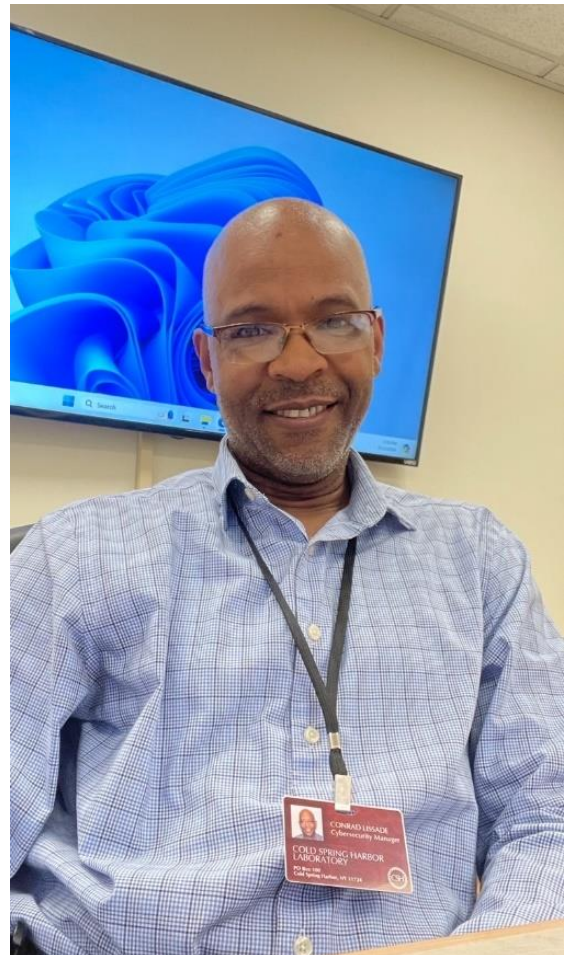


October 25, 2024

Hi everyone! Conrad Lissade here, your new Cybersecurity Manager for CSHL. It is my great privilege to work here with our renowned scientists and CSHL community. My mission is to improve on and implement best practices for protecting the confidentiality, integrity and availability of systems, data and technologies. As you know, we must strike the balance of scientific freedom with the need to meet compliance with federal funding agency requirements as we protect the organization from threats that could disable CSHL work. I look forward to supporting your efforts.



**October is National Cybersecurity Awareness Month** so what better time to update the CSHL community on the **coming cybersecurity changes and enhancements** that will strengthen our cyber-

defenses and improve upon our overall preparedness! Coming from the financial services industry, I am trained to face the worst of threat actors, but I recognize the Laboratory needs to balance risk in a different way than financial institutions. We must, and can, make greater headway in our protections with a few simple adjustments. I assure you that these enhancements will take into consideration the significance of the work carried out here at the Laboratory, and the cybersecurity team will always strive to prevent disruption of research and productivity. One simple adjustment is to make passwords stronger. Another straightforward enhancement is to ensure regular software patching and updates. By implementing these changes, along with improving our training and awareness programs, we can significantly bolster our defenses against cyber threats.

The speed and proliferation of advanced malware and hacking tactics continues to be a challenge in a world that is still in the early stages of artificial intelligence powered apps. AI has excellent use cases (demonstrated here at the Laboratory) however it is also being used by actors with malicious intent. To mitigate against these new style attacks, CSHL cybersecurity



Cybersecurity Management Office

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must adapt and evolve continuously. We need to leverage advanced tools for threat detection, invest in ongoing employee training and awareness, and implement robust incident response plans. By staying ahead of these emerging threats, we can better protect our systems and data from sophisticated cyber-attacks. We will start by increasing awareness with enhanced cybersecurity training. [Changes to the training program begin in January 2025.](#)

I look forward to meeting and working with the Laboratory community to understand how technology is used, enhance CSHL's overall cybersecurity readiness, and protect the critical work performed here at the Laboratory, ensuring its continued success and integrity. I appreciate any advice and support, and my door is always open. Please don't hesitate to reach out to me or the team directly at [cyber@csih.edu](mailto:cyber@csih.edu) if you have any questions.

Regards,

Conrad Lissade

CSHL Cybersecurity Manager