

West Virginia Biometrics and Identity Management Newsletter

Issue Date: April 12, 2010

BEACON Lecture on April 14th Examines Use of DNA in Kinship Analysis



Dr. Kristen Lewis a National Research Council Postdoctoral Fellow in the Applied Genetics Group at the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) will be presenting a Lockheed Martin BEACON lecture on "The Role of DNA in Kinship Analysis." Dr. Lewis received her B.S. in Biology from Oregon State University, M.S. in Forensic Science from Virginia Commonwealth University, and Ph.D. in Genome Sciences from the University of Washington. For her Ph.D. dissertation, Dr. Lewis evaluated the utility of adding genetic information for robust familial searches using forensic DNA databases. As a Postdoctoral Fellow at NIST, Dr. Lewis continues her research on kinship analysis, working with Dr. Peter Vallone to evaluate the utility of various genetic markers and software programs to resolve complex kinship cases. The Role of DNA in Kinship Analysis, presented by Dr. Kristen Lewis will be video teleconferenced to the BEACON, Orlando, Draper, Herndon, Rockville (CR **870-4D21**), Mitchel Field, and Egan Lockheed Martin locations. Technical connections begin at 11:30A and the lecture will run from 12 Noon to 1PM (Eastern Time). If you have any questions concerning the BEACON lecture or if any non-LM attendees wish to attend this BEACON lecture and they do not have access to the appropriate Lockheed Martin facilities please email James Jarboe at james.jarboe@lmco.com so that access arrangements can be facilitated.

Morgantown Digital Identity Group Meets April 14th

The Morgantown Digital Identity Group is meeting at 6pm on April 14th at the West Virginia Brewing Company's deck, 1291 University Avenue, Morgantown, WV. Anyone interested in any facets of digital identification is welcome to attend, talk some shop, see old friends, and make new ones. For additional information, go to <http://www.meetup.com/biometrics/calendar/13145776/>, or call or text Charlotte at (571) 594-7120.

From 1 to 1.2B, India counting and ID'ing citizens

NEW DELHI — India kicked off the national census of its billion-plus population Thursday with a 2.5 million strong army of census-takers fanning out across the country to conduct what has been billed the world's largest administrative exercise. The census, conducted every 10 years, has a new element this year with the collection of biometric data in which every citizen over the age of 15 will be photographed and fingerprinted, information that will form the base of a new National Population Register of the country's 1.2 billion population. "It is for the first time in human history that an attempt is being made to identify, count, enumerate and record and eventually issue an identity card to 1.2 billion people," Home Minister Palaniappan Chidambaram said.

http://www.newsok.com/from-1-to-1.2b-india-counting-and-iding-citizens/article/feed/146916?custom_click=pod_headline_asia

L-1 Identity Solutions Acquires Assets of Retica Systems

Accelerates Time to Market for L-1 to Deliver Sophisticated, Low Cost Biometric Capture Solutions for Large-Scale and High Volume Civilian Identity Management Programs

STAMFORD, Conn.-- L-1 Identity Solutions, Inc. announced it acquired substantially all of the tangible and intangible assets of Retica Systems, Inc. including iris-on-the-move and iris-at-a-distance product inventory, algorithms and software, and related intellectual property rights and customer contracts. L-1 expects the acquisition will accelerate its time-to-market in deliv-

ering highly-accurate and lower cost biometric solutions for large-scale civilian identity management programs that require cost-effective and rapid enrollment of significant numbers of people, or that need to identify people at a distance and on the move. These applications are most commonly found in large scale entitlement and credentialing programs, as well as in border crossing, law enforcement and other security related initiatives.

<http://www.marketwatch.com/story/l-1-identity-solutions-acquires-assets-of-retica-systems-2010-04-05?siteid=nbkh>

Private Sector to Spur Growth in Global AFIS Market

AFIS technology market is projected to grow at a CAGR of around 9% during 2010-2012 on the back of increasing usage by private sector, says a new report from RNCOS.

New Delhi, India - Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS) technology is used in various law enforcement and civil applications. AFIS, an established technology in the law enforcement settings, is one of the most widespread applications of biometrics today and will continue to be so in near future. As many law enforcement organizations are already using AFIS, its primary growth in future will come from private sector employee background check applications. In this regard, our research report "Global Biometric Forecast to 2012" projects that the AFIS technology market will grow at a CAGR of around 9% between 2010 and 2012.

<http://www.emailwire.com/release/37652-Private-Sector-to-Spur-Growth-in-Global-AFIS-Market.html>

Biometrics and payment card security

In predicting the security forecast for 2010, there will be a noticeable increase in the utilization of biometrics and cloud computing environments, says Terry Hartmann, vice president of identity solutions at Unisys. Increasing the security of credit card information and mobile transactions will also be a major issue. Led by the Asia-Pacific region and Europe, more than sixty countries have invested in the electronic passport infrastructure, issuing passports containing a chip to store an individual's biometric data, typically a photo and a fingerprint. However, Hartmann points out only five countries are actually reading the information from the biometric chip to verify that the person who the passport is issued to actually matches the traveler crossing the border.

