

### The Entry-Level Cybersecurity Career Dilemma



**Paul Campbell & Ralph Argiento Guilford Technical Community College** Jamestown, North Carolina



# What's the Dilemma?



#### Entry-Level: Of or Being at the lowest level of a hierarchy.

May require no prior experience or related education.

Alternatively, an entry level job can be the first major role that an individual undertakes as they begin their career.

Dilemma: Having to make a choice or decision under pressure between two or more unpleasant or undesirable things.

After working so hard to obtain a goal, coming to find out that the goal is further than expected. Does the induvial continues to push on further or settle to do something else the seems more obtainable.

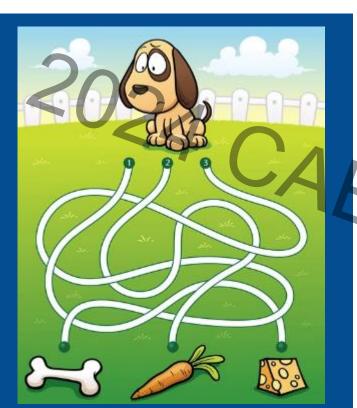












Navigating through Challenges













### Barriers (Challenges) to Break through



- Inexperience
- Uncertainty with Major
- Skills Gap
- Networking Challenges
- High Competition
- Fixed Mindset
- Comfortability
- Weak Resume
- Lack of Follow-Up
- Economic Factors
- Personality Traits

- Lack of Soft Skills
- Weak Resume
  - Lack of Follow-Up
  - Ignorant about Professionalism







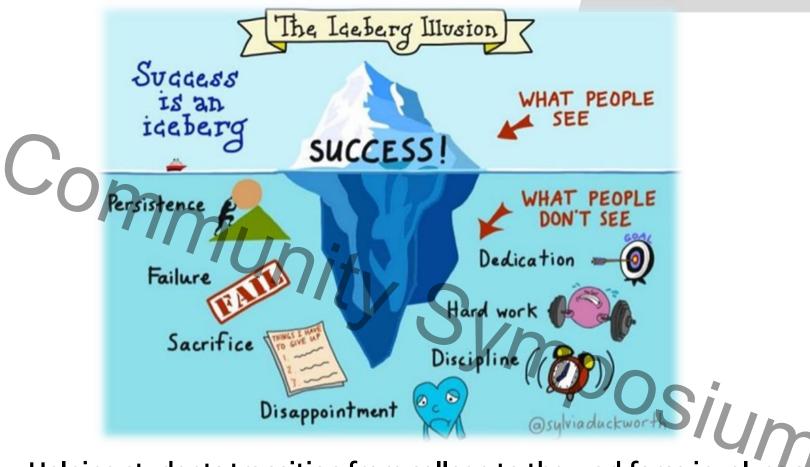
Strategies to Help our Students

- Set Aside Time & Plan
- Prepare Before Graduation
- Have Students to Explain their IT Career Plans
- Read Over their Resume & Critique
- Practice Interview Skills (Conduct Mock Interviews)
- Soft Skills & Professionalism Exercises
  - Communication, Nonverbal Cues, Critical Thinking
- Share Professional Development Workshops
- Online Job Boards & Career Websites (Walkthrough)
- Leverage Alumni Networks (Campus Career Centers)
- Persistence & Positivity (Growth Mindset)
- Encourage Learning & Education (Certifications)





## We are Here to Help



Helping students transition from college to the workforce involves a combination of practical steps, networking, and a positive mindset. By guiding them through this process, we empower them to kick-start their careers!

