ISSUE: October YEAR: 2018

Security Awareness Newsletter

"There's no silver bullet solution with cyber security, a layered defense is the only viable defense" - James Scott

From the ISO's Desk

Over the years, the volume and sophistication of attacks by hackers continues to increase. Hackers now have a tendency to go after individuals within an organization, rather than PCs, by utilizing social media methods.

Enhanced security measures and advanced technology are fundamental to protecting our university resources. The best way to advance that protection is through educating and enabling faculty, staff, and students to be equally impactful as our first line of defense.

Uninformed Faculty, Staff and Students can do harm to our network and systems by responding to phishing emails, visiting websites infected with malware, storing their login information in unsecured locations, or even giving out sensitive information over the phone when exposed to social engineering.

Use the tips in this newsletter to help protect your identity & Loyola's information!

Jim Pardonek
Information Security Officer

SECURITY & DONUTS INFO SESSIONS

Learn how to keep your information, your identity, and your computer safe from hackers and identity thieves. Join us for a brief & interactive event.

Register today!

- HSC, October 18
- WTC, October 22
- LSC, October 23
- Zoom Sessions—to be scheduled

LUC.edu/its/uiso/security&donuts

OCTOBER IS CYBER SECURITY AWARENESS MONTH!

This year's focus is around phishing attempts, email scams, and online threats. For more information, read the newsletter below or visit LUC.edu/its/uiso/.

CYBER ATTACKERS: EVEN YOU COULD BE A TARGET

Don't think you're a target for cyber attackers? **Think again!**

Many people mistakenly believe that their computer or information has no value or that cyber attackers aren't interested in them. In reality, individuals like you are a target.

Protect yourself. Realize that your information is in danger and that even seemingly trivial data needs protection.

Be on alert when using social media. Social networking websites allow you to post and share a wide range of data including information about your family, your job, historical events, and even your favorite songs. Hackers look for personal information like this and can use it to guess passwords or even steal your identity.

STOP: Make sure security measures are in place on your devices.
THINK: What are the consequences of your online actions and behaviors?
CONNECT: Enjoy your devices with more peace of mind.

WHAT IS PHISHING?

Don't get reeled in!

Phishing is the fraudulent practice of sending emails (or some form of "bait") pretending to be from a reputable source in order to induce individuals to reveal personal information, such as passwords and credit card numbers.

Phishing attacks use email or malicious websites (via clicking on a link) to collect personal and financial information or to infect your device with malware and viruses. They cost organizations around the globe $4.5 billion every year and over half of internet users get at least one phishing email per day. Spam, phishing and other scams aren't limited to just email. They're also prevalent on social networking and online collaboration sites.

10 TIPS FOR IDENTIFYING "PHISHY" EMAILS

1. Don't trust the display name.
2. Look but don't click.
3. Check for spelling mistakes.
4. Beware of vague salutations.
5. Don't give up personal information.
6. Watch for urgent subject lines.
7. Review the signature.
8. Never click attachments.
9. Don't trust the header.
10. Don't believe everything you see!

WHAT CAN YOU DO? - TAKE ACTION!

Cyber security can start with you in just a few basic steps:

Secure your devices. Use strong passwords, pass phrases or touch ID features to lock your devices.

Think before you app.

Be thoughtful about what personal information is shared with the different apps on your devices. Delete apps you don't need or only used for a temporary purpose.

Can't catch me! Your movements can be tracked when Wi-Fi or Bluetooth are enabled on your device. Disable Wi-Fi and Bluetooth when not in use.

Does it pass? Even a seemingly strong password can be guessed if a hacker accesses your personal info. Avoid using names, addresses, phone numbers and birthdays.

Double down. Many email services, social media and financial platforms allow you to log on using 2-factor authentication. This adds an extra step to confirm your identity even after you enter your username and password.

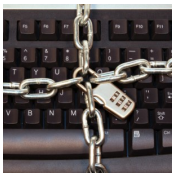
Keep a clean machine. Having the most up-to-date security software, web browser, operating system and applications is the best defense against viruses, malware and other online threats. Delete your browser history regularly and never store passwords anywhere except for in a licensed password management application.

When in doubt, log out! Make sure you completely log out of any service you're not using – don't just close the window or tab on your browser.

UNDERSTANDING MALWARE

Ransomware—Ransomware is a malware that stops you from being able to access your files usually by encrypting them, and then requests payment to decrypt the files, restoring your access. Most commonly, ransomware asks for payment in bitcoin, which is a popular cryptocurrency. Unfortunately, paying the ransom does not guarantee restoring access to your files.

Trojan Horses (a.k.a. Trojans)—this malware takes its name from the classic story of the Greek army sneaking soldiers into the city of Troy hidden inside a large wooden horse. Trojan malware behave in much the same way, by appearing to be legitimate apps or software that you want to install. Some Trojans allow an attacker full access to your device, others steal banking and personally sensitive information, and others are simply used to download additional malware, like ransomware.



Keyloggers—This type of malware records your keystrokes and sends them to a cyber threat actor, giving them access to your usernames, passwords, and any other sensitive information you have entered using your keyboard. With this information, the cyber threat actor can access your online accounts or commit identity theft.

University Information Security Office

Email: DataSecurity@luc.edu
Telephone: (773) 508-7373
Location: GC Room 230
Hours: M-F 8AM-5PM

LUC.edu/its/uiso/

Increase your security awareness at:

https://www.stopthinkconnect.org/

https://staysafeonline.org/

https://er.educause.edu/blogs/2017/9/october-2018-dont-let-a-phishing-scam-reel-you-in

https://www.ponemon.org/