

## **Stony Brook News**

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### **NSF Funds Trusted Computing Project at Stony Brook University**

Computer Science Professor R. Sekar was awarded \$290,000 to develop a new approach for securing systems using automated adaptive intrusion response.

STONY BROOK, NY - October 1, 2002 Through the Trusted Computing Program, the NSF has awarded \$290,000 to Stony Brook professor R. Sekar to support a project titled, "A New Approach for Securing Systems Using Automated Adaptive Intrusion Response." Although several intrusion detection techniques have been developed so far, almost all these techniques detect attacks after they have taken place. Moreover, response techniques rely heavily on human involvement. These two factors mean that fast-progressing attacks (including, but not limited to, programmed attacks) can effect significant damage, before there is an opportunity for manual responses to be launched. Recovery from such damage is labor-intensive and time-consuming, and will render the target system unavailable for hours if not days. We therefore propose a new approach that automates intrusion responses so that the target system can defend itself from serious damage due to attacks. Specifically, our approach will: "prevent critical resources on a host from being compromised, " reconfigure the system so that its most important functions can continue to be provided, and " respond without manual involvement so as to avoid service disruptions even in the face of automated attacks.

This important research program comes at a critical time for Stony Brook's newly unveiled Center of Excellence in the Wireless Internet and Information Technology proclaimed by Governor Pataki on August 2, 2002 at a special press conference at Stony Brook University. The industry-driven Center represents a total investment of \$230M from state, federal and private sources and is expected to create thousands of high tech jobs throughout New York State.