

# Hacking Your Cybersecurity Career



Kernelcon 2020

CYBER→AAA  
cyber-aaa.com

 BELLEVUE  
UNIVERSITY

# @whoami

## Ron Woerner

- Hackers Wanted
- Cybersecurity Professor, Bellevue University
- Chief Hacking Officer, Cyber-AAA ([cyber-aaa.com](http://cyber-aaa.com))



# Use the chat for questions

**What the  
\$%\$# are we  
doing here?**



**Cybersecurity  
Skills Gap???**

# Self-Discovery → Strategic Planning



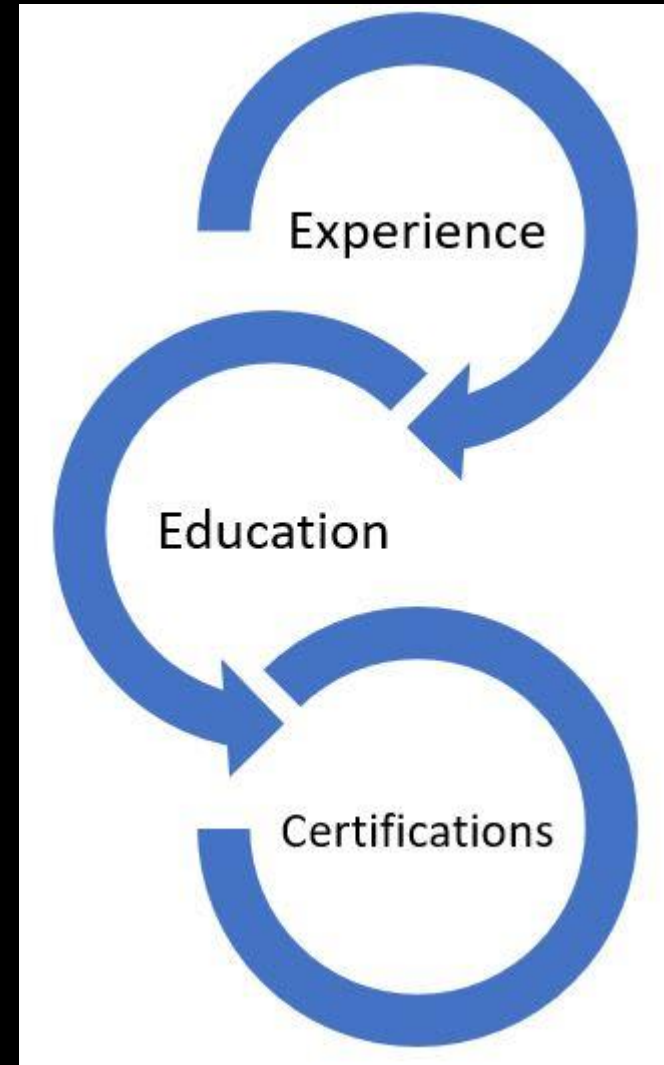
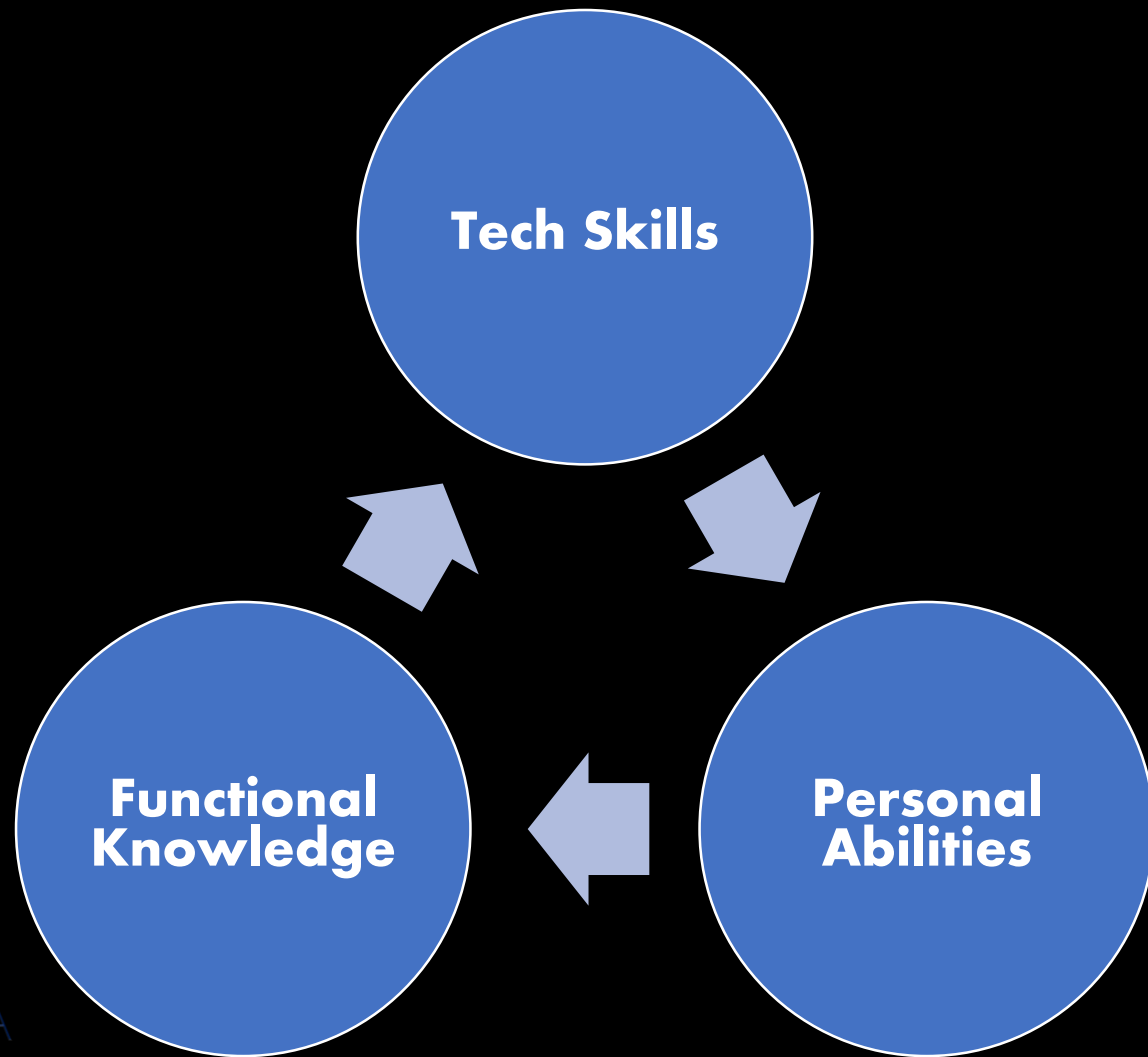
Present ←————→ Future

