Office of Research Security Newsletter

May 2019

F.B.I. Bars Some China Scholars From Visiting U.S. Over Spying Fears

The New York Times, April 14, 2019, By Jane Perlez

Just as he had on previous trips, Zhu Feng bolted down his lunch at a Los Angeles airport before sprinting to catch his Air China flight back to Beijing. Suddenly, two F.B.I. agents blocked the Chinese scholar at the boarding gate and ordered him to hand over his passport. They flipped to the well-used 10-year visa to the United States and crossed out the page with a black pen.

"'Go back to China,'" Mr. Zhu, a professor of international relations, recalled an agent telling him during that visit in January last year. "You will receive a notification."

In the four decades since China and the United States normalized relations, Washington has generally welcomed Chinese scholars and researchers to America, even when Beijing has been less open to reciprocal visits. Republican and Democratic administrations have operated on the assumption that the national interest was well served by exposing Chinese academics to American values.

To read the full article -
https://www.nytimes.com/2019/04/14/world/asia/china-academics-fbi-visa-bans.html

THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA IN HUNTSVILLE

REFRESHER SECURITY TRAININGS FOR 2019:

Thursday, Apr 25, BJA, RSA – 11:00 am to 12:30 pm

Tuesday, Jun 4, BJA, RSA – 11:30 am to 1:00 pm

Wednesday, Jun 19, OKT S105 – 11:00 am to 12:30 pm

Wednesday, Jul 17, OKT S105 – 11:00 am to 12:30 pm

Wednesday, Jul 17, OKT S105 – 2:00 pm to 3:30 pm

Thursday, Aug 29, BJA, RSA – 11:30 am to 1:00 pm

Thursday, Oct 24, BJA, RSA – 11:30 am to 1:00 pm

The Cybersecurity 202: Republicans want Kaspersky, Huawei banned from sensitive university research projects

The Washington Post, March 13, 2019, By Joseph Marks

If Kaspersky, Huawei and ZTE are suspected of helping Russia and China spy on U.S. government computer systems, they shouldn't be allowed near sensitive academic research projects.

That's the argument made by three Republican lawmakers who introduced a bill Tuesday that would bar researchers who work on many federally funded projects from using any technology from those companies – or from any other companies with close ties to the Russian or Chinese governments.

The goal is to ensure it's just as hard for Russian and Chinese government-linked hackers to steal important U.S. academic research as it is for them to steal government secrets, the bill's sponsor, Rep. Jim Banks (R-Ind.), told me. "Huawei and ZTE are snakes in the grass, tools of the Chinese government," Banks said. "If we restrict their use for federal government purposes, we should restrict their use on college campuses as well for anything related to sensitive research."

The Protect Our Universities Act would apply to projects that receive funding from the intelligence community, Pentagon and Energy departments, but not to classified projects, which are subject to numerous other security requirements. It would also apply to projects dealing with technology that the State and Commerce departments have restricted from being sold abroad to some degree.

To read the full article - https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/powerpost/paloma/the-cybersecurity-202/2019/03/13/the-cybersecurity-202-republicans-want-kaspersky-huawei-banned-from-sensitive-university-research-projects/5c884bd91b326b0f7f38f152/?noredirect=on&utm_term=.eb991d02b62f

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