Tricia Camaya

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Professional Statement

My name is Tricia Camaya and I am a student at Norfolk State University. I am currently a senior majoring in Cybersecurity. During my studies, I have applied to many internships and gained many skills and experiences. I continue to look for opportunities during the school year because I wanted to take what I learned in my classroom and apply that in my internships. I wanted to have hands-on experience because coding takes practice. The more you practice it, the better you perform at it. It is also something that you could easily forget going from class to class if you do not practice it on your own time. I originally did not major in cybersecurity as I was initially enrolled into Information Technology major in my freshman year. It was not that much of a difference when I switched to Cybersecurity because I took general classes. I was motivated to switch to Cybersecurity because I was inspired by my computer science professor. She saw the potential in me with coding and told me to think about it and sooner and later I started to have great interest in programming. My first programming language was C++.

During my freshman year, I worked with two graduate students and another undergraduate student to develop a visualization program called LUCID. In this program, the blue team defends itself from the red team. Red team represents ping flood attack. The blue team represents the system. I learned Javascript code during this experience. I also learned a few things about SQLite and jQuery. I familiarize myself with snort as well because we needed to create more rules in order for the program to operate smoother. It was a bit challenging at first since I did not have that much background knowledge and experiences with coding, but with continuous motivation and assistance from my colleagues I was able to contribute and learn a lot during the time we had. My accomplishments in this internship are debugging Javascript code and creating an attack map.

In my second year, I did an internship with a group called Sociocybersecurity. In this internship, computer science students work with psychology students to create an application where users interact with different cybersecurity scenarios regarding how they feel about cybersecurity. It was a great experience because I had the chance to work with students outside my major which helped me work with my communication and problem solving skills. I develop HTML and CSS skills in this experience. I also practice more in Javascript. My two accomplishments from this internship are developing captcha code and debugging javascript code. We also had the chance to present our work at the RISE conference where we have won third place as undergraduate research. Additionally, I enrolled in the UX Design Bootcamp funded by Netflix. I had the opportunity to enhance my HTML skills and learn many designing skills. My accomplishment in this program is that we modified and executed a community website that could interact with more consumers. Additionally, I did an internship with the Department of Homeland Security and ORISE. My internship with DHS focuses on the risk of cybersecurity attacks on offshore wind farms. My accomplishment was developing a website that contains all my research about offshore wind farms. I had the chance to represent my work with many DHS staff and coastguards. My internship with ORISE focuses on graphical programming software called LabVIEW, where I code on different exercises my mentor asked me to do. I accomplish many different coding exercises and familiarize myself more in LabVIEW. My sophomore year was a busy year, but I had the chance to improve the skills I have learned, network, and gain many experiences.

In my junior year, I continued my internship with Sociocybersecurity, DHS, and LUCID. My accomplishments are continuously implementing the website and softwares. For Sociocybersecurity, I continue to work on the landing page and onboarding documents using my HTML, CSS, and Javascript skills. I am also working with developing security features such as phone and email verification using SQL and database. For DHS, I am continuing researching offshore wind farms. For LUCID, I continue to modify the program such as the attack map. I also participated in two hackathon conferences where I accomplished demonstrating my Javascript and HTML skills. We were awarded honorable mention in my second conference. The first conference I went to was the CSC Southwest Region Conference. The second conference was the DHS COE Hackathon. I am currently in the Coding Institute run by NSF Science Gateways Community Institute (SGCI). In this program, I had the chance to learn Python and UNIX. This program also allowed me to master my HTML skills. My accomplishments in this program are mastering HTML skills and learning Python. I was provided with many different resources that I can use to enhance my skills even further and I will continue to use it. In my upcoming senior year, I will continue to focus on my studies and look for internship opportunities. I plan to graduate this upcoming May 2023.

I am a student that continues to strive and learn more. I am eager to gain experience and open to new challenges. Besides seeking experiences to prepare me for my career, I have continued to maintain as an honor student and volunteer in my community. I am also bilingual and my spoken languages are English and Tagalog. Growing up in a third world country society, I always seek opportunities in order to achieve my goals to make myself and my family proud. I also want to be a role model for many minorities who want to major in Cybersecurity. There are not many females in the field and I want to provide guidance and inspiration to all.