

For Immediate Release: October 1, 2012



ETPRO and UMD Announce New Cybersecurity Partnership

CLARKSVILLE, MD (October 1 2012) – Educational Technology Policy, Research and Outreach, Inc. (ETPRO) and University of Maryland (UMD), today announced a new partnership to establish collaborative arrangements to host the 2012 Cool Careers in Cybersecurity for Girls Workshop. The partnership will promote K-12 cybersecurity education, career awareness and research through the National CyberWatch K12 Division and the Maryland Cybersecurity Center (MC2). ETPRO and UMD will leverage each other's resources and expertise to provide young women with the information and skills necessary to navigate the professional pipeline in the vast fields of CyberSecurity and Information Assurance, as well as, other science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields.

This year the *Annual Cool Careers in Cybersecurity for Girls Conference* will be held on November 14, 2012 at the Riggs Alumni Center at the University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland.

350 middle school girls, accompanied by parents and teachers will attend the full day event. The program begins with a Cyber Crime Scenario presented to the girls. The event shares information about cyber careers and general cyberethics, cybersafety and cybersecurity within the presentation of a cyber crime scenario. The elite all-girl investigative teams complete a range of diverse hands-on activity sessions which reveal a variety of clues to solve the crime. Each session will have a different activity led by women professionals in the field. The girls use the first part of each rotation to gather a clue, and the remainder of the time is used to learn more about the careers and how each representative entered the field. Girls find out more about the education skills needed, likes and dislikes, salary range and family and social benefits.

Activities will include: cryptography, assembling a computer, steganography, penetration testing and cell phone forensics.

For more information on *Annual Cool Careers in Cybersecurity for Girls Conference* visit <http://www.edtechpolicy.org/cyberk12/c3workforcecareers.html> or contact Dr. Davina Pruitt-Mentle at 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.

