DoD: Cybersecurity Scholarship Program (CySP)

Meeting's Agenda on October 9, 2023

Minutes Approval

- Approval of minutes of the last meeting held 9/1/2023 (minutes file was sent by email).

Announcements:

- The fully executed grant was recently received and internally awarded by IUP on 9/15/2023.

- Given that delay, I have secured the approval of IUP administration to submit the scholarship tuition waiver forms for all students before the grant was awarded.

- Tuition/fees waivers were submitted in early September and should have been processed by the Bursar's Office a while ago. **All, please confirm.**

- Students have been using the Coop Accounts set by the PI to buy their academic books this semester. If you still need to purchase any other books from the COOP, you need to do that ASAP.

- Also, before the award of the grant on 9/15/2023, the PI submitted requests to disburse scholarship stipends on the NextGen System ($13,500 to each student for each semester). These requests should had been processed a while ago and each of you should had received her/his stipend. **All, please confirm.**

- Regarding the computer purchase and as we agreed, the best and fastest way to acquire these is for NEW CySP recipients to purchase her/his favorite laptop/desktop then we will reimburse you for your expenses (up to $1,500). **The following information** (sent to you before by email) needs to be submitted to me to initiate the processing of your reimbursement. So far, Evan, Thomas and Brody are the only students who sent me this info. All other NEW students, please do that ASAP. **Any questions??**
  - **Name of person to be reimbursed**
  - **Address to which check should be mailed**
  - **Proof of purchase (invoice with payment method shown)**

- There is one upcoming major cybersecurity event at IUP. So far, we have three-four personnel from the DoD who will be presenting at this event including the director of the DoD STEM. **ALL CySP recipients are strongly encouraged and expected to participate in this event**:

  - The 16th annual Cybersecurity Day on Oct. 31st. Website is https://www.iup.edu/cybersecurity/activities/cyber-security-day/index.html. We need to recruit helpers to manage this event, see also the following discussion section.

- In addition, the PC4A project is sponsoring a regional Cybersecurity conference called [BSides](#) to be held in Johnstown on Oct. 26, 2023. If any of you are interested, we have discount codes and registration will cost students only $10 after the discount.

Discussion on Promoting the CySP program at IUP:

- Every CySP recipient is expected to continue to promote the program and participate at satisfactory levels on various selected and/or assigned activities to achieve this goal.

- So far, most of you are helping with various projects and activities but those who are not are strongly encouraged to contribute to the program.

- Opportunities for all CySP students include:
  - Signing up to help with the upcoming CSD on Oct. 31. **Please contact Meghan for detailed assignments.**
  - Actively participating and playing leading roles in the Cybersecurity Club.
  - Participating in the upcoming CAE NE Hackathon in early spring 2024.
  - Participating in Cyber Competition and/or Hackathon such as the CAE NCX, NSA Code Breaker, etc.
  - Involvement into research projects with project Co-PIs.
  - Actively participating in the peer-mentoring program, see also below.

Registration for Spring Courses:

  - All CySP recipients are reminded with our previous discussion last meeting. The scholarship is ONLY covering your academic semester courses (fall and spring). No winter nor summer courses are covered. If you have any special situation, make sure you discuss this with the PI ASAP.

Peer-mentoring Updates:

Below are the assignments shared with you last meeting. Meghan, Vincent, Malcolm, James, and Benjamin please report on any updates regarding this initiative.

  - Meghan & Vincent will be the peer-mentors for Thomas.
  - Malcolm will be the peer-mentor for Evan and Jared.
  - James Searer will be the peer-mentor for Julia and Noah O.
  - Benjamin will be the peer-mentor for Brody, James Saylor, and Noah S.

Students' Reports:

- Everyone, please quickly report on: academic progress, outstanding issues that might affect your academic performance, and cybersecurity portfolio.

Renewal:

- It will be mainly based on your performance in this program, fulfillment of the obligations discussed before, and recommendation letter by the PI, see also agenda of last meeting.

Next Meeting is Schedule on Wednesday, Nov. 8 at 11:15 AM. All confirm availability.

Questions??