Commonwealth Cyber Initiative

cyberinitiative.org

CCI's first year: Mission and Accomplishments

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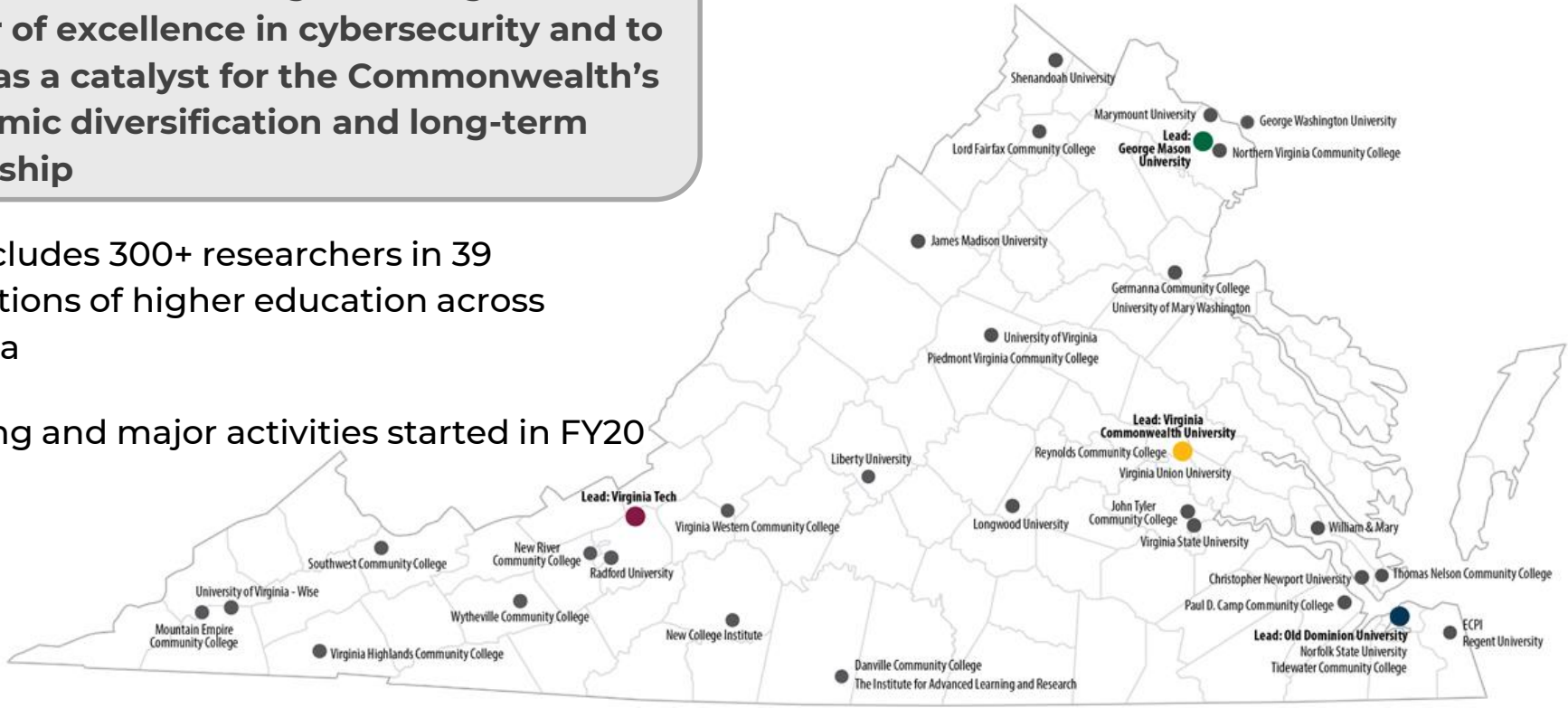
The CCI network

Vision: To establish Virginia as a global center of excellence in cybersecurity and to serve as a catalyst for the Commonwealth's economic diversification and long-term leadership

