CYNTHIA Y. LESTER

Tuskegee University • Andrew F. Brimmer Building, Room 108 • Tuskegee, AL 36088
cylester@tuskegee.edu

Cynthia Lester is an Assistant Professor of Computer Science at Tuskegee University, Tuskegee, Alabama. She joined the Tuskegee University faculty in her current rank in 2005. Dr. Lester earned the B.S. degree in Computer Science from Prairie View A&M University, Prairie View, Texas and both the M.S. and Ph.D. degrees from The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, Alabama.

Her areas of specialization are Human Computer Interaction, Software Engineering, and Software Security. Her current work in human-computer interaction and software engineering focuses on developing a software application that assists students with learning the fundamentals of C++. This application is called the *C++ Tutor*. In the area of software security, she has been investigating ways to teach software security to undergraduate students and how to design projects that would expose students to the practical side of software security. In addition to these areas of emphasis, Dr. Lester also takes a special interest in computer science education and gender differences in computer-related usage. Her research appears in numerous peer-reviewed papers in journals and international conference proceedings. She has also presented her work at national and international conferences and has appeared as the guest speaker for several conferences and workshops. Additionally, she is a member of various social and professional organizations.

In 2007, Dr. Lester began publishing with the International Academy, Research and Industry Association (IARIA). Since then, she has served as a peer-paper reviewer; and, a session chair for the Third International Conference on Emerging Security Information, Systems and Technologies, the Second International Conference on Advances in Computer-Human Interactions, and the Second International Conference on Emerging Security Information, Systems and Technologies. Additionally, she has served as a technical program committee member for The Third International Conference on Software Engineering Advances and for the Third International Conference on Advances in Computer-Human Interactions. During the Second International Conference on Advances in Computer-Human Interactions, she received a Best Paper Award for her work entitled, *Training and Educating Undergraduate Students in the Discipline of HCI.* Her work also appears as a book chapter entitled, *Advancing the multidisciplinary nature of HCI in an undergraduate course* in Advances in Human Computer Interaction.

Dr. Lester's goal as a scholar-researcher is not just to continue her own work, but to also train undergraduate students. She has guided numerous undergraduate research projects; one of the projects resulted in three refereed publications in which the second author is an undergraduate student. Further, she has written grants and received funds to continue her research in human-computer interaction and software security. Her desire is to get more students involved in the field of research and to introduce them to the "life of academia."