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ETPRO/CYBERWATCH, JHU and MSDE  
HOST THE ANNUAL  
CAREERS in CYBERSECURITY WORKSHOP for COUNSELORS  
and STEM COORDINATORS  
September 27<sup>th</sup>, 2011

*Careers in Cybersecurity discussed*

**CLARKSVILLE, MD** (September 27, 2011) – 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, ETPRO and the CyberWatch K12 Division in partnership with the Maryland State Department of Education and John Hopkins University hosted the Annual Careers in Cybersecurity Workshop September 27th, 2011 at the Johns Hopkins University Building in Columbia, Maryland.

Educators are critical in the career choices of students. The workshop introduced 60 counselors and STEM instructors to career opportunities in the growing field of Cybersecurity, and the multiple pathways to enter the workforce in these areas. Industry and government employers and two and four year faculty spoke to attendees about career opportunities, student internships, externships and other related opportunities.

The workshop began with an opening snapshot of the growing demand for workers in cybersecurity, and then moved on to situate the growing need within our Maryland community. Peggy Maxson, DHS Director of National Cybersecurity Education Strategy, presented the newly released Cybersecurity Functional Framework to help participants better understand cybersecurity titles, roles and responsibilities. Industry and faculty members shared educational pathway options and a student panel shared their perspectives. Nicole Smith, Senior Economist from Georgetown University Center on Education and Workforce discussed findings from the recent report *The College Payoff*. The day ended with a session to help participants decode the plethora of security job categories and the increasing number of cybersecurity related competitions and contests.

Stipends were made available through National Science Foundation funding for attendees to create recruitment brochures/ fliers or make a presentation based on workshop content that will then be shared with students, parents and other educators. Materials are added to the ETPRO/CWK12 website for others to view, use and share.

“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, 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 this 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 particularly strong in MD, DC, and VA, because of the large federal infrastructure including intelligence and Department of Defense government agencies and related contractors. This will be increased by upcoming BRAC movements to Ft. Meade and the Aberdeen Proving Ground.

For more information on the Annual Cybersecurity Careers Workshop visit <http://www.edtechpolicy.org/cyberk12/c3workforceguidance.html> or contact Dr. Davina Pruitt-Mentle at [dpruitt\(at\)umd\(dot\)edu](mailto:dpruitt(at)umd(dot)edu). 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](http://www.cyberwatchcenter.org)

**CyberWatch** is an Advanced Technological Education (ATE) Center, headquartered at Prince George's Community College and funded by a grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF). The CyberWatch mission is to increase the quantity and quality of the cybersecurity workforce. The CyberWatch goals are focused on Cybersecurity education at all levels, from elementary through graduate school, but especially the community college level, and include curriculum development, faculty professional development, student development, career pathways, and public awareness.

The **CyberWatch K12 Division** extends the CyberWatch Mission to the K12 Community. Its mission is to improve the quality and quantity of the Cybersecurity workforce. The K-12 Division Goals include increasing the Cybersecurity workforce pipeline, community awareness of Cybersecurity workforce needs, community awareness of Cyberethics, safety and security, and security of K-12 IT systems.

**Educational Technology Policy, Research and Outreach** which leads the CW K12 Division, 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.