Mr. Gary D. Amerson

Director, Center for Cyber Security

Mr. Gary D. Amerson became the first Director of the Center for Cyber Security at Auburn University at Montgomery (AUM) in March 2020.

Mr. Amerson brings with him a strong operational background. He retired from the United States Air Force (USAF) after 25 years working in communications and information technology, specializing in communications security in analog and digital formats. He was instrumental in designing and implementing new airborne secure communications networks and technology. He was part of the initial cadre in development of the communication suite on the USAF C-37A (Gulfstream V) aircraft. His last assignment was at Headquarters Air Mobility Command, serving in the Operational Support Aircraft/Executive Airlift Requirements Branch, responsible for the design and procurement of secure airborne communication systems for our nations leaders.

After the military, he worked for Booz Allen Hamilton as a cyber security specialist for eight years. He oversaw a team of cyber experts securing a network of over 32,000 users, 20,000 assets, on three continents. Some of his process improvements in securing user access were adopted Navy wide. Mr. Amerson transitioned to government civilian service as an Information Systems Security Manager for almost two years prior to coming to AUM. He served as the Naval Education and Training Command's primary interface with Fleet Cyber Command's Office of Compliance and Assessment during numerous Command Cyber Readiness Inspections across the Navy, all receiving passing to excellent grades.

Mr. Amerson taught graduate-level cyber security for ten years at Bellevue University. He has been a Certified Information Systems Security Professional (CISSP) since 2010.

Mr. Amerson holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Information Systems (Information Security concentration) and Masters of Science degree in Management Information Systems (Cyber Security concentration), from Bellevue University, Bellevue, Nebraska. He and his wife, Kayleen, have two grown daughters, one working towards being a civil engineer and the other a veterinarian.