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.

Please contact 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)

Detection Research
10:50 – 11:05 a.m. 1) A low-cost method using dogs to detect contraband in shipping containers (R2)
University of Washington – Sam Wasser, PhD

11:05 – 11:20 a.m. 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)
Bayesian Statistics and Risk Analysis

2:05 – 2:20 p.m.  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