

# Samantha J. Comeau

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## **ABOUT ME**

Interests: Research and Development, Systems Security, Embedded Development, Reverse Engineering

## **EDUCATION**

**Worcester Polytechnic Institute**, B.S Computer Science, Minor in Electrical and Computer Engineering May 2019

**Worcester Polytechnic Institute**, M.S Computer Science concentration in Computer Security May 2020

## **EXPERIENCE**

**Senior Information Security Assistant**, *WPI Information Security*, Worcester, MA May 2018 – Present

- Lead Information Security assistants by delegating tasks and aiding communication between staff and assistants
- Lead project of automating the banning of MAC addresses on WPI's network for AUP violations
- Produce formal documentation including project proposals and NDA(s)

**Cyber Intern**, *MITRE*, Bedford, MA May 2019 – August 2019

**Cyber Intern**, *MITRE*, Bedford, MA May 2018 – August 2018

- Automate the generation of signed platform software and components for an embedded device
- Reverse engineer a program that interacts with system services on an embedded device (ARM)
- Develop programs to automatically interact with kernel variables and filesystem utilities

**Cyber Intern**, *MITRE*, Bedford, MA May 2017 – October 2017

- Develop a function matcher using symbolic execution in Python with open source package *angr*
- Improve performance of existing program through creating Singleton instance of symbolic Control Flow Graphs using JSON to store NetworkX Digraphs in SQL database
- Learn and use tools such as Radare2, IDA Pro, and more in order to reverse engineer binary files compiled for ARM, MIPS, and X86 both statically and dynamically
- Present findings to both technical and non-technical members of WPI's community for the Major Qualifying Project

**Information Security Assistant**, *WPI Information Security*, Worcester, MA October 2016 – May 2018

- Use Splunk to analyze network traffic and create dashboards to ease usability for analysts
- Filter and anonymize network data logs using regular expressions with SED while following information privacy policies
- Research and recommend security improvements to WPI employees for hosted websites using ZAP and Nessus

**Field Engineer / Systems Programmer**, *Maverick Integration*, Nashua, NH July 2013 – August 2016

- Program processors to interact with home automation systems securely using manufacturer specific programming tools
- Diagnose and solve networking problems in the office and at customer locations

## **PROJECTS**

**Software Security Engineering**, *Worcester Polytechnic Institute*

- Research and present on current topics in cybersecurity and lead discussions on the topic (DNS Rebinding, UNVIEL)
- Hack software programs and websites using SQL injection, XSS, CSRF, buffer overflow, DLL attacks and others
- Use the black/white box testing methodology to find and patch vulnerabilities in software programs and websites

**Using Data Visualization to Communicate the Sources of Plastic Pollutants in Port Phillip Bay**, *Worcester Polytechnic Institute and the Port Phillip EcoCentre*

- Use GIS mapping to visualize plastic pollution data and embed findings into the EcoCentre's website
- Present findings and give recommendations to city officials based on the locations of highly polluted areas and supplemental factors that could be contributing to these spikes in pollution levels

**Containerized Home Automation System**, *ONGOING*, *Worcester Polytechnic Institute*

- Design a Raspberry Pi cluster running Docker and Nomad which controls a home automation system
- Program Arduinos to communicate over WiFi and Bluetooth to the Docker cluster to transmit sensor data and receive commands securely to interact with different aspects of the home

**Software Engineering**, *Worcester Polytechnic Institute*

- As project leader, manage a team of eight people in order to produce a navigation application using AGILE project management techniques
- Develop database with security considerations including sanitization of input and encryption
- Work with junior developers to lead and teach them through peer programming
- Lead team to produce the winning application through delegation based on individual's skillset, allowing for interdepartmental constructive feedback, and flexibility of tasks based on team's interests

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## **Advanced Operating Systems, ONGOING, Worcester Polytechnic Institute**

- Use Amazon Web Services to run Apache's Hadoop on EMR using S3 for storage
- Compare Docker's default networks to Docker's private networks to determine the tradeoff between security and ease of use

## **Advanced Digital Circuit Design, Worcester Polytechnic Institute**

- Develop programs for FPGA's using Verilog with knowledge of adders, multiplexors, finite state machines, SPI and I<sup>2</sup>C
- Use timers and interrupts to produce an oscilloscope with different voltages / wavelengths on the MSP430

## **Independent Study Project on Safety Technology, Worcester Polytechnic Institute**

- Research and compare safety technologies designed for college students, women, people with disabilities and more

## **Machine Learning to Identify Android Applications, ONGOING, Worcester Polytechnic Institute**

- Using a Gateway and VMs classify the running Android Applications based on network traffic

## **RF Emitter, ONGOING, Personal Project**

- Create a program on a Raspberry Pi that emits RF signals to control a projector
- Receive input on Raspberry Pi through voice commands to Amazon's Alexa using Amazon Lambda
- Solder the components onto a PCB after the circuit has been designed and tested on a breadboard

## **Protecting the Solar Energy Grid, ONGOING, Personal Project**

- Set up a solar panel to charge lithium ion batteries and secure communication with the SCADA system (Raspberry Pi)
- Solder a prototype on a PCB

## **BeagleBone + UBoot, ONGOING, Personal Project**

- Utilize CAN bussing and UART on a BeagleBone to send information to other embedded devices
- Modify the UBoot library to load onto the BeagleBone

## **Independent Study Project on Cryptography, Worcester Polytechnic Institute and MITRE Corporation**

- Design a course on cryptography in collaboration with MITRE as the initial collaboration for course credit at WPI
- Implement a TLS secure chat server that uses RSA in Java to encrypt and decrypt messages

## **Computer Networks, Worcester Polytechnic Institute**

- Develop working communications between layers of the network stack using protocols such as GoBack-N, Alternating Bit Protocol, HTTP 1.1, and distributed asynchronous Distance Vector Routing algorithm
- Use Wireshark to analyze network traffic

## **Operating Systems, Worcester Polytechnic Institute**

- Develop a text-based shell to demonstrate knowledge of process creation, termination, and resource usage
- Create programs based on virtual memory and concurrency with semaphores and page tables

## **Machine Organization and Assembly Language, Worcester Polytechnic Institute**

- Work with assembly language, C, and Ubuntu to control buffer overflow, diffuse binary "bombs", and simulate a cache

## **ACTIVITIES AND LEADERSHIP**

### **Founder, Students Mentoring Active Responsibility Together**

August 2016 – Present

- Leadership Positions: President, Vice President, Vice President of Community Outreach

### **Society of Women Engineers**

March 2016 – Present

- Leadership positions: Secretary

### **Alpha Phi International Women's Fraternity**

January 2016 – Present

- Leadership positions: Director of Target Membership Marketing, Marshall

### **CyberSecurity Club**

January 2018 – Present

## **TRAINING AND CERTIFICATIONS**

- Splunk Certified Power User 6.x, Emerging Leaders Conference Series, Scholarship for Service Conference '18 '19, Women in CyberSecurity Conference '18 '19, Women in Defense Conference '19, Grace Hopper Conference '18

## **COMPUTER SKILLS**

- Operating Systems: Ubuntu, Linux Mint, Kali Linux, TinyCore Linux, MacOS, Windows
- Languages: Python, C, Verilog, Java, JavaScript, HTML, SQL, R, CSS, C++, JQuery