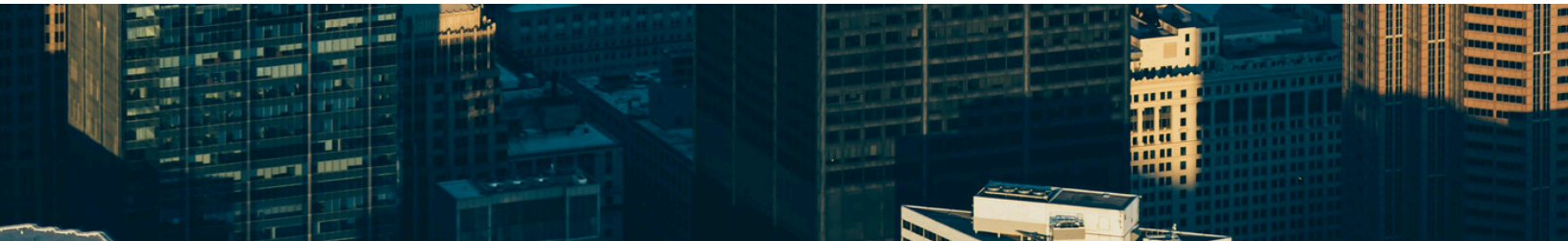
GCSI CIOManSec 2025



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
207 STATE HOUSE
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS 62706

JB PRITZKER
GOVERNOR

November 10, 2025
Global Cyber Security Initiative
333 S Wabash Ave, Ste 2700
Chicago, IL 60604
Greetings!

As Governor of the State of Illinois, I am pleased to welcome everyone gathered for the sixth annual cyber security summit hosted by Global Cyber Security Initiative (GSCI). This occasion offers an exciting opportunity for everyone in attendance to join fellow members of GSCI, as well as member partners like the Illinois Institute of Technology and Pan Asian American Business Council (PAABC) and generate ideas that implement solutions. I commend the work you all have done to help make Illinois a stronger and more enjoyable state.

Founded in 2016, GSCI has become a leader in global innovation in cyber security. Expanding operations to focus on broader concerns related to cyber security, GSCI has partnered with numerous organizations to spearhead a reimagining of security in the modern age. This year's conference focusing on critical infrastructure, OT, and manufacturing aims to ensure Illinois remains at the forefront of innovative solutions to the problems of today.

Illinois is proud to have enjoyed your service to our state. As you reflect on your accomplishments, I urge you to make plans for the future of your association that will build on your past successes. I am grateful for all the ways your organization has supported a strong future for Illinois. On behalf of the people of Illinois, I offer my best wishes for an enjoyable and memorable occasion.

Sincerely,

Governor JB Pritzker

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

CITY OF CHICAGO

BRANDON JOHNSON
MAYOR

November 17, 2025

Dear Friends:

As Mayor, and on behalf of the City of Chicago, I am honored to welcome all those gathered for the 2025 Global Cyber Security Initiative Conference.

Founded in 2016, the Global Cyber Security Initiative (GCSI) has emerged as a global leader in cybersecurity innovation. Committed to addressing critical challenges facing large businesses and anticipating future threats, GCSI has been at the forefront of developing forward thinking solutions. Over the years, GCSI has built strategic partnerships with renowned institutions such as the Illinois Institute of Technology, mHUB, IBM, and the association of Information Technology Professionals, collaborations that have propelled the organization into the spotlight as a driving force in cybersecurity advancement.

This year's conference themed "Mastering Organizational Risk – Connecting the Dots", will bring together industry professionals to network, learn, and inspire. With a full schedule of keynote speakers, discussion panels, and networking opportunities, attendees will gain the tools and resources needed to move the cyber security industry forward. I commend the Global Cyber Security Initiative and all those involved for their ongoing efforts to improve cyber security and foster innovation for highly regulated industries

I hope you have an enjoyable event. Best wishes for continued success.

Sincerely,

Mayor

ILLINOIS TECH

Raj Echambadi
President

Dear Friends,

On behalf of Illinois Institute of Technology, I'm honored to welcome you to this year's Global Cyber Security Initiative (GCSI) summit.

The GCSI was founded to address the areas of concern outlined by the United States Securities and Exchange Commission and the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority. Since its creation, GCSI has successfully partnered with Illinois Tech, among other prominent cybersecurity voices, and emerged as a key innovator in the field.

This conference—where thought leaders, companies, researchers, and government come together to share ideas and collaborate to address today's critical cybersecurity challenges—is crucial in today's increasingly interconnected world.

