

## HUNTSVILLE

# UAH tech could help parolees

## AI system would help prisoners re-enter society

Jim Steele UAH

Custom-tailored help will be available to prison parolees reintegrating into society once an artificial intelligence system being developed by The University of Alabama in Huntsville and two partner universities is complete.

UAH's partners are Purdue University and Florida State University. Development is funded by an equal split of a \$1.9 million grant from the U.S. Dept. of Justice's National Institute of Justice. It is one of the largest awards the NIJ has provided.

The Indiana Department of Correction is involved in the effort, and Alabama could also have a role.

"I would like to get the help of the Alabama Department of Corrections if they are interested," says Tathagata Mukherjee, an assistant professor of computer science and the principal investigator for the UAH portion of the work. "FSU is exploring the same with the Florida Department of Law Enforcement."

UAH is primarily responsible for the AI research and development, as well as the visualization aspects of the system.

"We are developing both the system and the algorithms," said Mukherjee, who will serve as the primary AI resource for the three-university team.

"The objective is to ensure that parolees are provided help and support after they have got parole, and this support will be provided by an AI-based system that will use information about the parolee to tailor the support to him or her," Mukherjee said.

"A byproduct of this system will be continuous monitoring of the parolee, which will lead to information that can be used by the AI system to predict dangerous behavior, anti-social activity and activity that breaks the conditions of the parole," he says. "It will also lead to better supervision of dangerous



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and violent offenders who are out on parole."

Haeyong Chung, assistant professor of computer science, is UAH's co-principal investigator for the award. He will work to implement the user interface and data visualization system for end users. At least two UAH doctoral candidates will also be involved.

**UAH scientists are working on an artificial intelligence system to help prisoners re-integrate into society.**

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