DoD: Cyber Service Academy (CSA)

Meeting's Agenda on October 4, 2024

Minutes Approval

- Approval of minutes of the last meeting held 8/28/2024 (minutes file was shared by email and also posted on the project website at www.iup.edu/DoDScholarship).

Announcements:

- The fully executed grant was received by end of August and then internally awarded by IUP.

- Despite that delay, I have worked with various IUP administrators to submit the scholarship tuition waiver forms for all students immediately after the grant was awarded.

- Tuition/fees waivers were submitted on 9/4/2024 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, right after the award of the grant, the PI submitted requests to disburse scholarship stipends on the NextGen System ($14,500 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 CSA recipients to purchase her/his favorite laptop/desktop then we will reimburse you for your expenses (up to $1,650). **The following information** (sent to you before by email) needs to be submitted to me to initiate the processing of your reimbursement. So far, Carina, Logan, Noah, Nicholas, and Dylan are the new students who had sent me required documents and I had approved them and submitted individual requests for reimbursements. *Please confirm if you received your reimbursement or not yet*. 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 four-five personnel from the DoD who will be presenting at this event including the Program Lead, DoD Cyber Workforce Development Branch at the DoD CIO and the technical advisor for C5ISRT for the U.S. Air Force and Space Force. **ALL CSA recipients are strongly encouraged and expected to participate in this event**:

- The 17th annual Cybersecurity Day on Oct. 29th. Website is https://www.iup.edu/cybersecurity/activities/cyber-security-day/index.html. Speaker info will be posted soon on the website. We need to recruit helpers to manage this event, see also the following discussion section.

- Notification about the new CSA cycle for AY 2025-26 is expected to go live in early November with a submission deadline of Feb. 1st, 2025. In addition, the AVUE tool should have a list of those schools planning to participate in the program.

Discussion on Promoting the CySP program at IUP:

- Every CSA recipient is expected to continue promoting 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 the cybersecurity club and activities but those who are not are strongly encouraged to contribute to the program.

- Opportunities for all CSA students include:
  - Signing up to help with the upcoming CSD on Oct. 29. **Please contact Thomas for detailed assignments.**
  - Actively participating and playing leading roles in the Cybersecurity Club.
  - Participating in the upcoming CAE NE Hackathon in early spring 2025.
  - 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 CSA 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. All students please report on any updates regarding this initiative.

  - Julia, Noah O., and Evan will be the peer-mentors for Alison, Dylan and Carina.
  - James will be the peer-mentors for Logan.
  - Thomas will be the peer-mentor for Noah G. and Shari.
  - Jared will be the peer-mentor for Nicholas.

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. 6 at 11:15 AM. All confirm availability.

Questions??