



October 5, 2014

As Dean of the Donald R Tapia School of Business at Saint Leo University, I am pleased to endorse and support our Cybersecurity Center. This center aligns directly with the school's mission to provide a values-centered education that develops tomorrow's business leaders with exceptional skills, including critical thinking and the ability to make ethical decisions and take effective action.

More specifically, the center operationalizes this mission through its objectives and the Information Security programs that are offered. The objectives are:

- Enriching cybersecurity education by strengthening the undergraduate and graduate curricula.
- Creating knowledgeable and skilled workforce to supply a steady stream of cybersecurity professionals to serve various sectors including government and private industries.
- Encouraging and supporting faculty and student engagement in applied cybersecurity research.

In this way the Cybersecurity Center builds capacity in the field of cyber security by creating a professional workforce. Additionally, it provides multiple opportunities and enables stakeholders to actively engage in information security, develop partnerships with the local community, state and federal agencies as well as industry.

Saint Leo University is committed to support the Cybersecurity Center attain these goals and expand its reach in the local community and to those farther afield. Ultimately the vision is to provide graduates that are both technically astute and efficient and operate from a values-centered approach.

Sincerely,

Balbir Bal, Ph.D.
Dean, Donald R Tapia School of Business