



UNIVERSITY *of* WASHINGTON

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **New video from the University of Washington examines cybersecurity**

**UW's iSchool and Microsoft team up for 'Geeks Under Attack!' documentary**

**SEATTLE** — A new documentary about the first Pacific Rim Collegiate Cyber Defense Competition is now being broadcast on the University of Washington's educational television channel, UWTV. The first Pacific Rim Regional Collegiate Cyber Defense Competition — or "Geeks Under Attack!" — tested students' understanding of how to protect an enterprise network infrastructure and business information systems. Held on the Microsoft campus in Redmond, Wash., the event featured nine teams of students trying to protect their systems from a series of attacks, earning points based on their ability to keep their systems running and protected.

With cybercrime on the rise, including data and identity theft, the serious need for trained and experienced cybersecurity professionals is growing. The competition offered a proving ground for students to test their skills against people already working in the field.

"Cooperating with industry to bring real-world experience into the classroom is a powerful learning tool for students," said Barbara Endicott-Popovsky, director of the University of Washington Information School's Center for Information Assurance and Cybersecurity, one of the event's hosts. "The PRCCDC is an example of a successful collaboration between Microsoft and the UW that gave students true insight into the challenges of keeping a network functioning while facing an onslaught of attacks from well-prepared external adversaries. The documentary reflects the fun students had while they were doing it."

Presented by UW's Information School (iSchool) and funded by a generous gift from Microsoft, "Cybersecurity: The First Pacific Rim Regional Collegiate Cyber Defense Competition" is now available to watch on demand or to download for podcasting at [uwtv.org](http://uwtv.org). The program premieres on UWTV (check Web site for channel information) at 5:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14.

Competing students came from UW's iSchool and Department of Computer Science and Engineering, the Institute of Technology at the University of Washington in Tacoma, DeVry University, Eastern Washington University, University of Idaho, University of Alaska Fairbanks, Highline Community College and Whatcom Community College. A team of graduate students from the National Information Assurance Training and Education Center (NIATEC) at Idaho State University served as judges for the event.

For more information about this event, visit the iSchool's Web site.

### **About UWTV**

UWTV is the University of Washington's award-winning television channel, offering original, non-commercial educational video programming – 24 hours a day, seven days a week. A unique educational resource, UWTV provides viewers direct access to the world-renowned scholars, scientists and researchers whose insights and discoveries are at the heart of our university and are changing our world. Learn more at [uwtv.org](http://uwtv.org).

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