IUP Cybersecurity Scholarship Program (CySP) Meeting Minutes

August 27, 2021 – 4:00 PM

- Attended by: Dr. Waleed Farag (PI), Nicholas Villano, Jacob Neulight, Dylan Dewalt, Cassandra Lefever, David Gallaher, Zaryn Good, Zachary Cupp, Maria Balega

- Official Grant
  - Has not been awarded yet, but the Dean signed the grant on August 27, 2021. This means that the funds are likely to be received sometime next week
  - No late fees will be charged while waiting for the funds to be received

- Courses
  - Each student confirmed that they are taking the originally agreed upon number of credits this semester
  - Any changes in the number of credits this semester must be reported to Dr. Farag as soon as possible as it may affect the scholarship funds

- Textbooks
  - Each student receives $625 for required textbooks
  - No issues were reported from the students regarding the funds for textbooks
  - Some students are currently waiting for books because many books are in backlog

- Additional financial aid
  - Scholarship recipients can receive a maximum of $6000 in additional scholarships/grants
  - The DoD scholarship will be applied first to school fees because it is a full scholarship
  - Other scholarships may be dropped because many are based on financial aid
  - No questions or issues regarding this was reported by students

- Stipend receiveal
  - Half of the total stipend ($12500) will be received by the student through the same method that the student would regularly receive any refund from IUP EasyPay
    - This is typically by a check in the mail or direct deposit
  - No questions from students

- Laptop stipend – no grant to start order but turn in specs soon. Will take weeks to deliver. Up to $1500
  - Laptop fund is up to $1500
  - Since the grant has not been received, orders cannot be made yet
  - New students should decide on specs soon so that the order can be submitted as soon as possible
  - Will take weeks to receive

- Health insurance
  - Students have the opportunity for insurance
  - Jacob is possibly interested in receiving insurance through the scholarship
  - Everyone else was not interested

- Student Responsibilities
  - Maintain 3.2 GPA or higher
  - Participate in the internship if it is required by your agency
  - Attend monthly meetings
  - Promote CySP and cybersecurity to other students
- Participate in cybersecurity/computer science extra curriculars

- Questions regarding scholarship
  - Always email Dr. Farag first with any questions regarding the scholarship
    - Any time there are any issues, reach out to Dr. Farag
  - When emailing questions to the scholarship people, always CC Dr. Farag
  - When emailing your agency, do not CC Dr. Farag as that work does not involve him directly

- Working – Students are allowed to work up to 20 hours a week and must inform Dr. Farag of that work

- Portfolio
  - Students must submit a portfolio at end of semester
  - Dylan sent out sample portfolios to all new students for example

- Summer and winter semesters
  - Always discuss with Dr. Farag if there is a possibility of taking a summer/winter class
    - Fees will not be covered by the scholarship if it is not discussed with Dr. Farag
  - It will not be covered unless it is necessary to graduate on time
    - Any changes to your originally reported graduation date must be reported to Dr. Farag as soon as possible

- Renewal is based off the student’s performance and a recommendation letter from Dr. Farag

- If a student is interested in taking free Udemy courses, reach out to Dylan

- Peer mentoring
  - Students are not currently assigned, but may be in the future
  - Try to assist other students

The next meeting is currently TBD