



MEDIA ALERT

NOT FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Advanced Course in Engineering (ACE) Program Interns to Take On 56-Hour Cyber Capstone Event

Interns rigorously trained the past 10-weeks leading up to event



PLEASE TAKE NOTE: All members of the media are asked to report to the registration kiosk upon arrival and are required to wear their credentials.

What: Advanced Course in Engineering (ACE) Program Capstone Event

Where: Innovare Advancement Center, 592 Hangar Road, Rome NY 13441, 2nd Floor

When: Thursday, August 11, 2022, 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Who: Cadets who are enrolled in the 2022 Advanced Course in Engineering (ACE) Program. There are forty-three (43) interns from three countries: the United States, the United Kingdom and Switzerland. ACE interns engage in weekly mission operations and work as teams to solve open-ended, Air Force-relevant problems. Interns learn how to develop exploits and tools to gain access, escalate privileges, and communicate covertly in a contested cyber battlespace. These operations culminate in the Capstone event, where interns apply their knowledge to achieve mission objectives in a simulated cyber-warfare scenario.

Why: The 2022 Advanced Course in Engineering (ACE) Capstone plays out a regional rivalry between three powers. Participants must create a JP 5-0 style plan to translate operational objectives into tactical actions achieved through kinetic and cyber effects. A rich cyber battlespace provides the fabric to couple the cyber and kinetic domains with the opportunity to attack traditional network enclaves, aircraft, integrated air defense systems, and supply/logistics systems among others. The ACE Team assesses success in the exercise based on the participants ability to achieve their operational objectives while denying the adversary their own. Winners of the Capstone will win well-earned bragging rights and the cyber war-training experience of a lifetime.

Additional Details:

- Media is encouraged to attend and watch the next generation of cybersecurity leaders on Thursday, August 11, 10:00 am-12:00 pm
- Culmination of the Capstone event will occur on Thursday, August 11, including announcement of winners.
- Cadets will be working for 56 straight hours on-site at Innovare Advancement Center, starting at 8:00 am on Tuesday, August 9 until 4:00 pm on Thursday, August 11.
- While leaders and team members work, media can watch from the Distinguished Visitors Control Room
- Tours of the ACE collaboration space will be available
- Media may speak to designated ACE Team Members

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About the Advanced Course in Engineering (ACE) Program

In 2003, Dr. Kamal Jabbour, ST, Senior Scientist for Information Assurance at the Information Directorate, Air Force Research Laboratory (AFRL/RI), in Rome, New York, started the Advanced Course in Engineering (ACE) Cyber Security Boot Camp. The 10-week program educates interns on the science of information assurance and trains them in the art of cyber warfare. The leadership development component of the ACE focuses on problem solving through technical excellence, communication skills, and on-time performance. To learn more about ACE, please visit www.ace-cyber.com

About Air Force Research Laboratory Information Directorate

With headquarters at Rome, NY, the Air Force Research Laboratory Information Directorate (AFRL/RI) research vector develops novel and affordable Command, Control, Communications, Computing, Cyber, and Intelligence (C4I) technologies. RI is recognized as a national asset and leader in C4I. Refining data into information and knowledge for decision makers to command-and-control forces is what we do. This knowledge gives our air, space, and cyberspace forces the competitive advantage needed to protect and defend this great nation. www.wpafb.af.mil/afri/ri

About Us

Griffiss Institute (GI) is a nonprofit STEM talent and technology accelerator for the United States Department of Defense and an international network of academic, government and industry partners. Since 2002, the GI has served the Air Force, the Mohawk Valley region, and the United States, empowering diverse teams with talent and technology development programs that lead the nation in technical and economic impact. In the past five years, the GI has partnered with Rome Lab to host 271 visiting scientists, employ 823 interns, support 508 local K-12 students with tuition-free STEM Camps during school breaks, and trained 63 startups in defense tech commercialization with 47 graduates of its incubator. Devoted to converging teams and technologies to solve complex national challenges, the GI is proud to enable its international network from its home at Innovare Advancement Center in New York's picturesque Mohawk Valley. Griffiss Institute exists to elevate the next generation of talent and technologies that enhance national security and economic competitiveness for our region, state, and nation. www.griffissinstitute.org

Innovare Advancement Center is a 150,000 square foot open innovation hub that converges world-class scientific, engineering, and entrepreneurial talent from universities, government, and industry to tackle new challenges in artificial intelligence, machine learning, cybersecurity, quantum, and unmanned aerial systems. Innovare's unique capabilities include highly specialized laboratories for experimentation in quantum communications and neuromorphic computing, 40,000 square feet of high-tech and high-speed communications-enabled collaboration spaces, an auditorium with capacity for over 250 people, an access point to the NY UAS Test Site, and coming in spring 2022 – an indoor unmanned aerial system (UAS) research and testing facility with 110,000 square foot indoor flight testing area - the largest in the United States. www.innovare.org