

UNO teams with DOD to identify remains of fallen soldiers

UNO announced a partnership with the United States Department of Defense to help identify the skeletal remains of fallen soldiers.

The partnership brings together faculty from UNO's College of Information Science and Technology and the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency.

The partnership, led by Pawaskar and his team, will involve developing a Commingled Remains Analytics Ecosystem, which pulls together existing data that currently exists in multiple locations into a new framework that allows for a more strategic, case-by-case analysis of previously unidentified remains.

The hope is that with the combined efforts of both parties the identification process can be made faster and more accurate.

"Through this collaborative effort, it is our hope that this work will help bring a unified approach towards the framework and methods we use to analyze forensic anthropology data," said Dr. Sachin Pawaska, the leader of the partnership.

"Through providing a more robust reporting and analytics capabilities, together we can help identify more of our fallen heroes."

According to the DPAA, in World War II alone, more than 72,000 people are unaccountable. Out of that number, approximately 26,000 are assessed as "possibly-recoverable." IS&T will apply technical and scientific methodologies which will address the way these skeletal remains be identified.