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## **11TH ANNUAL C3 CONFERENCE: CYBERETHICS, CYBERSAFETY AND CYBERSECURITY SET FOR OCTOBER 4-5**

**CLARKSVILLE, MD** (October 3, 2012) – Developed to help educators and parents learn effective ways to ethically, safely, and securely use technology in the classroom and at home, Educational Technology Policy, Research and Outreach (ETPRO) is hosting the 11th Annual C3 Conference on October 4-5, 2012 at the University of Maryland. It coincides with National Bullying Prevention month and National Cybersecurity Awareness month, which both take place each October.

Participants will hear from state and local educators, law enforcement, internet safety curriculum providers, researchers, and policy makers on a broad range of topics to include: current and pending legislation, educational initiatives, and the latest "hot topics" to include cyberbullying, identity theft and cybersecurity strategies. Making Maryland and the Nation safer and the economy stronger has been a top priority of U.S. Senator Barbara A. Mikulski (D-Md.). At the Thursday luncheon she will be awarded the LifeLock Award of Excellence for her relentless leadership in cyber awareness, education, and safety.

This year the C3 Conference is partnering with the Maryland State Department of Education to offer a full day of content related to promising practices for the prevention of bullying and harassment, including online behaviors. Combining the 3rd Annual Maryland Conference on the Prevention of Bullying and Harassment with the C3 Conference provides a unique opportunity for more educators to attend both events at a single location.

Bullying prevention has been a particular focus of Maryland First Lady Katie O'Malley. Her efforts to combat bullying through education awareness will be celebrated on Day 2 of the conference where she will receive the C3 Award of Excellence. Maryland First Lady Katie O'Malley praised plans for the conference.

"Part of creating the next generation of leaders and achievers is allowing our kids to learn in a bully-free environment," Judge O'Malley said. "I'd like to thank Dr. Lowery and the organizers of this annual conference for recognizing that it takes all of us—parents, teachers, administrators, students, and community leaders—to stop bullying. Together, we can create a culture of tolerance so our kids can grow up with dignity and respect and lead healthy, successful lives."

"With the constant evolution of new security issues, new technology gadgets to tempt students to gain an advantage, recent trends in cyberbullying and identity theft and the expansion of laws on copyright infringement and file-sharing, this conference is useful for all educators and parents who want to keep up with the latest information," said Davina Pruitt-Mentle, PhD, C3 Conference Chair.

For more information on the C3 Conference visit <http://www.edtechpolicy.org/C32012/index.html> or contact Davina Pruitt-Mentle at [dpruitt@edtechpolicy.org](mailto:dpruitt@edtechpolicy.org).

**Educational Technology Policy, Research and Outreach** (ETPRO, Inc.), is a research and development organization located in Maryland connecting educational technology policy and research to instructional practice. ETPRO brings more than two decades of experience in the educational community, and more than a decade of experience in evaluating both formal and informal educational programs at the K-16 level, and conducting educational technology policy analysis. ETPRO's expertise is founded on a combination of classroom practice across K-16 tied with a solid research base.