Tech Security
‘Threatdown’

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The Chronicle of Higher Education
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Inspiration
1:16 a.m., Nov. 4, 2008
subject: Election Day Update

To the Mason Community:

Please note that election day has been moved to November 5th. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause you.

Peter N. Stearns
Provost
Threat #10

Spam!
“...and you spent 5.73 years of your life deleting spam from your e-mail.”
Ferris Research has estimated the cost of spam to companies at $140 billion worldwide, and $42 billion in the US.
Threat #9

 iPhones!
 (and other mobile devices)
About the Summit

The 2008 GTISC Security Summit on Emerging Cyber Security Threats is the sixth security summit hosted at Georgia Tech since 2004. The summits began as an effort to engage the broader community in the Atlanta area and at the national level to better understand the threats to digital information and to develop strategies for securing it. The summits bring together thought leaders in the information technology and security fields to explore.

2008 Keynote Speaker

Lt. Gen. Robert J. "Bob" Elder is Commander, 8th Air Force, Barksdale Air
Threat #8

Facebook!
Students hang out on Facebook

Chronicle Headline: “E-mail is for Old People.”

http://chronicle.com/free/v53/i07/07a02701.htm
“Hey, I got a new facebook account. I’m going to delete this one, so add my new profile.”
Threat #7

Phishers!

(who can spell)
College-Focused Phishing Attack

From: Middlebury College E-Communication Messaging Center
[mailto:info@middlebury.edu]
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2008 7:54 AM
Subject: Update Your Email Now

Dear Middlebury College Email Owner,
This message is from Middlebury College E-Communication Messaging Center to all Middlebury College email owners. We are currently upgrading our database and e-mail center. We are deleting all unused Middlebury College email to create more space for new one.
To prevent your account from closing you will have to update it below so that we will know that it's a present used account.
CONFIRM YOUR EMAIL BELOW
Email Address........
password............... 
Date of Birth : ............... 
Country or Territory : ........ 
Warning!!! Email owner that refuses to update his or her Email, within Seven days of receiving this warning will lose his or her Email permanently.
Thanks,
Middlebury College Team
Threat #6

Students!
“I can't go into work today, here's my password could you go fix this for me.”
Educause Video Contest
BE PREPARED
PHISHING ATTACKS

Don't be a Tad.

Protect your identity. If an e-mail looks fishy, it is probably phishing.

**TIP:** Read e-mail as plain text to expose phishing scams.

Get free credit monitoring at creditmonitor.lsu.edu

© 2006 Louisiana State University

Poster campaign at LSU
Threat #5

Your Employees!
Threat #4

Data Packrats!
(who collect and keep more than they need)
Educate employees about proper data handling
Threat #3

Thieves!
The Missing Berkeley Laptop
Theft incidents are all too common on campuses large and small.

As evidenced by several sites that track incidents:

* http://www.adamdodge.com/esi/

* http://www.privacyrights.org/ar/ChronDataBreaches.htm#CP

* http://attrition.org/dataloss/
Stolen Harvard Law Tapes Contain Client Data

By Adam Dodge - Posted on November 6th, 2008

Quick Facts

- Date: 11/6/2008
- Institution: Harvard Law School
- Type of Incident: Loss
- Number Affected: 21,000
- Source: Data Loss Database
- Abstract Source: The Boston Globe

Abstract

Harvard Law School is alerting clients of its Jamaica Plains center that a backup tape containing client data was lost. The tape contained 21,000 client records including 8,000 records with Social Security numbers. According to law school officials the data on the tape was protected by a password and username, but it was not encrypted. The tape was lost while a staff member was carrying six tapes to the Cambridge office. The tape is not labeled in any way that would indicate its content. Harvard Law School is implementing plans to encrypt all computer servers and backup tapes.
Stolen Howard University Laptop Contained Personal Information On Thousands

Howard University is alerting university and hospital staff after the theft of a laptop containing personal information. The laptop contained names and Social Security numbers on 4,122 current and former staff members. According to the notification letter, Howard University apologizes for the theft and offers affected individuals one year of credit protection and fraud resolution through ID Experts.

Abstract

Howard University is alerting university and hospital staff after the theft of a laptop containing personal information. The laptop contained names and Social Security numbers on 4,122 current and former staff members. According to the notification letter, Howard University apologizes for the theft and offers affected individuals one year of credit protection and fraud resolution through ID Experts.

Printer-friendly version

Tagged: Howard University • 2008 • Personally Identifying Information • Pogo Was Right • Social Security Numbers • Theft
Laptops and Computers Stolen From University of Manchester School Of Humanities

By Adam Dodge - Posted on October 29th, 2008

Quick Facts

- Date: 10/29/2008
- Institution: University of Manchester
- Type of Incident: Theft
- Number Affected: Unknown
- Source: ESI
- Abstract Source: Student Direct

Abstract

An unknown number of thieves appear to have broken into the Humanities building of the University of Manchester on October 20th. According to the university, the thieves gained entrance through a ground floor fire door and worked their way through the building causing a large amount of damage to offices on the ground, third and fourth floors. A large number of desktop and laptop computers were also discovered missing from third floor offices. The university has notified students in the School of Education about the theft.

