



# Becoming a Cyber Professional: A Discussion with Recent Graduates

**Moderator:** *George L. Heron, LifeJourney USA*

**Panelists:**

**Danielle Santos**, *Assistant Program Manager, Cyber Formal Education, DHS*

**Scott Wallace**, *Software Engineer, DHS*

**Michael Rocha**, *Assistant Program Manager, Cybersecurity Workforce Dev, DHS*

**Princess Young**, *Program Manager, Cybersecurity Awareness,  
Office of Cybersecurity & Communications, DHS*

# GEORGE HERON .... *My "Journey"*



Director of Mentoring



Chief Scientist



VP Engineering



Engineering Manager

R·I·T

BS Electrical Engineering

# MICHAEL ROCHA

## Education

- ***B.S. Administration, Concentration in Cyber Security*** – California State University, San Bernardino

## My Journey

- Political Science  Cyber Security
- CyberCorps®: Scholarship For Service (SFS) Alumni

## Internship

- *Information Security Support Analyst Intern*, Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas

## Certifications

- Security+
- CNSS 4011, 4012
- AccessData Certified Examiner
- AccessData Mobile Phone Examiner

# NICCS™ WEBSITE

## *The Nation's One Stop Shop for Cybersecurity Careers and Studies!*

- ✓ 1,500+ training courses mapped to the National Cybersecurity Workforce Framework
- ✓ 100+ links to cybersecurity resources
  - ✓ Nation-wide Cyber Competitions
  - ✓ 10+ monthly events
  - ✓ 10+ links to customized job searches

...and more coming soon!



[www.niccs.us-cert.gov](http://www.niccs.us-cert.gov)

# PRINCESS YOUNG

## Education

### Idaho State University

- Business Management (Human Resources) & Music as an Undergrad Student
  - Choirs, University Newspaper, Honors Program, Finance Association, etc.
  - Summer internships at two Fortune 500 companies
- Information Assurance (MBA) & IT analyst as a Grad Student

## My Journey

- Scholarship for Service Student Alumna
- Intern at DHS in Summer 2013
- CompTIA Security+
- SHRM Assurance of Learning

## Hobbies & Interests

- Music & Travel

# AVAILABLE RESOURCES

The **Stop.Think.Connect. Campaign** provides a number of resources to the public, with toolkit materials designed for:

- Government
- Industry
- Law Enforcement
- Older Americans
- Parents and Teachers
- Students (K-8, 9-12, and undergraduate)
- Young Professionals

Download at:

[www.dhs.gov/stophinkconnect](http://www.dhs.gov/stophinkconnect)



Help us make the Internet safer for everyone!

# DANIELLE SANTOS

## **Education**

- **B.S. Cyber Security**
- **B.A. Business Economics**
- California State University, San Bernardino

## **My Journey**

- Business Management
- SFS
  - InfoSec Club
  - Competitions

## **Internships**

- Department of Justice
- Pacific Northwest National Laboratory

# DHS IS PROVIDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS TO PURSUE A CYBERSECURITY CAREER

**College students interested in cybersecurity can take advantage of programs that prepare them for their career and help make a degree affordable.**

**CyberCorps®: Scholarship for Service (SFS) – Managed by the National Science Foundation and co-sponsored by DHS, this program provides full college scholarships to students to increase and strengthen the cadre of federal Information Assurance professionals.**

**Centers of Academic Excellence (CAE) –**  
A partnership between DHS and NSA, this program builds networks of academic Information Assurance/Cyber Defense (IA/CD) experts and influences the IA/CD curriculum across the nation.





# SCOTT WALLACE

## Education

- **Computer Science**
- Florida State University 2014

## My Journey

- After learning to program, I developed an interest in computer and telephone security.
- Gained an internship with Homeland Security through the SFS Program.
- Returned to the same team after graduating in May 2014.
- Currently developing software and occasionally penetration testing.

# PURSUE A CYBERSECURITY CAREER TODAY

- Computer occupations are expected to increase 22% between 2010 – 2020, higher than the average total for all other occupations at 14%.
- Unemployment rates are much lower for information technology specialists, in some cases nearly a quarter of the national average.<sup>1</sup>
- Those entering computer occupations statistically have more job security due to the high demand for employees with technology skills.
- Many employers are also offering job flexibility, including the ability to work remotely.
- The average salary for certified information systems auditors is over \$100,000 a year. Chief Information Security Officers can expect to earn double that.<sup>2</sup>

Sources:

1. Department of Labor

2. <http://www.nextgov.com/cybersecurity/2011/04/shortage-of-skilled-cyber-specialists-fuels-debate-over-pay/48910/>

# CYBER JOB TITLES

- **Computer Crime Investigator**
- **Penetration Tester**
- **Network Administrator/Analyst**
- **Software Developer**
- **Website Administrator**
- **Information Security Policy Writer and Strategist**
- **Cybersecurity Trainer/Professor**
- **Business Analyst**
- **Information Technology Auditor**

Find these and many more described in  
the Workforce Framework!

# QUESTIONS