# Write

- 3 Strengths
- 3 Weaknesses
- 3 Dream Jobs
- 3 People You Admire
- 3 Things You're Doing Today



# Cybersecurity Career Requirements



# Strategic Planning

**Track your progress**

**Your Career Project Plan**

**Career ROI**





# Strategic Planning

**Be flexible**

**Enjoy  
the  
Journey**





# Getting Experience

- Practice, practice, practice
  - Set up your own home lab
  - Mentor
  - Volunteer
  - CTFs
- Get your foot in the door
  - PC Support / Technician
  - Help / Service Desk

# Building Your Reputation and Network

## Connecting with people



- **LinkedIn**
- **Twitter**
- **Meetups**
- **Conferences**

**Value goes both ways**

# Getting Your Next Role

## Do Your Homework

### Social Engineer / OSINT



Megan Benoit  
cybertricotouse

<https://www.peerlyst.com/posts/using-osint-techniques-to-land-that-dream-job-raf-borges>

# Video Interviews – The New Normal

## Equipment

- Cameras
- Lighting
- Audio

## Apps

- Zoom
- Calendly

## Technique

- Love the camera
- Go Big!

# Getting Your next role

## HR & Applicant Tracking Systems



# Flipping the Table: If You are Hiring

- **Humanize the job description**  
**What do you really need?**
- **Be open and inclusive**
- **Humanize the application process**
- **Communication goes both ways**



# Cybersecurity Career Pathway





# Blogs & Resources (aka Homework)

- [Breaking Into Cybersecurity Podcast](#)
- *Choosing Your Cybersecurity Career*  
Path: <https://www.peerlyst.com/posts/choosing-your-cybersecurity-career-path-ron-Woerner>
- Peerlyst PeerTalk Panel - Career Routes & Diversity:  
<https://www.peerlyst.com/posts/peertalk-panel-career-routes-and-diversity-request-for-questions-rosie-anderson>
  - *Please use this for your questions and comments*
- Peerlyst Career Wiki - <https://www.peerlyst.com/posts/a-collection-of-links-about-transitioning-into-infosec-or-starting-an-infosec-career-and-making-it-peerlyst>

# WANTED: HACKERS



REWARD



# “RSAC20 - Hacking Your Cybersecurity Career”



# Personality Tests

- [Jung Typology Test \[Free version of\] Myers-Briggs](#)
- [Personality Test Center - IPIP-NEO](#)
- [Free Aptitude Test \[Free version of\] StrengthsFinder](#)
- [Gretchen Rubin Four Tendencies](#)



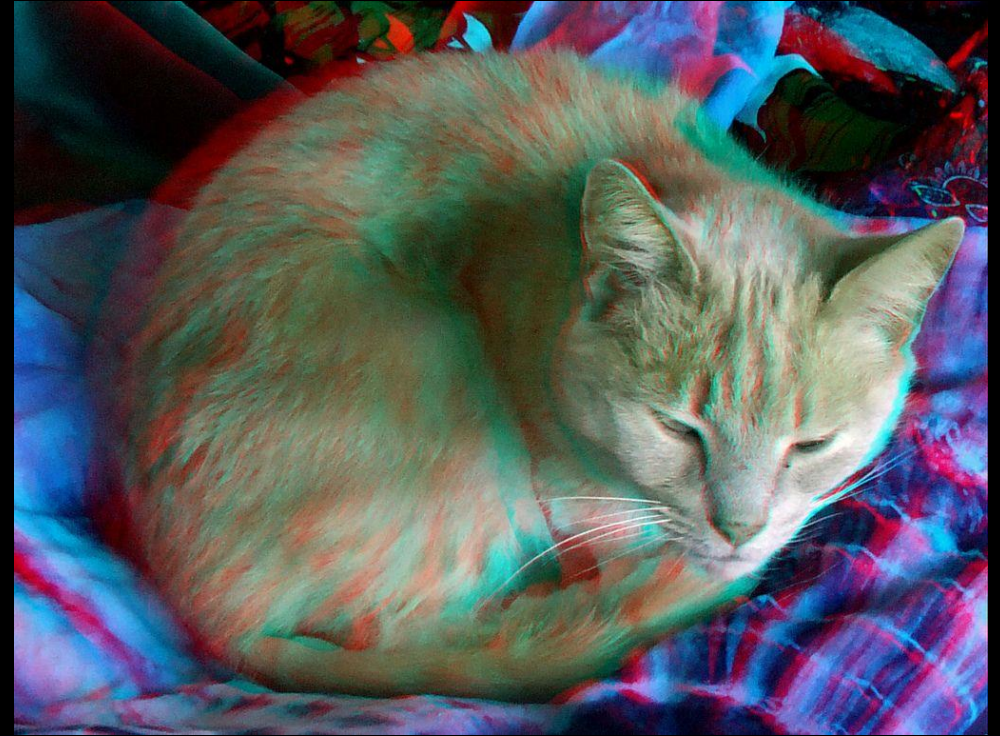
# Security Groundhog Day



*Ron Woerner*

Cyber-AAA, LLC  
ronw@cyber-aa.com

Twitter: @ronw123



Bellevue University

[rwoerner@bellevue.edu](mailto:rwoerner@bellevue.edu)

[https://www.linkedin.com/  
in/ronwoerner/](https://www.linkedin.com/in/ronwoerner/)