

# CBTS Virtual Annual Meeting

## May 25, 2021, 9:00am – 3:30pm Eastern

Research and workforce development to counter biological threats and hazards to people, agriculture, and the economy.

**Registration Link: [Annual Meeting](#)**

The Cross-Border Threat Screening and Supply Chain Defense Center of Excellence will host its annual meeting virtually to update the Homeland Security Enterprise on research and workforce development project progress. This forum will allow our researchers to connect with DHS customers and stakeholders and members of the COE network, as we support DHS with development of knowledge products, capabilities and other solutions.



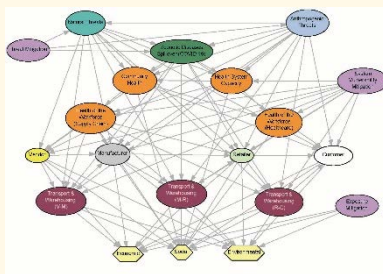
**Workforce & Professional Development**



**CBTS Operations**



**Innovative Technologies & Detection Research**



**Risk Assessment**



**Supply Chain Defense and COVID-19 Research**



Please contact [cbts@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:cbts@ag.tamu.edu) with any questions



## **AGENDA**

*All times in Eastern time zone*

9:00 – 9:20 a.m.

### **Welcome and Center Introductions**

*Greg Pompelli, PhD – Director*

*Heather Manley Lillibridge, PhD – Executive Director*

*Matt Cochran, DVM, MIA – Research Director*

*Jenny Ligon – Education Director*

*Chris Scarmardo – Program Manager, Associate Finance Director*

9:20 – 9:30 a.m.

### **Keynote**

*Rebecca Medina, Director –*

*Office of University Programs, Science and Technology*

*Directorate, Department of Homeland Security*

9:30 – 10:00 a.m.

### **CBTS: Operations and Overview**

*Greg Pompelli – Overview*

*Heather Manley Lillibridge – Operations*

*Jenny Ligon – Workforce Development*

*Matt Cochran – Research Programs*

*Chris Scarmardo – Project Management and Financial Reporting*

*Group - Communications and Outreach*

10:00 – 10:15 a.m.

### **Break**

10:15 – 10:50 a.m.

### **Workforce and Professional Development**

1) *Comprehensive Curriculum Gap Analysis and Needs Assessment WP (WF1) – Jenny Ligon and TBD*

2) *Animal and Plant Disease Epidemiology 101 and 102 Courses for CBP and general public (WF5) – Jenny Ligon and TBD*

3) *Additional Workforce Development Activities – Jenny Ligon*

- *CBP Biological Workshop (April 13-14, 2021)*

- *Minority Serving Institutions – Summer Research Teams*

4) *Project Champion Comments and Group Discussion*

*Paul Baker, PhD (OTD) and Romel Lapitan, PhD (APTL)*

10:50 – 11:05 a.m.

### **Detection Research**

1) *A low-cost method using dogs to detect contraband in shipping containers (R2)*

- 11:05 – 11:20 a.m. *University of Washington – Sam Wasser, PhD*  
2) ***Pre-symptomatic Detection of Illness (R1)***  
*Predigen and Biomeme team – Ephraim Tsalik, MD, PhD and Paul Mitis, PhD*
- 11:20 – 11:35 a.m. 3) ***Border Health Threats – Gap Analysis Workshop Proposal (R15)*** *CBTS and the Scowcroft Institute (Texas A&M University, George Bush School of Public Policy) – Christy Blackburn, PhD*
- 11:35 – 11:45 a.m. 4) ***Project Champion Comments and Group Discussion***  
*Elliott Harbin (HSI), Lloyd Hough, PhD (S&T), and Alexander Eastman, MD, MPH, FACS, FAEMS (CWMD)*
- 11:45 a.m. –12:15 p.m. **Lunch Break**
- Innovation Research**
- 12:15 – 12:30 p.m. 1) ***A Permissioned Blockchain Testbed for Tuna Tracking (R3)***  
*Texas A&M (TAMU), College of Engineering – Steve Liu, PhD*
- 12:30 – 12:45 p.m. 2) ***Development of a Truck Border Crossing Delays and Disruptions Economic Impact Assessment Model (R5)***  
*Texas A&M Transportation Institute (TTI) – Juan Villa*
- 12:45 – 12:55 p.m. 3) ***Project Champion Comments and Group Discussion***  
*Jeff Nii (OT) and Vinny Annunziato (BTID)*
- 12:55 –1:10 p.m. **Break**
- Supply Chain Defense and COVID-19 Research**
- 1:10 – 1:25 p.m. 1) ***COVID-19 Impacts on U.S. Ag Commodity Market and Trade (R10)***  
*University of Missouri – Food and Agricultural Policy Research Institute (FAPRI) – Pat Westhoff, PhD and team*
- 1:25 – 1:40 p.m. 2) ***COVID Pre-Harvest Supply Chain COVID-19/Biothreat Disruption Detection & Decision Support (R12)***  
*Anneal Initiative, Inc. – Jeremy Jackson and Amy Billinger*
- 1:40 – 1:55 p.m. 3) ***COVID-19 – Rise of Global Supply Chains, Networks, and the Risk of Interruptions Looking Forward Past COVID19 (R8)***  
*National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER) – Jim Poterba, PhD and team*
- 1:55 – 2:05 p.m. 4) ***Project Champion Comments and Group Discussion***  
*Alexander Eastman (CWMD) and Tony Cheesebrough (CISA)*

- 2:05 – 2:20 p.m.      **Bayesian Statistics and Risk Analysis**  
1) ***COVID-19 Risk Scenarios Models Posed by COVID19 and Converging Threats on the U.S. Trade Supply Chain Infrastructure (R7)***  
*Texas A&M University (TAMU) – College of Engineering – Zenon Medina-Cetina, PhD*
- 2:20 – 2:35 p.m.      2) ***COVID 19 U.S.: Mexico Risk Taskforce to Support the Health Supply Chain Systems for Infrastructure and Workforce Threatened by the COVID-19 Pandemic (R13)***  
*Texas A&M University – College of Engineering - Zenon Medina-Cetina*
- 2:35 – 2:45 p.m.      3) ***Project Champion Comments and Group Discussion***  
*Alexander Eastman (CWMD)*
- 2:45 – 3:00 p.m.      **Year 3 Requests for Proposal Projects**  
1) ***CBTS-CBP-APTL Artificial Intelligence (AI) Project Development – Chris Scarmardo***  
2) ***Substandard, Fraudulent, and Counterfeit Illegal Medical Supplies; Opportunities to Near-/On-Shore High-Risk Pharmaceuticals and Critical Medical Supplies – Heather Manley Lillibridge***
- 3:00 – 3:20 p.m.      **Defining CBTS Research and Workforce Portfolios**  
*Greg Pompelli, Heather Manley Lillibridge, Jenny Ligon, Matt Cochran, and Chris Scarmardo*
- 3:20 – 3:30 p.m.      **Closing**  
*Greg Pompelli*