Division of
Information Technology

Division of IT Wins Best of Texas Award

June 11, 2018

Texas A&M University received its first Best of Texas award with a Best Mobile/Wireless Project nod for the Division of Information Technology's 2017 cyber security awareness campaign.

The award, presented by the Center for Digital Government, annually highlights IT professionals and local government organizations for their contributions and dedication to advancing information technology.

Through the online game, "Keep Tradition Secure," the division not only created a unique way to educate individuals on cyber security but allowed players to track a hacker, "Bad_Bull," across campus. There were two versions of the game available — an online game and an interactive, geolocation-based version. Over 9,000 members of the campus community participated and played the online game.

Bobby Bernshausen, communications coordinator with the Division of IT, accepted the award on behalf of the university at the Texas Digital Government Summit in Austin. He worked on the 2017 campaign and is organizing the 2018 effort.

"Just working on this project is rewarding, but being recognized with a Best of Texas Award is incredible", Bernshausen said. "It's fun to work on new, creative directions for this 'edutainment' campaign and share it with the campus community."

Dr. Michael A. Sardaryzadeh, Associate Vice President for Cybersecurity, Policy and Compliance and the Chief Information Security Officer (CISO) for Texas A&M, agreed and said he is glad the university was recognized for its security efforts.

"We are extremely honored to receive this award," he said. "Universities are prime targets for cyber attacks, so cyber security is a top priority. We are glad we can communicate this in an innovative way that is both educational and entertaining."

To learn more about the Division of Information of Technology and the Best of Texas Award, visit: today.tamu.edu/2018/06/04/texas-am-division-of-it-wins-cybersecurity-award/

To play "Keep Tradition Secure," go to: https://keeptraditionsecure.tamu.edu/