WSC Partners with SANS Institute CyberTalent

Media Contact: Mari Galloway | 910-644-0183

WSC to Partner with SANS Women's Immersion Academy to Increase Participation of Women in the Information Security Workforce

Collaboration to provide high-potential students with tuition-free, scholarship-based cybersecurity training

ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA, June 13, 2017—The Women's Society of Cyberjutsu (WSC) is excited to announce a new partnership with the SANS Institute's CyberTalent program aimed at increasing participation of women in the information security workforce.

WSC and SANS will collaborate on the SANS Women's Immersion Academy, an innovative scholarship program for women who are in their senior year of college or career changers that are not currently working in the cybersecurity field.

The SANS Women's Immersion Academy is an accelerated training and certification program offering women a fast track to a career in cybersecurity. The program offers selected candidates an opportunity to complete up to three SANS world-class cybersecurity training courses and earn the associated, industry-leading GIAC certifications. The Women's Academy encourages women to enter the cybersecurity workforce and helps match talented, employment-ready women with rewarding careers.

WSC's mission is to advance women in technical cybersecurity careers through affordable training and preparation as well as valuable networking. WSC will work with SANS to extend their access to qualified and driven women throughout the nation. Additionally, WSC and SANS look forward to engaging the employer community around hiring Academy graduates as well as leveraging WSC resources, member benefits, and other opportunities.

"We are very excited and proud to be partnering with SANS on their Women's Immersion Academy, said Lisa Jiggetts, CEO and founder of WSC. "This is the first of many partnerships WSC is striving to put in place for our members to help drive a stronger and larger pool of technical women cyber talent."

"The cybersecurity talent pipeline is small compared to the demand for skilled professionals and the lack of gender diversity in the field is far too high," says Max Shuftan of the SANS Institute.

"A recent study by Forrester found that women represented only 11% of the information security workforce. This is unacceptable. The SANS Women's Immersion Academy is a great opportunity for women with an aptitude for InfoSec to develop hands-on skills and achieve GIAC certifications on the path to a career in cybersecurity. We've very excited to work with WSC to grow the Women's Immersion Academy in 2017."

To learn more, visit the SANS Women's Immersion Academy or listen to a recent BrightTalk webinar.

About Women's Society of Cyberjutsu
Founded in 2012, the Women's Society of Cyberjutsu (WSC) is a Northern Virginia-based 501(c)3 non-profit organization, focused on empowering women to succeed in the cybersecurity industry. WSC's mission is to advance women in cybersecurity careers by providing programs and partnerships that promote networking, education, training, mentoring, resource-sharing and other professional opportunities. WSC serves thousands of women across the globe by bringing awareness to, and advancing careers in, cybersecurity.

The WSC community includes information security professionals, IT professionals, programmers, computer scientists and engineers, as well as women wanting to explore and join the field. Recognizing the importance of encouraging girls to embrace a future in STEM-related professions through its Cyberjutsu Girls Academy, WSC provides a unique hands-on curriculum focused on securing information technology. For more information, visit Women Cyberjutsu.

About SANS Institute
The SANS Institute was established in 1989 as a cooperative research and education organization. SANS is the most trusted and, by far, the largest provider of cyber security training and certification to professionals at governments and commercial institutions world-wide. Renowned SANS instructors teach over 50 different courses at more than 200 live cyber security training events as well as online. GIAC, an affiliate of the SANS Institute, validates employee qualifications via 30 hands-on, technical certifications in information security. The SANS Technology Institute, a regionally accredited independent subsidiary, offers master's degrees in cyber security. SANS offers a myriad of free resources to the InfoSec community including consensus projects, research reports, and newsletters; it also operates the Internet's early warning system--the Internet Storm Center. At the heart of SANS are the many security practitioners, representing varied global organizations from corporations to universities, working together to help the entire information security community.