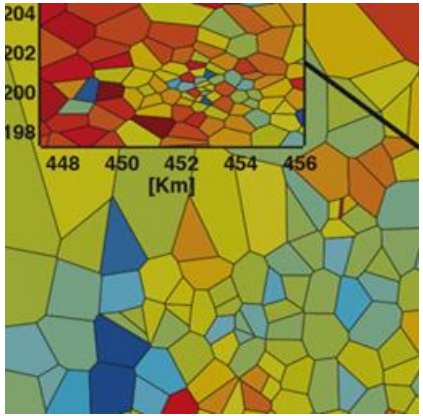
CCI includes 300+ researchers in 39 institutions of higher education across Virginia

Funding and major activities started in FY20



CCI Mission

The Commonwealth Cyber Initiative (CCI) serves as an engine for research, innovation, talent development, and commercialization of technologies at the intersection between security, autonomy, and data



Research

Workforce Development

Innovation

Research

CCI will fund research that positions Virginia in the leadership in cybersecurity, autonomous systems and data, and that will attract further research investment from the federal government and industry

$19.4M

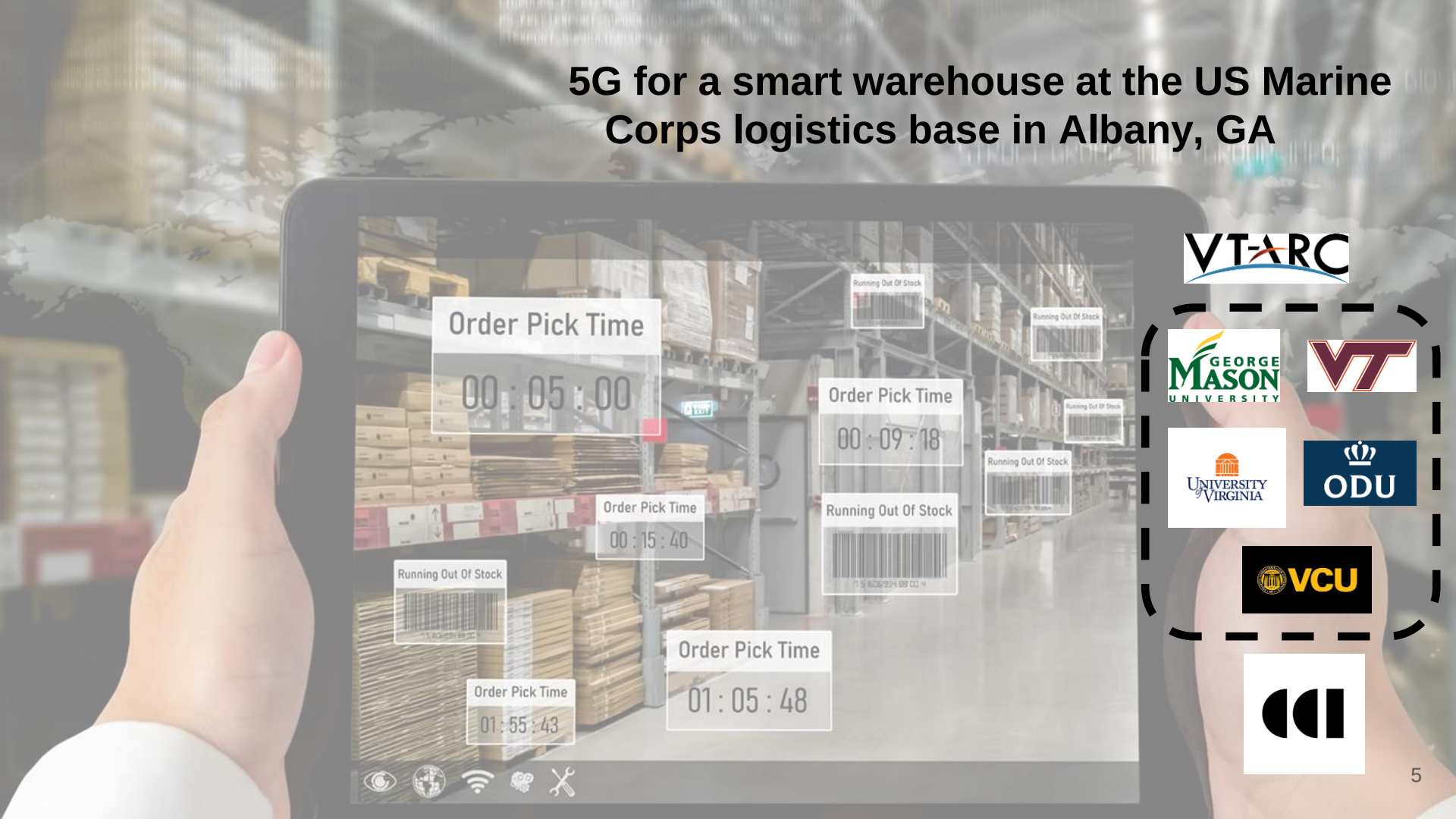
New funding attracted by CCI Hub faculty in FY20