At Illinois Tech, we're innovating to address these global cybersecurity challenges and push the field forward through cross-disciplinary thinking. The U.S. Department of Homeland Security and the National Security Agency have designated Illinois Tech as a National Center of Academic Excellence in Cyber Defense Education, and the university's Center for Cyber Security and Forensics Education (C^2SAFE) is at the core of Illinois Tech's designation.

I commend the GCSI for its critical contributions to cybersecurity innovation, and I look forward to our continued partnership in the years ahead.

Sincerely,

Raj Echambadi

Raj Echambadi
President, Illinois Institute of Technology

Welcome Message from the Conference Chair

Welcome to the **2025 GCSI Conference on Critical Infrastructure, OT, and Manufacturing**. It is my honor to welcome you to our 4th annual gathering dedicated to strengthening the security and resilience of the systems that sustain our communities, economies, and industries. Thank you for joining us and for your ongoing commitment to advancing cybersecurity in these essential domains.

This year's theme, **"Mastering Organizational Risk – Connecting the Dots,"** highlights our shared responsibility to understand and address cyber risk holistically. As critical infrastructure and operational technology environments continue to evolve, the need for thoughtful collaboration, shared insights, and strategic leadership has never been greater. Our conference is designed around engaged, peer-to-peer learning, encouraging open discussion and meaningful problem-solving on the most pressing cybersecurity challenges we face today.

We are pleased to feature keynote sessions led by **Dr. Calvin Nobles, Fred Kwong, Jean-Paul Thomas, and Ray Trygstad**, along with a fireside chat with **Sejal Vaishnav, CIO of Illinois Tech**, and a keynote by **Shefali Mookencherry, CISO of UIC**. Each of these leaders brings depth of experience and practical perspective that will help guide our dialogue and learning throughout the conference.

Our panel discussions will focus directly on the theme and core sectors of the conference. The **CISO Panel** will explore the challenges facing critical infrastructure and how leaders can build resilient security strategies. The **CxO Panel on Cybersecurity for OT** and the **CxO Panel on Security for Manufacturing** will examine the realities of securing operational systems and production environments in an increasingly complex threat landscape.

Finally, I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to our sponsors, planning committee, volunteers, and partners. Your support, energy, and collaboration are what make this conference possible.

Thank you again for being here. We wish you a valuable, collaborative, and inspiring conference experience.

Enjoy the conference.

Kasi Paturi
Conference Chair

AGENDA

8:45 - 9:00 am - **Welcoming Remarks** - **Jason Czarnezki,** Dean, Chicago-Kent College of Law

9:00 - 9:50 am - **Keynote** - **Dr. Calvin Nobles**, Portfolio Vice President and Dean, School of Cybersecurity and Information Technology at University of Maryland Global Campus

9:50 - 10:40 am - **CISO Panel of Critical Infrastructure**

- **Bruce Coffing** - CISO, City of Chicago - Moderator
- **Pam Nigro** - VP Security, Medecision
- **Sebastiaan Gybels** - SVP Cybersecurity, Northern Trust
- **Steve Liegl** - Director Infrastructure & Operations - IT Services, WEC Energy Group
- **Darren Warden** - Executive Director/Chief Security Architect, CME

10:40 - 10:55 am - Break

10:55 - 11:25 am - **Presentation** - **Fred Kwong,** CISO, DeVry University

11:25 - 11:55 am - **Fireside Chat** - **Sejal Vaishnav,** CIO, Illinois Tech
- **Ravi Bhatarai,** CISO, Pritzker Group

12:00 - 1:00 pm - Lunch

1:00 - 1:50 pm - **CxO Panel on Operational Technology**

- **Maurice Dawson** - Director, Center for Cyber Security and Forensics Education, Illinois Tech - Moderator
- **Alec Gleason** - Security Architect, Cisco
- **Cyrus Walker** – CEO, Data Defenders LLC.
- **Shane Hibbard** - Director of Information Security, Invenergy LLC
- **Dennis Reiz** - Founder & CEO, Just Create Labs

1:50 - 2:20 pm - **Distinguished Speaker** - **Ray Trygstad,** Professor Emeritus and Past Associate Chair of Information Technology & Management, Illinois Tech

2:20 - 2:50 pm - **Fireside Chat** - **Jean-Paul Thomas,** Principal at n2Data
- **Gregg Friedman**, Security Advisor at Brush Cyber

2:50 - 3:05 pm - Break

3:05 - 3:55 pm - **CxO Panel on Manufacturing**

- **Victor Hsiang** - Information and IT Security, Privacy and Risk, GATX - Moderator
- **Bill Fienup** - Founder, mHUB
- **Ken Townsend** - CISO, Ingredion
- **Kurtis Minder** - Strategic Advisor & Advisory Board Chair, QBRIC.ai
- **Juan M. Vasquez** - M.D. & Sr. Information Security Officer, State Street Corporation

