

2015 Northeast Collegiate Cyber Defense Qualification Competition (NECCDC)

January 31, 2015



Overview: Faculty of MCC's department of Information and Computer Technologies (ICT) were invited to Alfred State University to attend the NECCDC qualifier for students participating on behalf of the university. Qualified educational institutions like Alfred State with appropriate information security curricula have their students participate in the competition in an effort to better assess their students' ability to manage and protect enterprise network infrastructures and business information systems. Students must be able to protect a networked computer system, while maintaining services related to standard business functionality of a company's:

- Web Site/Secure Web Site
- Email server
- Database server
- Online curriculum server
- Workstations supporting: simulated sales, marketing and research



There were a total of 14 teams in various locations through the Northeast Region. Each team was scored based on their ability to detect, defend and respond to attacks against their network. Northeastern University placed 1st, with R.I.T coming in 2nd; and Alfred placing 9th, which allowed the teams to move to the next round of competition in March as the top ten teams advance.



Take Away: Rory Butler, Jayalaxmi Chakravarthy and Thomas Felton, Jr. attended the cyber competition to guide the extensive work that has already been done at MCC related to the upgrades in lab technology and course curriculum, which will facilitate ICT's new INT Degree and Cybersecurity Certificate Program. Jim Boardman, Chair of Alfred's Information Technology Department extended an offer for a visit to the competition after discussions with Thomas. Jim also offered Thomas assistance with MCC's ICT departments' development of a CyberClub. MCC's CyberClub would be used as a method of recruitment and retention, as well as participation in Cyber events like the NECCDC.

The competition was a nine hour event, so there was plenty of time to tour the lab and see how NetLab is being used at Alfred State. MCC's faculty also participated as proctors of the competition as coordinated ahead of time. Rory and Jay had an extensive conversation with John Williams, the Dean of Engineering Technology, Russell Rittenhouse of the Instructional Support Division and Jim regarding a partnership between MCC and Alfred State's computer technologies departments.