<http://www.secureidnews.com/2010/04/06/biometrics-and-payment-card-security>

Biometrics could save food service operations big money

Biometric point-of-sales (POS) systems and time management systems could save food service operations a lot of money on labor and cash mishandling, according to a QRS Magazine article. Next to food, labor is the largest cost for such operations and time clocks or registers are frequently mishandled both accidentally and purposely resulting in lost money for the operation.

<http://www.thirdfactor.com/2010/04/01/biometrics-could-save-food-service-operations-big-money>

AOptix Technologies and Aware, Inc. Provide DoD ABIS Compliance for InSight 2 Meter Iris Recognition System

Standards-based Solution Ready for Deployment within DoD Biometrics Infrastructure

CAMPBELL, Calif. -- AOptix Technologies, Inc., a leading edge developer of advanced iris biometrics products and long-distance wireless optical communications solutions, today announced that AOptix and Aware, Inc. have completed integration of AOptix's innovative InSight(TM) 2 meter iris recognition system with Aware's URC(TM) and BioSP(TM) software products. Deployment ready, this solution provides compatibility of the InSight system and the Department of Defense's (DoD) Automated Biometric Identity System (ABIS) using the EBTS 1.2 standard. Working at a nominal distance of 1.5 to 2.5 meters, the InSight system fully automates iris biometric image acquisition and provides consistent verification of a subject's identity in just 2 seconds.

<http://www.marketwatch.com/story/aoptix-technologies-and-aware-inc-provide-dod-abis-compliance-for-insight-2-meter-iris-recognition-system-2010-04-08?siteid=nbkh>

Fighting medical identity theft

Along with the growing concern about financial identity theft is rising anxiety about the pilfering of your medical identity. BayCare Health System in Clearwater, Fla., offers a noninvasive technique to help combat the trend. BayCare is among the first in the nation to use a scanner that simply identifies you by the veins in the palm of your hand -- a unique identifier just like your fingerprint. BayCare is composed of 11 not-for-profit hospitals, outpatient facilities and other services, such as imaging, lab, behavioral health and home health care. The system counted about 2.4 million patient encounters in 2009.

<http://www.scrippsnews.com/node/52723>

Potential technologies that consumers may use for online ID

President Obama wants people to be better secured when using the Internet. The rising costs and concerns over identity theft as well as weak cyber security have caused the president to task a group with finding solutions to the online identification problem. Obama's group, the National Strategy for Secure Online Transactions, may eventually recommend ways for consumers to be vetted, some type of background check, and a technology they can use for better security when conducting business online. The president wants consumers to use strong authentication, something more than user name and password, which will most likely add another security factor, say officials familiar with the project.

<http://www.digitalidnews.com/2010/04/07/potential-technologies-that-consumers-may-use-for-online-id>

Biometric security features in ration cards soon

The Civil Supplies Department will soon embark on incorporating biometric security features in all ration cards. Since repeated drives against bogus cards have proved inadequate, the Department is pinning its hopes on systemic intervention. It would be later integrated with the Unique Identification Number (UID) database. "During the recent house-to-house verifications, it was found that a lot of genuine cardholders were getting affected," said K.Shanmugam, Principal Secretary to the Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Protection Department. "There might still be a large number of bogus cards in circulation." A process which involves biometric collection of data and de-duplication will eliminate both multiple entries and multiple cards, said Mr.Shanmugam.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/states/tamil-nadu/article389079.ece>

Three Maryland counties join ICE Secure Communities initiative

Baltimore, MD. -- On Tuesday, law enforcement agencies in Frederick, St. Mary's and Queen Anne's counties in Maryland began employing an initiative, known as Secure Communities, spearheaded by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) that modernizes the process used to accurately identify criminal aliens arrested in the community. The cornerstone of Secure Communities is the activation of new information-sharing capabilities developed by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and the Department of Justice (DOJ) that automatically alert local law enforcement and ICE when potentially deportable criminal aliens come into local custody. Previously, local arrestees' fingerprints were taken and checked for criminal history information against the DOJ biometric system maintained by the FBI. With this new information-sharing capability, that fingerprint information will now be simultaneously checked against both FBI criminal history records and the biometrics-based immigration records maintained by DHS. If any fingerprints match those of someone in DHS's biometric system, the new automated process notifies ICE, enabling the agency to take appropriate action to ensure criminal aliens are not released back into communities. Top priority is given to individuals who pose a threat to public safety, such as those with prior convictions for major drug offenses, murder, rape, robbery and kidnapping.

