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LSEM

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Outreach Observation

During my first semester at Longwood, I was privileged to be able to volunteer for and attend the Cyber Security Summit held September 16th in Jarman Auditorium. I chose to volunteer for this historic event because I plan to major in Business Administration and minor in Cyber Security, and am also considering a Cyber Security graduate program at Carnegie Mellon University. Aside from the field correlation, the Cyber Security Summit was also a prime setting to meet both student and alumni board members of the business school here at Longwood University, as well as a great opportunity to meet professionals in the Cyber Security field.

Prior to the Summit, I was assigned to greet the incoming attendees and monitor Longwood student attendance. Arriving to Jarman an hour and a half before Summit began, I had the opportunity to introduce myself to fellow volunteers, some of which being active members in the Student Advisory Board for the College of Business and Economics. Among them was Justin Chamberlain, a senior at Longwood who plans to graduate with a Business Administration Major. He shared his experiences interning at a supply chain management company, offering helpful advice regarding time management while planning an internship.

I also had the privilege to meet not only students in my field of study, but alumni who have had years of experience in the field. It was inspiring and motivating to see the success of Longwood's business alumni, especially when they returned to their alma mater to attend the summit. It was interesting to see the variety of professions who attended the Cyber Security Summit. This placed clear importance on how Cyber Security affects virtually every technologically up-to-date business, and it reaffirmed my confidence in my chosen career path. When first thinking about my future career, I wanted to go into a profession that was flexible in the variety of jobs it offered. I decided upon Business and Cyber Security because a

business degree can stretch from professions in the makeup industry to technology firms. Cyber Security offers the same flexibility, with virtually every company needing some form of networking protection.

Overall, my experience with the Cyber Security was a very positive and influential one, and if given the chance to volunteer again, I would, without a doubt, donate my time. The summit gave me insight into the professional world, in both social and formal aspects and taught me more about the importance of Cyber Security than I had previous thought. I was able to begin networking and introducing myself to other current or future business professionals. I was inspired to work more in the business field and to volunteer more of my time at business events. I feel most at home with my major when I attend and volunteer at business or formal events because meeting current business professionals gives me something to aspire to, creating a sense of motivation and pride in my current studies. I am passionate about entrepreneurship and success, and I know that Longwood's School of Business and Economics is able to set me on the right path.

Community service is important to me because it allows me to connect with different people from different places, as well as improve the community I have become a part of. Community service is also a great opportunity to either learn more about your career or explore new career options, which can lead to a different career path than originally decided upon. Community service is important to Longwood because Longwood strives to graduate self-sufficient citizen leaders who chase success, give back, and step outside of their comfort zone. From an educational perspective, community service teaches valuable life skills and offers different opportunities than the classroom does. Community service is equally as important to the community because it signifies some sort of retribution and recognition to your roots. Being accepted into a community and becoming part of it can be considered a privilege as well as an honor and giving back shows appreciation for what the community has given you, especially if you have achieved success later in life because of that community.