



CAE Lecture Series



30 August 2024

Tyler Moore, University of Tulsa, Empirically Evaluating the Effect of Security Precautions on Cyber Incidents (2pm EST)

Alexis S., NSA Student Programs (3pm EST)

Mark your calendars and come join your colleagues in the CAE community for the CAE Lecture Series. CAE Lecture Series are free and conducted live in real-time over the MS Teams so no travel is required. NSA's CAE PMO office hosts the presentations via MS Teams which employs slides, VOIP, and chat for live interaction. Just click on the link and enjoy the presentation(s).

Abstract: Available data on firm cybersecurity often exhibits a positive correlation between investment in security precautions and cyber-attacks since investments are often made after a firm has been breached. Using survey data from Israeli firms about their cyber defenses, we overcome the endogeneity obstacle using an instrumental variable (IV) drawn from questions about a cybersecurity directive. The resulting regressions examine the causal relationship between security precautions potentially undertaken by enterprises and the likelihood of experiencing a cyber-incident. Once suitably instrumented and controlling for characteristics that make some firms more attractive attack targets than others, we find robust evidence that increased adoption of security controls does in fact reduce the likelihood of being breached.

Following the research discussion, I will also briefly describe the innovative organizational structure of the School of Cyber Studies at the University of Tulsa. Established in 2021, our School is the Nation's first and only dedicated academic department in cyber offering B.S., M.S., and Ph.D. degrees. The School is interdisciplinary by design, with faculty spanning computer science, engineering, business, law, social sciences, and humanities. Today, approximately 40 Ph.D. students pursue advanced research study on a variety of topics that often combine multiple disciplinary approaches.

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Note: This Lecture series cannot be recorded/posted online, we encourage you and your students to attend live.