http://media-newswire.com/release_1116047.html

Gold Coast Airport deploys SmartGate

The Gold Coast International Airport has become the seventh in Australia to receive the SmartGate automatic border processing system. Designed and developed by electronics company SAGEM Australasia, SmartGate uses face recognition technology to identify travellers. Adult holders of ePassports from Australia and New Zealand are eligible to enter the country using the system, which is expected to speed up and streamline the passenger clearance process. SmartGate was deployed by the Australian Customs and Border Protection Service in Brisbane in August 2007, in Cairns, Melbourne and Adelaide in 2008 and in Perth and Sydney last year. Prior to deployment, SmartGate was trialed by more than 10,000 travellers at Sydney and Melbourne International Airports between 2002 and 2005. Customs and Border Protection said SmartGate had been used by more than 900,000 travellers this financial year, at international airports nationwide.

http://www.itnews.com.au/News/171566_gold-coast-airport-deploys-smartgate.aspx

California skate park to get biometric access control

A southern California skate park called Poway Skate Park is hoping the introduction of biometric turnstiles for entry into the park will help reduce vandalism, bullying and other unwanted activities, according to a Sign On San Diego article. A scan of a guest's thumb will be required for entry after the skater has already registered his thumbprint and photo and signed a liability waiver at the park. Park officials are hopeful that the new system in conjunction with new surveillance cameras will allow them to track violations of park rules, give out punishments such as temporary or even permanent removal from the park to the correct people and, most importantly, be able to follow through on the punishments. While the city is hopeful the new installations will eventually stop the violating activity that has become a big problem recently, city staff will not be regularly monitoring the surveillance video.

<http://www.thirdfactor.com/2010/04/07/california-skate-park-to-get-biometric-access-control>

Why machines do not understand human speech

This learning continues throughout life, so teaching machines to make common sense assumptions about language is a mammoth task. Over the years researchers have been making inroads into improving voice recognition and speech-to-text software. But being able to recognize words is still a long way from machines actually understanding what people are saying. Now the American Palo Alto Research Centre (Parc) is working on an ambitious project with the aim to take computers' language skills to the next level. Parc's research on natural language processing was bought by search engine Powerset who combined it with data from online encyclopedia Wikipedia. Users can search Powerset with keywords, phrases, or simple questions - the results are aggregated from multiple Wikipedia articles. The aim is to provide more accurate results and answer questions directly. Parc researcher Cleo Condoravdi said search engines are not refined: "You put in your keywords, you get some results, a lot of them might be relevant but it's up to you the user to sort through," she said. "Now the dream would be if you could just ask your question and get the answer directly," she added.

http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/programmes/click_online/8609723.stm

Penguin personalizer: Software that allows recognition of individual birds could aid in conservation

"They all look alike to me" is no longer an excuse when studying penguins. The same facial recognition software that helps Homeland Security identify terrorists could one day be used to identify individual penguins and monitor their populations, thereby aiding in their conservation. Traditionally, tracking individual penguins—which is important for monitoring population dynamics, understanding migratory patterns, and assessing the health of a species—has required attaching transmitters to their backs or metal bands to flippers or legs.

<http://www.scientificamerican.com/blog/post.cfm?id=penguin-personalizer-software-that-2010-04-08>

Meeting and Conference Dates

CITeR Spring 2010 Meeting

CITeR is a National Science Foundation (NSF) Industry/University Cooperative Research Center (IUCRC). Its mission to advance identification technology is strongly focused in the areas of biometric systems and credibility assessment. Our portfolio of activities achieve this mission through cross-cutting research of emerging enabling technologies, interdisciplinary training of scientists and engineers, and facilitation of technology transfer to the private and government sectors through its affiliates.

Dates: May 17-19, 2010

Location: Skaneateles, New York

http://www.citer.wvu.edu/spring_2010_meeting

Procurement News

Sponsoring Agency:
National Institute of Justice

Response Date:
April 19, 2010

Funding Opportunity Number:
NIJ-2010-2399

Description:

NIJ seeks qualified applicants to establish a Sensor, Surveillance, and Biometric Technologies Center of Excellence ("the Center") within the NLECTC System. The Center will provide scientific and technical support to NIJ's research and development efforts. The Center will also provide technology assistance, information, and support to criminal justice agencies. The Center will be established through a cooperative agreement. How to Apply: Applications will be submitted through OJP's Grants Management System (GMS). GMS is a Web-based, data-driven computer application that provides cradle to grave support for the application, award and management of grants at OJP. Applicants should begin the process immediately to meet the GMS registration deadline, especially if this is the first time they have used the system.

<http://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/sl000931.pdf>

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