History of the University of Guyana Cybersecurity Club

Prepared by the 2022-2023 Executive Committee

14th December 2022

The University of Guyana Cybersecurity Club

Starting Date: September, 2017

Motto: Together We Can Secure ICT

Logo: Cleadon Brummell, Club Treasurer and a Graphics Designer, took charge of getting the logo designed. It was designed and launched in the 2018/2019 Academic Year. Cleadon got his colleague Ridwan Azeez, who was not a club member, to design the Logo.

Designed by Ridwan Azeez in 2018/2019 Academic Year

Vision: To be a highly respected and principled team of skilled Cyber-security practitioners.

Mission: Our purpose is to provide our members with necessary knowledge and experience of Cyber Security principles and tools to improve their academic and professional careers.

Objectives:

1. To educate the members with the relevant cyber security skills.
2. To discuss issues related to Cyber Security.
3. To share with its members information relevant to securing information.
4. To prepare for and participate in local, regional and international Capture the Flag competitions.
5. To establish linkages with relevant organizations involved in securing information.

Past and Current Presidents:

2017/2018- Mr. Kwesi Elliot, Fourth year Computer Science student

2018/2019- Mr. Cloyd London, Final Year Student

2019/2020- Mr. Jason Jacobs, 3rd Year Computer Science Student

2020/2021- Mr. Jason Jacobs, 4th Year Computer Science Student

2021/2022- Ms. Waynetta Naughton, First-year Computer Science Student.

2022/2023- Ms. Waynetta Naughton, Second-year Computer Science Student.

Past and Current Executive Members:

Academic Year	Club Faculty Advisor	President	Vice-President	Secretary	Treasurer	Events Coordinator	PRO	Immediate Past President
2017/2018	Ms. Sandra Khan	Mr. Kwesi Elliot	Mr. Teekae Jordan	Mr. Shemar Austin	?	?	-	-
2018/2019	Ms. Sandra Khan	Mr. Cloyd London	Mr. Teekae Jordan	Mr. Shemar Austin	Mr. Cleadon Brummel	Mr. Jason Jacobs	-	-
2019/2020	Ms. Sandra Khan	Mr. Jason Jacobs	Mr. Wayne Forde	Ms. Krystal Pereira	Mr. Sharukh Khan	Mr. Teekae Jordan	-	-
2020/2021	Ms. Sandra Khan	Mr. Jason Jacobs	Mr. Wayne Forde	Ms. Krystal Pereira	Mr. Shahrukh Khan	Mr. Teekae Jordan	-	-
2021/2022	Ms. Sandra Khan	Ms. Waynetta Naughton	Ms. Marissa Lowe	Mr. Marion Glasgow	Mr. Wilton Lawrence	Ms. Felicia Gouveia	-	-
2022/2023	Ms. Sandra Khan	Ms. Waynetta Naughton	Mr. Kieron Abrigo	Ms. Rokaylia Thomas	Ms. Shawnna Fredricks	Mr. Ngozi Thomas	Mr. Marion Glasgow	Mr. Jason Jacobs

Evolution of the Club:

Origins: All of the Computer Science Department Clubs were the brainchild of Ms. Farnaz Baksh. The Dept. of Computer Science supported her idea and created about five clubs, one of which was the Cybersecurity Club.

The Clubs were launched at Orientation 2017/2018. Ms. Sandra Khan (a cybersecurity professional and lecturer) was asked to be the Cybersecurity Club's advisor, and she made a presentation about the Club at Orientation 2017/2018. Ms. Khan reports that "After I made a presentation about Cybersecurity, and was heading back to my office, two students ran behind me and said, Miss, Miss, Miss we are interested in this club." Those two students were 2nd year students Teekae Jordan and Shemar Austin. That makes them the founding members of the UGCC. The club gave them the opportunity and the space to share their passion for cybersecurity with the rest of the University community and they used every chance they had to do so.

The club elections were advertised on the Department's Facebook page and the students rallied behind Kwesi Elliot who was also passionate about cybersecurity and was doing his Undergraduate thesis on Cybersecurity. Kwesi set the tone for the club to be ethical hackers in their orientation since Cybersecurity professionals use the same skillset as do Cybercriminals. Kwesi also lead the group in the development of the club constitution which focused on training, skills development, and education of club members.

