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For Immediate Release  
March 13, 2009

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## **NEWS RELEASE**

### **Norwich to establish research center for information technology**

**NORTHFIELD** – Norwich University officials announced this week the formation of a research center in which it will lead a consortium of colleges and universities in research, teaching, information sharing and collaboration on information assurance in and of virtualized computing environments.

The Center, called the Norwich University Advanced Computing Center (NUACC), will be the home of the University's virtual computing laboratory environment.

The purpose of NUACC is to provide a center for the development, teaching of and research in emerging and next generation computing technologies. It is unique in that it is completely virtualized and has been built with the assistance of \$1 million worth of products donated by several leading companies in the Internet security market.

"In this age of increasing identity theft, botnets and more sophisticated hacker exploits, the State of Vermont is fortunate to have Norwich University as one of its assets," said Kris Rowley, chief information security officer for the State of Vermont.

"Vermont and the nation only stand to gain from the research, education and knowledge that will be garnered from the Norwich University Advanced Computing Center. Information Assurance is a key factor in the security of our nation [and] Norwich University is a leader on the cyber battlefield. "

With NUACC, Norwich will be the lead university of a research consortium network and will house the primary node of the network, which currently includes

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a virtual information warfare laboratory consisting of two servers, as well as a primary cluster consisting of four servers.

“The idea is to build a large, virtual network across the campus and across the country specifically for research and study in high-risk information assurance,” said Dr. Peter Stephenson, chairman of the computing department in the School of Business and Management, and NUACC director.

The Center will study high risk information assurance problems such as malware and botnets. Other proposed projects include analysis of large-scale credit card fraud indicators, which is supported by a consortium of credit unions; a new theory of digital immune systems and developing smart building technology.

“No other shared network in the world that I know of does this at the moment,” Stephenson said.

The consortium, called the Virtual Information Assurance Lab Consortium (VIALC), will initially include approximately a dozen universities designated, like Norwich, centers of academic excellence in information assurance by the National Security Agency and the Department of Homeland Security.

The consortium will be overseen by an industry advisory board, which includes representation of organizations that have donated to the Center as well as experts in finance and government.

“This is exactly what the nation needs, and Norwich is perfectly poised to provide it,” said University President, Richard Schneider.

For more information go to: <http://www.nuacc.org>



*Norwich University is a diversified academic institution that educates traditional-age students and adults in a Corps of Cadets and as civilians. Norwich offers a broad selection of traditional and distance-learning programs culminating in Baccalaureate and Graduate Degrees. Founded in 1819 by Captain Alden Partridge of the U.S. Army, Norwich University is the oldest private military college in the United States of America and the birthplace of our nation's Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC).*

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