Nearly 60 students representing 18 Illinois colleges and universities registered for the Digital Forensics Challenge 2012, held last November at the University of Illinois Springfield. The event provided an entry-level opportunity for Illinois college and university students to explore computer forensics. Speakers included Dr. Ted Mims, FBI Special Agent Christopher Trifiletti, John Bambenek, and Tim Robert. Participants focused on mentored, hands-on exercises led by forensic professionals, some working in the private sector, and others working in the FBI, State Police and other law enforcement agencies. These dedicated professionals came in from across the state to be team mentors. After a lunch sponsored by State Farm, students engaged in a digital forensic scenario and were challenged to discover evidence and prepare reports. The Digital Forensics Challenge 2012 was the third collegiate event put on by the FBI’s InfraGard Springfield chapter in partnership with CSSIA and UIS. It is anticipated that the popular event will take place again in fall 2013.

1st Place Winners (from left to right)
Jason Duhamel – DePaul University
Allan Kranzusch – Moraine Valley Community College
John Leary – Western Illinois University

2nd place Winners (from left to right)
Megan Presnak – Northwestern University
Matthew Verdayen – Parkland Community College
Brandon Schwandt – University of Illinois Springfield

CSSIA’s Train-the-trainer
2012 revolutionized CSSIA’s train-the-trainer program and was a huge success by educating more than 300 instructors. CSSIA started offering this five-day, distance-learning option midyear, reducing the participant’s cost, but with all of the benefits of a synchronous, instructor-led environment with hands-on labs.

Register now… seats are limited!
CSSIA’s cutting-edge, free, distance-learning train-the-trainer programs require no travel. Visit cssia.org to register.