Evolution:

It was the second club president, Cloyd London, a student of UG's Distance Learning computer science Program, during the period of 2018-2019 who pursued the education objectives set by Kwesi when he noticed that members within the club lacked training within the field of Cybersecurity. He began providing weekly training to the members, focusing on the basic knowledge needed to succeed in the field.

The third and fourth President, Jason Jacobs, continued the training sessions.

Ms. Waynetta Naughton helped to bring structure and proper administration to the Club.

Impact Made on Campus

The University of Guyana Cybersecurity Club (UGCC) paved a way for the provision of impactful skills, knowledge, and experience for the students in the field of cybersecurity inside the campus. Not stopping there, UGCC also emphasizes the importance of this area in every aspect of education, instilling in its members what it means to be ethical in the field of Cybersecurity.

This Club interests primarily second-year Computer Science and Information Technology students, where our training sessions are most valuable to those doing a second-year computer science course, Computer and Information Security Fundamentals as well as Information Assurance and Security, a third-year course within the department of Computer

Science. Nevertheless, we are open to all students of the University, with members coming from within the department of Computer Science, to students outside of the field such as in, Electrical Engineering, Law and even Accounting. We show these students how Cybersecurity can be incorporated into their field and how much learning about it can be beneficial to them.

Cybersecurity Awareness Month, 2018
The University of Guyana Cybersecurity Club, in collaboration with TechEd Revolution, conducted a workshop on campus, open to all students and staff of the University of Guyana which focused on being able to educate all that were interested in the various ways they can go about securing themselves on the internet and while using their systems.

Training Sessions
We offer to mentor all of our upcoming cybersecurity practitioners, where a course outline is followed to provide members with a series of sessions guaranteed to equip them with all the knowledge and skills, they need to assure them a career in the field if desired. To-date, many of the members of the University of Guyana Cybersecurity Club now have/are pursuing careers within the field of Cybersecurity, with the club being the backbone of their decisions.

Course Tutoring
For the past few years, the President/Immediate Past President of the University of Guyana Cybersecurity Club, as well as other members have been tutors for the second-year, second semester course CSE2203- Computer and Information Security Fundamentals. With this, these students harvested the knowledge and skills that they would have attained from the club to effectively deliver their lessons each year for this course, alongside our Faculty Club Advisor and CSE2203 Lecturer, Ms. Sandra Khan.

Impact Made Throughout the Country

"Think Before You Click" Conference
During 2019, the University of Guyana Cybersecurity Club held a Conference at the Arthur Chung Conference Center alongside the National Frequency Management Unit to spread awareness to young females within ICT on threats that can be faced in dealing with data privacy and cybersecurity.

OAS Diplohack, 2019
The University of Guyana Cybersecurity Club represented Guyana in 2019 where we debated on Cyber Policy against fiver other Latin American countries and drafted policies for incident response.

CyberEX, 2021
On an international level, the University of Guyana Cybersecurity club represented Guyana in the CyberEx competition; an annual OAS/INCIBE initiative which seeks to help

strengthen the incident response abilities of individuals. Guyana was well represented by UGCC and ranked 36th among 82 countries for this competition where our members demonstrated a set of digital forensic skills with various tools to investigate data breaches. The members who represented the club and by extension Guyana not only gained exposure to international competitions, but also gained a lot of technical exposure in incident response.

Cybersecurity Awareness Month, 2022
In 2022, the University of Guyana Cybersecurity Club during Cybersecurity Awareness Month went to several public schools across the country and interacted with both students and teachers educating them on what cybersecurity is all about, the different forms of breaches in cybersecurity as well as educating them on Guyana's Cybercrime Act.

FumaCon, 2022
The University of Guyana cybersecurity club was invited by Seishonen Guyana to participate in FumaCon 2022, Guyana's first Multi-Genre Convention, at the Marriott Hotel, alongside the University of Guyana Robotics Club to showcase the club and what we have worked on throughout our time.