

UW-PLATTEVILLE FOUNDATION RECEIVES \$7,000 AT&T AWARD TO ENHANCE CYBER SECURITY COURSE AND DEVELOP NEW ONLINE GRADUATE COURSE

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Left-right: Dr. Thomas Caywood, chair of the UW-Platteville Criminal Justice Department; State Rep. Travis Tranel; Jim Jermain, regional vice president of external affairs for AT&T Wisconsin; Dr. Sabina Burton, criminal justice professor; Ronald Jacobus III, student assistant to Burton and Mittie N. Den Herder, provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs.

PLATTEVILLE, Wis. — The [University of Wisconsin-Platteville Foundation](#) was presented with a \$7,000 Innovation and Investment Award from AT&T to enhance its cyber security course and develop a new online graduate course in cyber security in [UW-Platteville's Department of Criminal Justice](#).

The AT&T donation will help enhance UW-Platteville's undergraduate Cyber Crime course through new books, teaching tools and research projects. The class provides specialized information to students on how to recognize and pursue perpetrators of cyber crime, as well as how to help prevent these crimes. The award will also help the university develop a new online graduate course in cyber security that is expected to be available in the spring of 2014.

"We are very proud that UW-Platteville has one of the best criminal justice and forensic investigation programs in the nation," said UW-Platteville Chancellor Dennis J. Shields. "With this donation from AT&T, we will be able to enhance our students' educational experiences even more by providing this additional training."

In today's digital information age, cyber crimes are a threat to personal security and to the country's national security. More than 1.5 million people become victims to cyber crime every day around the world, according to the 2012 Norton Cybercrime Report. In 2011, victims in Wisconsin, Illinois and Iowa lost a combined \$18.8 million due to cyber crime, according to the FBI's 2011 Internet Crime Report.

UW-Platteville's Cyber Crime class is designed to educate students on how to recognize cyber criminals and their tactics, identify what evidence should be seized to prosecute cyber criminals and prepare reports that will hold up in court. Students also learn what the vulnerabilities are in the public and private sectors, how to identify security concerns and illicit activity, and methods to prevent future attacks.

"Unfortunately, cyber crimes are on the rise in today's connected world, and individuals and businesses need to know how to protect their online identities and assets," said State Rep. Travis Tranel (R-Cuba City). "We already have one of the best criminal justice departments in the country at UW-Platteville, and this AT&T donation will help to strengthen that program by enhancing student training on the ever-increasing threat of cyber crime."

Long committed to cyber security, AT&T is a leader in helping businesses - large and small - manage the increasingly complex and critically important security of their information technology networks and assets. AT&T's network security solutions rely on three key ingredients: the expertise of its security experts, the scale and reliability of its global Internet protocol network, and the innovation and research of AT&T Labs. Through its annual AT&T Cyber Security Conference, the company also gives businesses some of the most powerful weapons available in the battle against cyber security attacks.

"At AT&T, we are always working to improve and strengthen online security methods through new technologies being developed, as well as products offered to our business customers," said Jim Jermain, regional vice president of external affairs for AT&T Wisconsin. "We are proud to help UW-Platteville train its students on how to combat cyber security attacks, especially as we encounter increasingly sophisticated cyber criminals."

The AT&T Wisconsin Innovation and Investment Award program provides funding to organizations and programs that improve the community by advancing education, enhancing the environment, promoting economic development or delivering other community services. This is the 12th award under the new program designed to support local organizations that enhance and give back to their communities.

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