



THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT DALLAS

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News Release

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Information Security Expert to Head UTD's CyberSecurity Research Center

New Director Brings Academic, Industry, Government Experience

RICHARDSON, Texas (Dec. 2, 2004) — Dr. Bhavani Thuraisingham, a leading expert in information security, has joined The University of Texas at Dallas (UTD) as director of the CyberSecurity Research Center and a professor of computer science in the university's Erik Jonsson School of Engineering and Computer Science.

Part of U. T. Dallas' CyberSecurity and Emergency Preparedness Institute, the CyberSecurity Research Center conducts research in all aspects of information security and works to develop techniques to prevent, detect and solve cybercrime.



Dr. Bhavani Thuraisingham

Thuraisingham said she will utilize her academic, industry and government experience in her new position and will look to UTD's "strong faculty and top-quality computer science students" to help her lead the center.

"I plan to take advantage of all UTD has to offer in order to create one of the premier cyber security research centers in the nation," Thuraisingham said.

In addition to directing the center, Thuraisingham will teach courses and supervise research students in data and applications security at the university.

"Bhavani's more than 24 years' experience in the computer industry, coupled with her interest in homeland security and her work in counter-terrorism data mining, will be an asset to UTD's work in the cyber security area," said Dr. E. Douglas Harris, associate dean of the Jonsson School and executive director of UTD's CyberSecurity and Emergency Preparedness Institute. "We are very pleased and fortunate to have Dr. Thuraisingham join us.

Thuraisingham is a fellow of the Institute for Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) and the American Association for the Advancement of Science. In 1997, she received the IEEE Computer Society's prestigious technical achievement award for "outstanding and innovative contributions to secure data management" and was listed by *Silicon India Magazine* as one of the top seven technology innovators of South Asian origin living in the United States.

Her research in cyber security and information management has resulted in more than 60 journal articles, 200 refereed conference papers, seven books and three U.S. patents. She has given more than 25 keynote presentations at various research conferences and has spoken at the White House's Office of Science and Technology Policy and at the United Nations about data mining for counter-terrorism. She has served on panels at the Air Force Scientific Advisory Board and the National Academy of Sciences, and currently serves on the advisory board of the computer science department at Purdue University. She also serves or has served on editorial boards of several top research journals.

Prior to joining UTD, Thuraisingham worked with the National Science Foundation (NSF), where she established the data and applications security program and co-founded the cyber-trust theme. She also directed information management research for the NSF. Before that, she worked at MITRE Corporation in the company's information security center and later was a department head in data and information management, as well as chief scientist in data management. While at MITRE, she served as an expert consultant in information management and data security to the Department of Defense, the intelligence community and the Department of the Treasury.

Thuraisingham's industry experience includes six years of research and development at Control Data Corporation and Honeywell, Inc. She has taught at the New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology, the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities and Boston University.

The CyberSecurity and Emergency Preparedness Institute was created to help deal with the rapidly growing homeland security problems, such as cybercrime, information assurance and emergency preparedness. It has three centers — the [CyberSecurity Research Center](#), the [Global Information Assurance Center](#) and the

[Emergency Preparedness Center](#) — and has been designated as a center for excellence in information assurance education by both the National Security Agency and the Department of Homeland Security.

About UTD

The University of Texas at Dallas, located at the convergence of Richardson, Plano and Dallas in the heart of the complex of major multinational technology corporations known as the Telecom Corridor®, enrolls more than 14,000 students. The school's freshman class traditionally stands at the forefront of Texas state universities in terms of average SAT scores. The university offers a broad assortment of bachelor's, master's and doctoral degree programs. For additional information about UTD, please visit the university's web site at www.utdallas.edu.

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