3:55 - 4:35 pm - **Keynote - Shefali Mookencherry,** CISO, UIC

4:35 - 4:45 pm - **Closing Remarks** – **Kasi Paturi**, President, PAABC

4:45 pm - Chicago Cyber Hub

5:00 - 6:00 pm - **Networking Reception**

8:45 - 9:00 pm Welcoming Remarks

Jason Czarnezki, Dean, Chicago-Kent College of Law

9:00 - 9:50 pm Keynote

Dr. Calvin Nobles, Portfolio Vice President and Dean, School of Cybersecurity and Information Technology at University of Maryland Global Campus

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Moderator

Bruce Coffing, CISO, City of Chicago

Pam Nigro
VP Security
Medecision

Sebastiaan Gybels
SVP Cybersecurity
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Director Infrastructure & Operations - IT Services
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Ravi Bhatarai, CISO, Pritzker Group

Noon - 1:00 pm Lunch

1:00 - 1:50 pm CxO Panel on Operational Technology

Moderator

Maurice Dawson - Director, Center for Cyber Security and Forensics Education, Illinois Tech

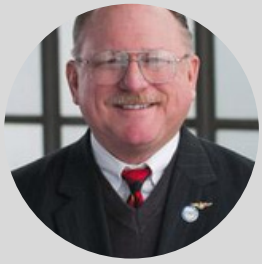
Alec Gleason
Security Architect
Cisco

Cyrus Walker
CEO
Data Defenders LLC

Shane Hibbard
Director of Information Security, Invenergy LLC

Dennis Reitz
Founder & CEO
Just Create Labs

1:50 - 2:20 pm Distinguished Speaker



Ray Trygstad, Professor Emeritus and Past Associate Chair of Information Technology & Management, Illinois Tech

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4:35 - 4:45 pm Closing Remarks

Kasi Paturi, President, PAABC

4:45 pm Chicago Cyber Hub

5:00 - 6:00 pm Networking

NOTES

Team

- **Bruce Coffing:** CISO, City of Chicago
- **Laszlo Gonc:** Founder, Next Era Transformation Group
- **Dr. John Johnson:** Founder/President/CISO, Docent Institute
- **Dimitra N, Kane:** Sr. Business Architect HCSC/BlueCross BlueShield of Illinois
- **Dr. Fred Kwong:** CISO, DeVry University
- **Adam Lewis:** Deputy CISO, Alliant Credit Union
- **Michael Phillips:** Founding Partner, vSEC LLC
- **Ramona Ratiu:** Zurich Insurance Company Ltd.
- **Ravi Bhatarai:** CISO, Pritzker Group
- **Wynona Lam:** Youth Coordinator, PAABC
- **Sam Moyer:** Lead Cybersecurity Engineer
- **Rahul Patel:** Director of Cybersecurity, Office of Cook County Clerk
- **Kasi Paturi:** President, PAABC
- **Dr. Devi Prasad V. Potluri:** Associate Provost, CSU
- **Ray Trygstad:** Professor Emeritus and Past Associate Chair of Information Technology & Management, Illinois Tech
- **Richard Warner:** Faculty Director, Center of Law and Computers, Chicago Kent College of Law
- **Nicole Beebe:** Dean, College of Computing, Illinois Tech

Advisors

- **Collin Canright:** Canright Communications
- **Gregg Friedman,** Security Advisor at Brush Cyber
- **Tina Hauri,** President, Bradford Garrett Group, Inc.
- **Wayne Johnson,** Chicago CISO of the Year Award Founder
- **Walter Lefmann:** BoD, Docent Institute, CISO (retired)
- **John Mirkovic:** Deputy Clerk,Public Policy Office of the Cook County Clerk
- **Steve Moscarelli:** Strategic Client Director - Thales
- **Sean O'Kelly:** CEO, Meetings & Events International
- **Peter Tapling,** Managing Director, PTap Advisory, LLC
- **Ron Williamson:** CISO, Director Cyber Strategies, Concept Ventures
- **Tellis Williams:** Executive Security Advisor, OESM

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women in CYBERSECURITY WiCyS CHICAGO AFFILIATE

ISACA

INFRAGARD NATIONAL MEMBERS ALLIANCE

ISSA Information Systems Security Association International

Asian American Executive Network

IEEE COMPUTER SOCIETY

COOK COUNTY GOVERNMENT

Global DCA

DoIT Illinois Department of Innovation & Technology

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