

## More schools incorporate training for jobs in homeland security

by Chris Walsh  
The Gazette

Three years ago, area colleges and universities hustled to create courses that would prepare students for jobs in the booming high-tech industry.

Now, with the tech economy in shambles, higher education has shifted its focus to one of today's hottest sectors: homeland security.

Trade schools, colleges and universities are offering new programs in everything from computer security – key for preventing cyberattacks – to crime scene investigation valuable for tracking down terrorists. The classes will target those in security-type jobs, as well as those interested in learning the skills.

Some colleges are incorporating terrorism study into regular coursework; others have created programs specifically for military officers.

Take Colorado Technical University, which recently unveiled certification programs, degrees and courses in fields such as computer security and criminal justice.

The university, which has 1,800 students enrolled at its Colorado Springs campus, tailored the new programs around the needs of law enforcement, the military, local governments and the private sector.

"After 9-11, we reinvestigated what we needed to do to meet the demands of employers," said David Leasure, vice president of aca-

demical affairs at Colorado Tech. "We asked employers what kind of people will they be looking for, what skill sets are they going to need, where will the jobs be."

The school found law enforcement agencies, firefighters and medical teams – called the "first-responders" to terrorism attacks – need their workers to have advanced technical skills to handle new demands.

In the event of a terrorist attack, for example, local agencies need to be able to communicate with each other and pass information to other federal and state law enforcement agencies.

"Information flow between police and firefighters and other first-responders is a critical element in homeland security," said Eric Goodman, dean of management at Colorado Tech.

The university also found a need for computer security workers because companies, the military and local agencies fear cyber-attacks and other computer break-ins.

The federal government has made it clear homeland security is a top priority, earmarking \$38 billion this year to prepare for and protect the nation from terrorism. That's nearly double the homeland security budget in 2002.

Roughly \$3.5 billion will go to state and local police, firefighters and emergency medical groups. The rest will be spent on securing the nation's borders and sharing intelligence among local, state and federal government agencies.

## Berkeley professor who shares name with criminal detained in Turkey

by T.T. Nhu  
Knight Ridder Newspapers

A University of California-Berkeley math professor who visited his home in Turkey during the winter break has been unable to return to the United States, apparently because he shares the same name as a criminal.

Mehmet Burak Erdogan, who teaches harmonic analysis, traveled with his wife to Turkey on Dec. 23 and was scheduled to return to Berkeley before class resumed Jan. 21.

"I came home for vacation for less than three weeks," Erdogan said Wednesday by phone from Izmir, Turkey. "It has been more than a month, and I'm still stuck here."

As soon as he landed in Turkey, he applied for a re-entry visa, which he said would have been issued within hours before the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. The problem, he said, is that in Turkey, Mehmet Erdogan is as common as John Jones, and he was informed that his visa was being held up because someone with the same name has a criminal record.

In the meantime, substitutes have been teaching his classes.

Greg Sullivan, a spokesman for the State Department, said because the academic visas are issued by the INS, he could not comment. Sharon Rummery, an INS spokeswoman in San Francisco, also had no comment about Erdogan's situation.

In an effort to prove his identity, Erdogan said he sent his fingerprints to the FBI more than a month ago but has heard nothing. He has called the U.S. Embassy in Ankara three times a week and has heard from two consular officials that it will take two to six weeks for a decision.

"They cannot issue me a visa before they confirm that the other Erdogan and I are not the same person," he said.

Erdogan holds a J1 visa, which enables visiting scholars to live and work in the United States for up to three years, according to Ted Goode, the director of University of California-Berkeley's Services for International Students and Scholars.

At least a dozen students and visiting scholars at the university have been affected by the same new regulation delaying Erdogan. The Enhanced Border Security and Reform Act, which was signed in May 2002, requires the State Department to review each application from the more than 30 countries deemed terrorist threats.

In the past nine months, two Chinese graduate students and a Swiss scholar have been unable to come to the university because the visa was not granted in time, Goode said. He also said that UC-Berkeley students and professors from foreign countries have been cautioned about traveling abroad.

"We tell people that must travel that they must have valid visas or risk being denied re-entry to this country," he said.

Meanwhile, if Erdogan is not granted a visa before Feb. 5, there could be another delay because the American Embassy will close in observance of a Turkish national holiday.

"There's nothing I can do about this but wait," Erdogan said. "Turkey is a Muslim country, and the embassy is being cautious. It's a common delay now; it takes time but you get your visa at the end."

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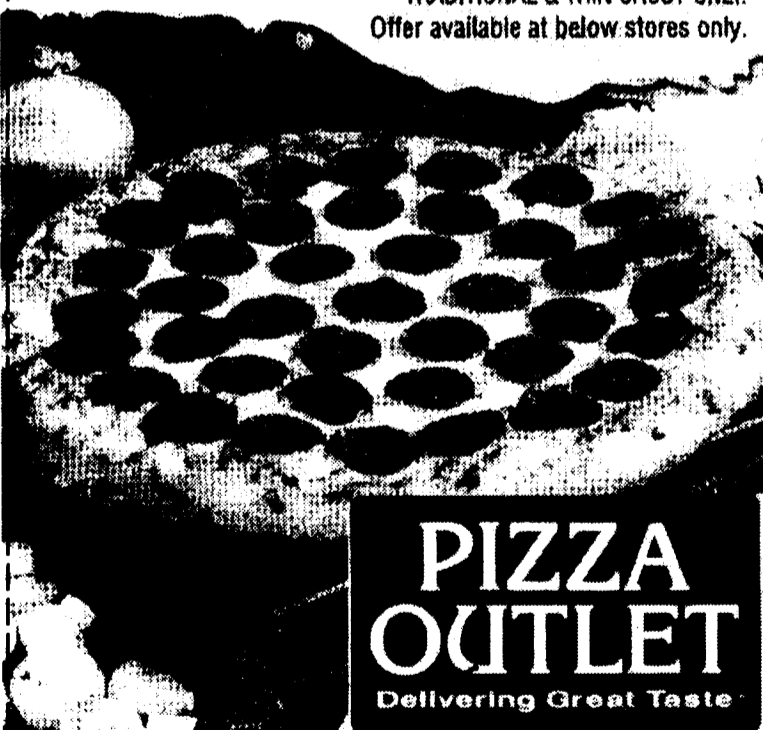
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