The Need:

Body language and eye contact are huge factors in hiring decisions. With nearly 6 million job openings and over 6.5 million people unemployed as of December 2017, these quick decisions based on the way a candidate acts and speaks are supremely important. In fact, studies have shown that 33% of interviewers know within 90 seconds if they are going to hire a candidate. When asked how, 67% of employers cited failure to make eye contact; 38% said quality of voice, confidence, and lack of a smile; 33% for bad posture; 26% because the handshake was too weak; and 21% for crossing their arms (Buckland, “25 Fun Facts About Resumes, Interviews & Social Recruitment”). Feedback on these common issues can be very difficult to convey and obtain in-person, and progress in these areas can be difficult to measure.

The Solution:

Our team is going to build an apparatus that will run off a microcontroller. It will consist of a 3D printed arm with attached sensors to determine handshake effectiveness and a screen will give feedback on eye contact and speech patterns. With these components, as well as any others that we may learn to be important from professionals, we hope to empower anyone that interacts with our project to go into interviews with more confidence than before.

Components:

- Raspberry Pi
- Computer Monitor
- 3D printed hand
- Pi Camera
- USB microphone
- Conductive thread
- Conductive fabric
- Pressure sensitive conductive sheet

Methods:

- The Raspberry Pi will work in conjunction with multiple external sensors
- The Pi Camera will assess body language
- A USB microphone will listen to answers given by the user to judge speed of speech, user of filler works (like, um, etc.), and response time
- A 3D printed hand with pressure sensors will help teach the user to give a proper handshake

Conclusion:

This apparatus will allow users to practice the art of interviewing, but will not assess content of interview question answers.