm

DATE TBD
Spring Golf Tournament