TJ O?Connor, Ph.D., LTC (Ret.)

Assistant Professor, Cybersecurity Program Chair | Computer Engineering and Sciences at Florida Tech

Melbourne, FL, US

Dr. O?Connor?s research is focused on cybersecurity education, wireless protocols, software-defined radio and machine learning.

About

Dr. TJ O?Connor?s research centers on computer security, emphasizing cybersecurity education, the security and privacy of IoT devices, wireless protocols, software-defined networking, and machine learning approaches for security. He has authored a book in the area, "Violent Python: A Cookbook for Hackers, Forensic Analysts, Penetration Testers and Security Engineers," and published his research in the proceedings of several academic conferences. Dr. O?Connor served 20 years as a U.S. Army officer, retiring in 2019 at the rank of lieutenant colonel. His service included an academic appointment to the Electrical Engineering and Computer Science Department at the U.S. Military Academy and four assignments supporting the Special Forces from the tactical level in Afghanistan and culminated with him serving as chief information officer for the 1st Special Forces Command Headquarters. Dr. O?Connor is active in cyber security competitions and is the coach for Florida Tech's FITSec Cybersecurity Team. He previously served as head coach of the inaugural US Cyber Games team.

Areas of Expertise

Internet of Things (IoT), Information Security Engineering, Cybersecurity Education, Computer Security, Computer Science, Wireless Protocols

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Affiliations

Upsilon Pi Epsilon Honor Society, Special Operations Support (K9) Identifier, Association for Computers and Machinery : Member, Wolfpack Security and Privacy Research Lab

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Event Appearances

A Case Against Smart Things
CFL Cybersecurity Summit - Invited Keynote Speaker

Modern Cyberwarfare: Lessons from the Ukrainian Conflict
1st Special Forces Command Communications Conference - Invited Guest Speaker

Going for the Gold! Insights and Lessons Learned from Coaching the First-ever US Cyber Games Team
NICE Conference and Expo

The Picture is Incomplete
Fort Gordon Innovation Day - Guest Speaker

A Case Against Smart Things: Reversing IoT Devices for Vulnerabilities
St Johns University

IoT Dataset Findings IoT Man-in-the-Middle Vulnerabilities
US Army Cyber Command

Education

NC State University
Ph.D. Computer Science

SANS Technology Institute
M.S. Information Security Engineering

NC State University
M.S. Computer Science

US Military Academy at West Point
B.S. Computer Science

Accomplishments

Professor of the Year Award
2022 - Florida Tech Student Government Association

Best Faculty Award
2020 - International Student Community of Florida Tech

Best Paper Award
2019 - ACM WiSec

National Cybersecurity Innovation Award
2013 - SANS Technology Institute