

Dear colleague, thank you for your interest in the Social Cyber Group. Here are updates on our recent activities.

Social Cyber Academy

- Senior Advisor Adam P. Henry has been coordinating a new [work-integrated learning pilot project](#) for the Digital Skills Organisation supported by the Australian federal government and the government of the Australian Capital Territory. This pilot was developed in collaboration with employers to be able to better place candidates interested in a career in cyber security in training while they gain workplace skills.
- In an effort to support veterans, Lisa Materano has applied for funding to the ACT Government Program for Cyber Skills Training in partnership with leading veteran's group Soldier On. The proposed program aims to equip veterans with the necessary skills to pursue a career in the rapidly growing field of cybersecurity. If the application is approved, the project will commence from July this year. Veterans and cybersecurity experts alike have hailed the initiative as a step in the right direction, given the high demand for skilled cybersecurity professionals.
- Adam Henry presented an international webinar for OneHE on "Chat GPT and Beyond – an Educational Perspective". The [mission of OneHE](#) is support faculty and higher education institutions to improve student outcomes through effective teaching. Adam will also present at the [Independent Tertiary Education Council of Australia Conference \(ITECA\)](#) from 7-9 June on Cyber Risk to Independent Education Providers.
- Information on our Master Classes and Professional Development Courses [can be found here](#). Topics include Social Cyber Security for Business, Cyber Futures, and Cyber Policy in the Indo-Pacific. These have principally been designed for customised delivery to specific organisations, but open courses for a more general audience are also offered regularly subject to reaching minimum numbers required.

Social Cyber Institute

- Human Factors? How can firms reduce significant cyber risk through organisational insights? Co-founders Greg Austin and Glenn Withers are planning to speak on this topic at the Australian Cyber Security Conference in Melbourne from 11-13 October based on their 2018 [foundational paper on social cyber security](#).
- Co-founder Professor Glenn Withers provided cybersecurity perspectives at a Regional Australia Institute Research Forum on 16 May 2023.
- Glenn Withers will participate in the Phenomics Australia Scientific Retreat to be held in September later in 2023 at which he will discuss the cyber security aspects of precision medicine in universities and medical research centres.

Social Cyber Advisory

- **Australian Cyber Policy:** In April, we made two submissions to the government review panel on a new cyber security strategy for Australia. The first submission by Dr Greg Austin addressed a specific request from the panel for a [standing framework for evaluating](#) the successes and shortcomings of national cyber policy. The second submission was our own SCG offering of a [Six Point Institutional Plan for Revitalising Australian Cyber Policy](#).
- Dr Greg Austin continues his consulting projects on advanced technologies and military power.

SCG NEWS COMMENTARY: AUSTRALIA'S OFFENSIVE CYBER POWER

In the [Conversation on 4 May](#), Greg Austin published a concise analysis on the role of Australia's world class cyber offence capability in deterrence of possible war with China. The piece was titled 'Deterring China isn't all about submarines. Australia's 'cyber offence' might be its most potent weapon.'

'The Australian Defence Force will need to reassess the military balance of power in the Asia-Pacific to take account of the cyber superiority of the US and its allies over China.'

'This might allow Australians to feel more secure about possible Chinese military threats. The choices Chinese leaders might make in provoking a crisis will be shaped by their view that their armed forces aren't as competitive in this dimension as US and allied military power.'