$64.3M

Active external grants to support CCI research in the Nodes

- ✓ CCI is already achieving a 3-to-1 RoI in obtaining extramural funding
- ✓ Successful large proposals (> $10M) involving multiple CCI universities
- ✓ Transdisciplinary seed grants for arts & design in cybersecurity, the role of cybersecurity in the spread of disinformation and misinformation

5G for a smart warehouse at the US Marine Corps logistics base in Albany, GA



VT-ARC

GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY

VT

UNIVERSITY of VIRGINIA

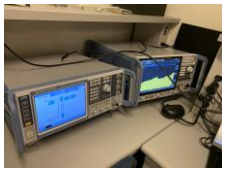
ODU

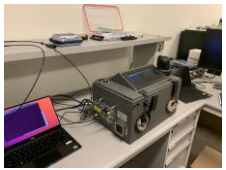
VCU

Research Infrastructure

AI Testbed

5G Testbed





5G + AI = 6G

Commonwealth Cyber Initiative

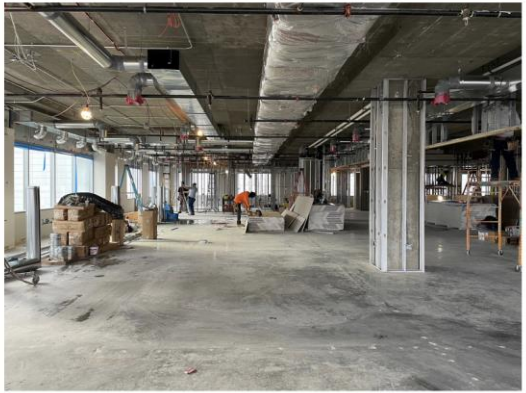
CCI Nova Node

CYMANII

CCI Living Innovation Lab

GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY

View Looking North Inside Lab



View Looking North Inside Lab

View from Entrance with Lab Beyond

Main Entrance Doorway

Workforce development

CCI will provide unique experiential learning and early work experiences to Virginia students that complement the instruction provided through degree-granting programs across the state. These experiences combine early exposure to the latest advancements in the field with essential skills in ethics, entrepreneurship, and communication, to produce the most qualified and diverse workforce in the country on cybersecurity, autonomous systems, and data

WASHINGTON DC citybizlist

Commonwealth Cyber Initiative Awards Experiential Learning Grants to Faculty and Students Across Virginia

- ✓ CCI is funding three internship programs in VA, one focusing on cyber startups
- ✓ CCI Inclusion and Diversity committee plans a program with initial focus on retention of 1st/2nd year students
- ✓ CCI has funded six new experiential learning programs, from a drone competition to data poisoning and satellite reconnaissance

Commonwealth Cyber Initiative

INTERNSHIP FAIR

01/27

11AM TO 1PM EST

Commonwealth Cyber Initiative

Qualcomm

GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY

[exelaration] CENTER

CYBERSECURITY & INFRASTRUCTURE SECURITY AGENCY CISA

VIRGINIA SPACE GRANT CONSORTIUM

MITRE

MARYMOUNT UNIVERSITY

CSIIP COMMONWEALTH STEM INDUSTRY INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

Innovation

CCI will facilitate the translation of research at the intersection of cybersecurity, autonomous systems, and data into innovation, through the development and protection of intellectual property developed in the CCI network and the fostering of a robust ecosystem of Virginia-based start-ups

