EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY POLICY, RESEARCH AND OUTREACH (ETPRO)/CYBERWATCH and MSDE HOSTS THE ANNUAL CAREERS in CYBERSECURITY WORKSHOP for GUIDANCE COUNSELORS
September 30th, 2010

Careers in Cybersecurity to be discussed

CLARKSVILLE, MD (September29th, 2010) – Developed to help educators, primarily career counselors and STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) coordinators learn more about career opportunities in the growing field of Cybersecurity, Educational Technology Policy, Research and Outreach (ETPRO) and CyberWatch, in partnership with the Maryland State Department of Education, are hosting the *Annual Careers in Cybersecurity Workshop* September 30th, 2010 at the Johns Hopkins University Columbia Building in Columbia, Maryland.

School counselors are critical in the career choices of students. This 1 day workshop will introduce counselors to IS/IA, Cybersecurity and Digital Forensics career opportunities, and choices within these categories, as well as, the multiple pathways to enter the workforce in these areas. Industry employers will speak to participants about career opportunities, student internships, externships and other related opportunities.

The workshop will begin with an opening snapshot of the growing demand of workers in information security, and then move on to situate the growing need within our Maryland community. A panel will then share insight from the perspectives of large and small agencies and institutions and through the lens of diversity and opportunities for minorities and women. Information will be provided from large and small business entities about current and future job opportunities, and a representative from the SANS Institute will help us decipher the various mazes of certification programs and talk about opportunities for students to engage in the US Cyber Challenge. The workshop will conclude with a presentation about the security clearance process and resources to share with school staff and students.

"The annual workshop stems from the need to have educators and career counselors learn more about the growing need for cybersecurity careers particularly in this geographic location," shares Dr. Davina Pruitt-Mentle, The CyberWatch K12 Division PI. Indeed, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics projects a 48 percent increase in jobs for computer software engineers and a 55 percent growth in jobs for network system and data communications analysts by 2014. Projections for Maryland mimic the same trend. While computer operators and computer programmers are projected to decrease, computer software engineers, network systems and data communications analysts, and network and computer systems administrators are projected to go up between 40 and 50%, and computer and information systems managers are projected to grow by 23%. Much of this is fueled by the growing IT industry, which is in particular demand in MD, DC, and VA, because of the large federal infrastructure including intelligence and Department of Defense government agencies and related contractors, and will be increased by upcoming BRAC movements to Ft. Meade and the Aberdeen Proving Ground.

For more information on the Annual Careers Workshop visit *http://www.edtechpolicy.org/cyberk12/index.html* or contact Davina Pruitt-Mentle at dpruitt@edtechpolicy.org . To learn more about CyberWatch K12 Division Programs and CyberWatch and to receive multi-media files and reports regarding its accomplishments, visit www.cyberwatchcenter.org or contact Dr. Costis Toregas, CyberWatch Marketing Director at toregas1@gwu.edu .