GADSDEN STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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Information Technology Division · (256) 549-8250

November 20, 2008

Ms. Christine Nickell, I924
National Security Agency
9800 Savage Road, SAB , Suite 6722
Fort Meade, MD 20755-6744

Dear Ms. Nickell:

I would like to express my full support of Jacksonville State University's (JSU) application for designation as a National Center of Academic Excellence in Information Assurance Education (CAEIAE).

For a number of years, JSU and Gadsden State Community College (GSCC) have collaborated in improving computer science education. The academic programs at these two institutions are closely bound by a state articulation agreement. For this reason, we always strive to get the compatibility of our common courses as close as possible.

In recent years, we have integrated Information Assurance (IA) topics in our courses and have shared several IA-related course materials and laboratory projects. Some of the courses that are retrofitted with these shared IA materials are courses in microcomputer applications, object-oriented design, network communications, and network security. In addition, our collaboration extends even further to the development and submission of external funding proposals. Our most recent collaboration is a grant proposal titled "Vertical Integration of Information Security and Assurance" which was submitted to the National Science Foundation.

Should you require further elaboration, I can be reached at slancaster@gadsdenstate.edu or through phone at (256) 549-8359.

Sincerely,

Ms. Sheila Lancaster, Chair
Information Technology Division
Gadsden State Community College