Printer-friendly version
UND Alumni Association Vendor Laptop With Student Data Stolen

By Adam Dodge - Posted on October 7th, 2008

Abstract:

- Date: 10/7/2008
- Institution: University of North Dakota
- Type of Incident: Theft
- Number Affected: 84,000
- Source: ESI
- Abstract Source: Grand Forks Herald

Abstract:

The primary software vendor for the University of North Dakota Alumni Association recently alerted the school after a laptop containing UND student information was stolen. The laptop, taken from a vehicle, contained the names, Social Security numbers and credit card information on 84,000 UND alumni. According to Tim O’Keefe, the UND Alumni Association executive vice president, there is minimal chance the data could be accessed. According to an announcement from the Alumni Association, the information was protected by multiple security measures including encryption. However, the Alumni Association is urging those affected to monitor their credit reports for fraudulent activity. To help, affected individuals are being offered one year of credit monitoring for free. The UND Alumni...
Laptop Containing Pitt Alumni Data Stolen

By Adam Dodge - Posted on September 9th, 2008

Quick Facts

- Date: 9/8/2008
- Institution: University of Pittsburgh
- Type of Incident: Theft
- Number Affected: Unknown
- Source: ESI
- Abstract Source: Pittsburgh Tribune-Review

Abstract

The University of Pittsburgh is currently investigating the theft of a laptop containing alumni data. The laptop, stolen from the university's College of Business Administration on August 11, contained the names and Social Security numbers of an unknown number of alumni. The university sent out letters to the affected alumni on August 27. According to university officials, the information, placed on the laptop as part of a survey of undergraduate business school alumni, was stored against university policy. University officials declined to say if the employee responsible for storing the information on the laptop would face any disciplinary actions.
Educational Security Incidents (ESI)
Sometimes the free flow of information is unintentional

Reports
- Year in Review
- The Secure Transcript

Categories
- Institutions
  - Aberdeen College
  - Adam Smith College
  - Adams State College
  - Annessland College
  - Antioch University
  - Arapahoe Community College
  - Argosy University
  - Arizona State University
  - Art Institute of Washington
  - Asahikawa Medical College
  - Ave Maria University
  - Barony College

Home » Institutions » Rochester Institute of Technology

Laptop Containing Personal Data Stolen From the National Technical Institute for the Deaf
By Adam Dodge - Posted on August 30th, 2008

Quick Facts
- Date: 8/30/2008
- Institution: Rochester Institute of Technology - National Technical Institute for the Deaf
- Type of Incident: Theft
- Number Affected: 13,800
- Source: Attrition.org
- Abstract Source: WHAM

Abstract
Rochester Institute of Technology began notifying individuals associated with the National Technical Institute for the Deaf after a laptop containing personal information was discovered missing on August 25. According to RIT officials, the laptop contained the names, birth dates and Social Security numbers of the 12,700 individuals that had enrolled in the NTID since 1968. In addition, 1,100 members of the RIT community are affected by the theft as well. RIT officials are working with the Monroe County Sheriff’s Department and urge affected individuals to place fraud alerts on their credit files. RIT has setup a hotline - 866-624-8330 - and web site - www.rit.edu/news/?v=46283 - to help answer additional questions about the theft.
Lost Arapahoe Community College Drive Contains Information On 15,000 Students

By Adam Dodge - Posted on August 4th, 2008

Quick Facts

- Date: 8/4/2008
- Institution: Arapahoe Community College
- Type of Incident: Loss
- Number Affected: 15,000
- Source: Pogo Was Right
- Abstract Source: 9News

Abstract

Arapahoe Community College has issued alerts to students after it discovered that a flash drive containing student information has been lost or possibly stolen. The drive contain the names, address, Social Security numbers and credit card numbers on 15,000 students. The records on the drive came from the college's Corporate Learning Division and some of them dated back to 1997. Arapahoe is urging affected individuals to place a fraud alert on their credit reports. Anyone with questions is asked to contact the college at 303-797-5091. (Note: An individual claiming to be from Arapahoe Community College left a message on the news story stating that "out of the 15,000 records at risk - only 5,286 contained credit card or social security information. Only 1,200 students received customized training..."
Threat #2

Outsource Partners!
New Partners include Google Apps for Education and Microsoft Windows
Threat #1

Malware and Botnets!
U. Penn Botnet Incident

"I can get you some good private stuff, I can also pay you, to take taunet down. ... I have access to a lot of stuff you might want... www.findnot.com/servers.html - I have legit login/pass for that, guaranteed to work through 2007 at least... undetected, unreleased bifrost (trojan) beta with 100% av (antivirus) and fw (firewall) bypass."

http://chronicle.com/wiredcampus/article/?id=3411
"The pace of malware release has become so rapid that many signature based antivirus programs can't keep up -- the bad guys can repack and rerelease their malicious code faster than the good guys can build and distribute antivirus signatures to identify and block it."

-- Joe St Sauver, Ph.D., U. of Oregon and Internet2 Security Programs
Threat Recap

- Spam
- iPhones
- Facebook
- Phishers
- Students
- Employees
- Data Packrats
- Thieves
- Outsource Partners
- Malware and Botnets
Chronicle Links

Chronicle’s Wired Campus blog: http://chronicle.com/wiredcampus


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