Revision to Master of Science in Information Assurance and Cybersecurity
(to Master of Science in Cybersecurity)

Revision to the Graduate Degree Program

Existing title:
MASTER OF SCIENCE, Information Assurance and Cybersecurity

REVISED TITLE:
MASTER OF SCIENCE, Cybersecurity

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Director, Cybersecurity and Information Assurance Graduate Program
College of Computer and Information Science
Graduate Committee

Changes to the Degree

We request the following changes:

- *Degree Program Title change*
  - *Rationale: the revised name will allow prospective students to clearly identify the degree program as the term Cybersecurity emerged as the dominant term in the marketplace.*
    - *Other schools are either renaming their existing degrees or creating degrees "MS in Cybersecurity" e.g., Georgia Tech, Johns Hopkins, NYU, UC Berkeley,*
    - *Various federal agencies (NSF, NSA, DHS, DARPA, ONR, etc.) are transitioning to use the term cybersecurity in lieu of Information Assurance. For instance, DHS/NSA Centers of Excellence in Information Assurance are now called Centers of Excellence in Cybersecurity and Northeastern is one of the designated DHS/NSA CAE in Cybersecurity (both Cyber Defense and Cyber Operations).*
    - *Various websites rank MS in Cybersecurity programs (and less MS IA)*
  - *The name change will require no changes in the structure of the curriculum or course offerings. Therefore, the pattern of attendance form has been omitted from this submission.*
  - *There are no significant budgetary implications for this name changes.*

Two supporting links for this name change are the following:

- [Department of Defense, Instruction Number 8500.01, March 14, 2014](#)
- [NSA Centers for Academic Excellence in Cybersecurity](#)