Attendance

Subcommittee members attending: Senator Katie Fry Hester (chair), Anupam Joshi, Miheer Khona, Dr. Michel Cukier, and Dr. Kevin Kornegay (for Dr. David Wilson, President of Morgan State University)

Staff: Dr. Greg von Lehmen (University Maryland Global Campus, Staff to the Maryland Cybersecurity Council)

1. Welcome. As the new chair, Senator Hester expressed how much she looked forward to working with the subcommittee and thanked the members for their time. Self-introductions followed. In addition to Senator Hester, Dr. Michel Cukier is also new to the subcommittee.

2. The purpose of the meeting was to organize for the next two years by identifying meeting dates and times most convenient for the members and ideas that could inform a program of work for the subcommittee.

   a. Meeting dates and times. Based on a poll of the members present, Friday (morning or afternoon) appears to be the best window for meetings. With enough notice, members indicated they might have greater flexibility.

   b. Policy recommendations to pursue. The July 1, 2019 Activities Report of the Council carried forward the subcommittee’s recommendation calling for enhanced resources for public university computer science departments as a strategic State investment in workforce development and innovation.

The members agreed that this recommendation continues to be a critical issue for the state. Computer science departments at universities are struggling to meet student demand for their programs. Over time, an unmet need for greater investment in the university system, especially when compared with other states, will affect Maryland’s competitiveness to retain and attract firms needing computer science and cybersecurity talent.
The development of a subcommittee report that would baseline where Maryland stands with respect to other states could be one way of adding urgency to the recommendation. Miheer Khona took it as an action start a draft of such a report to see if this is a direction the subcommittee would want to pursue. Other suggestions were to expand the internship opportunities of students in Maryland state agencies and with Baltimore City.

Senator Hester noted that the Joint Committee has a hearing scheduled for December 4. The focus for the hearing has not yet been announced. She asked members to consider whether it would be useful to have the Joint Committee take up the issue of cyber education and workforce development as a vehicle for raising the issue’s profile and identifying policy needs that the subcommittee might examine.

3. The Senator closed the meeting by noting that there is strong context for the subcommittee’s work. It is expected that the Kirwan Commission recommendations will receive considerable attention in the 2020 legislative session, and the attack on Baltimore City has once again shown how important cybersecurity is.

4. With no other business, the subcommittee adjourned at 4:30.