



RAM KRISHNAN

KRISHNAN RECEIVES PRESTIGIOUS NSF CAREER AWARD

BY DEBORAH SILLIMAN | COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

RAM KRISHNAN, assistant professor in the College of Engineering's Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, has been awarded a National Science Foundation (NSF) Faculty Early Career Development (CAREER) award. He will be receiving more than \$544,000 in support of his research on Group-Centric Secure Information Sharing - Models, Properties, and Implementation.

"Professionally, I am delighted that both NSF and my academic peers are convinced that my proposed career path can have a significant impact, and is worth investing in," said Krishnan. "This funding will help me to establish a strong cyber security research and education portfolio at UTSA over the next five years. Personally, receiving this award is very rewarding. My collaborators and colleagues here at UTSA have been very supportive over the years. A big thanks to all of them!"

NSF CAREER awards are exclusively reserved for junior faculty to help develop their career as a teacher-scholar. That means this award will support Krishnan's pursuit in academia to conduct innovative research, tightly integrated with a compelling education program.

"This funding will also help support and train undergraduate and graduate students at UTSA in research topics related to cyber security," he said.

The UTSA cyber security program was ranked the best in the nation in 2014, according to a national survey of certified information technology security professionals and more recently, the university was designated as a National Center of Academic Excellence in Information Assurance/Cyber Defense by the National Security Agency and Department of Homeland Security.

In regards to his current cyber security research, Krishnan says that the need to share information online while confining it to authorized recipients is one of the most challenging problems in cyber security. His CAREER funding will focus on the policy problem of specifying, analyzing and enforcing information sharing policies.

"The College of Engineering is very proud of Dr. Krishnan's accomplishments at UTSA, and this CAREER award is yet another reflection of his academic excellence," said **JOANN BROWNING**, dean of the UTSA College of Engineering. "Coupling this award with his Regent's Teaching Award this year, I think you begin to understand how much of an impact Dr. Krishnan makes on his students, colleagues, and engineering programs."

The CAREER Program is a foundation-wide activity that offers the National Science Foundation's most prestigious awards in support of junior faculty who exemplify the role of teacher-scholars through outstanding research, excellent education and the integration of education and research within the context of the mission of their organizations. In addition to Krishnan, The Department of Computer and Electrical Engineering currently has two CAREER award winners in the department: Professor **YUFEI HUANG**, and Professor and Interim Department Chair **CHUNJIANG QIAN**.