Masters of Engineering in Information Assurance
New Program Review

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Brief Summary

- Graduated 25 students
- Growth in military personnel
- Demand for cyber security professionals is increasing and so is demand for the degree

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<th>Projected Enrollment</th>
<th>Actual Enrollment</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fall 2011</td>
<td>10</td>
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<td>Fall 2015</td>
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The Cyber Security Profession

Students in Information Assurance are leaders in defending the nation from cyber attacks.

- ISU has one of the nation’s oldest cyber security programs
Iowa State’s Program

- Home department: Electrical and Computer Engineering …
  - … but Information Assurance is distinct from computer engineering, computer science
- NSA Center of Academic Excellence
- Part of multi-level Information Assurance program
  - On campus MS in IA
  - Off-campus MS in IA
  - Undergrad minor in cyber security
- M.Eng. focused on working professionals looking to enhance their career opportunities
What We Proposed

• A coursework only on-line masters degree
• 10 courses
• Over half of courses have one or more lab experiments
• Required capstone course where students defend and attack networks they build
• Focused on students in the workforce with an IT background, but not necessarily a formal degree in computing
Current State of the Program

- 30% of the students currently work/live in Iowa
- Most graduates stay with the companies they are currently employed with
- No full-time faculty designated to program; students take classes alongside peers in other degree programs, resulting in little or no marginal costs
Future Plans

• Program growth expected in response to demand
• Engineering College is establishing a new Information Security Education Lab (ISELab) to support graduate and undergraduate courses in information assurance
• Offer additional courses online
Questions?