Spotlight | BTI Research Committee

Meet the distinguished members of the BTI Institute Research Committee. They are responsible for providing advice and specific recommendations to the BTI Institute Director on the quality and promise of research and education projects and recommending improvements where possible to project principal investigators. They facilitate, monitor and measure scientific progress, engage stakeholders to keep projects aligned with the Department of Homeland Security missions and facilitate and assist with the transition to end users.

George Zouridakis, Ph.D.
Associate Dean for Research & Graduate Studies, College of Technology
Director, Biomedical Imaging Lab
Research Committee Chair

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Director, Optical Bioimaging Lab

Elaine M. Liu, Ph.D.
Associate Professor, Department of Economics
Research Associate, the National Bureau of Economic Research

Richard Willson, Ph.D.
Huffington-Woestemeyer Professor of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering
Professor, Biochemical and Biophysical Sciences

Research Highlights

Kickoff Meeting | Kakadiaris, “EDGE”

Ioannis Kakadiaris, Ph.D., with the University of Houston, held his kickoff meeting on August 3, 2018. The project, titled EDGE: The “Eye in the Woods” Image-based Human Detection and Recognition System, aims to create a system to automatically detect and match human subjects from trail camera images. The abstract can be found here...

Presentation | Hershberg, migration impacts

Eric Hershberg, Ph.D., with American University, presented his findings on the impact of Central American child and family migration on U.S. communities during two stakeholder engagements in Houston and Washington, D.C. Video of the presentation can be found here...
Education Highlights

Internship | Academy Summer
Three cadets from the United States Coast Guard and one cadet from the United States Military Academy at West Point participated in the BTI Institute's 2018 Homeland Security Summer Internship program located at the University of Houston June to July 2018. Read more here...

Research Opportunity
The BTI Institute is looking for researchers with a novel approach to answering some of Custom and Border Protection's research needs. Read below for a sampling of research needs and a link to the Institute's white paper submission templates.

1) Facilitating Legitimate Trade and Travel
Considerations: E-Commerce, non-intrusive inspection, touchless movement of people and goods

2) Immigration
Considerations: quick turn around projects that can produce policy-informing data in a matter of months.

3) Border Security
Considerations: Multi-level biometrics, machine learning, computer vision

White Paper Template | Instructions

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