VIRGINIA SBDC

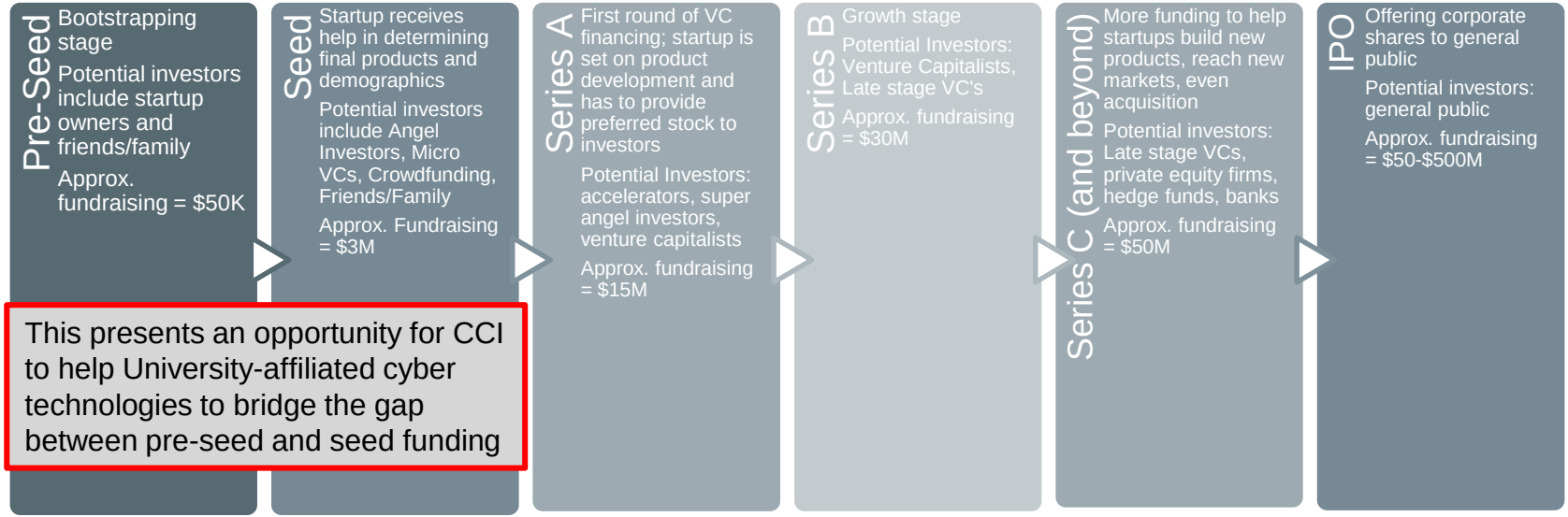
ICAP

Innovation Commercialization Assistance Program (ICAP)

Based on the National Science Foundation's I-Corps™ program for Lean Startups, ICAP helps inventors and entrepreneurs take the right first steps in bringing new technologies and innovations to market.

virginiasbdc.org/programs/icap
A Program of the Virginia SBDC

- ✓ Translational grants for startups in partnership with CCI faculty that support the commercialization of cybersecurity technology
- ✓ The INNOVATE program provides entrepreneurship training to multi-university, diverse teams of undergraduates and supports commercialization of the winning ideas
- ✓ Investment in cybersecurity ICAP
- ✓ CCI Innovation Committee develops programs to bring IP developed in Virginia universities to market



Launching a program in 2Q21 aimed at university pre-startups and Virginia-based startups with IP disclosed through universities. CCI will provide funding, mentorship, connect inventors with VCs.

Opportunities and challenges

- ✓ We have navigated the challenges of 2020, with major accomplishments in all our mission lines
  - ✓ In 2021, we are commissioning an Economic Impact study
- ✓ Critical mass and diversity of expertise in CCI has allowed us to be successful in large, federally funded programs and attracted attention from industry
  - ✓ Recent wins in cyber-manufacturing, smart warehouses, and participation as founding members in large consortia would not have happened without CCI
- ✓ We are building lasting collaborations across the Commonwealth
  - ✓ CCI's leadership council meets biweekly and has prioritized the establishment of cross-Node collaborations
  - ✓ Investing in transdisciplinary research

"CCI is yet another example of how Virginia is leading the way."
-- Vince Apruzzese, President, AT&T Virginia

"Working with the Coastal VA Center for Cyber Innovation has opened the door for new employees and interns."
-- Tracy Gregorio, CEO, G2OPS

G2OPS
Smarter Intelligence.

"CCI has provided invaluable thought leadership as well as interactive facilitation between researchers and leaders in the private and public sectors."
-- Bobby Kenner, CEO, CivilianCyber

CivilianCyber

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Questions?

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