

Notes from the Information Security Advisory Council

Thursday, January 15, 2015
9:00-10:00 a.m. (Room 201A, Price Lake Room, PSU)

In Attendance:

Jonathan Burgess, Lisa Burwell, Tim Burwell, Amy Carson, Justin Cervero, Gunther Doerr, Hank Foreman, Oscar Knight, Barbara Krause, Karen Main, Terry Melton, Beth Pouder, Jonathan Reeder, Amy Sanders, Robin Tyndall, Jim Webb (chair), Kevin Wilcox, Wyatt Wells

Review of Approval Process for the Information Security Policy by the Information Security Advisory Council

The draft for the Information Security Policy is in the process of being vetted by other groups on campus. Jim reviewed the list of groups who he is meeting with during the first two months of the semester seeking input on the policy:

- Council of Chairs
- Deans Council/Provost Council
- Distributed IT
 - Electronic Student Services
 - Learning Technology Services
 - Library Technical Staff
- Electronic Records Task Force
- Faculty Senate
- General Council
- Human Resources
- Police
- Research Council
- Staff Senate

The input and suggestions from these groups will be gathered and brought to the Information Security Advisory Council for consideration. Cathy Bates met with the Board of Trustees and plans to bring the final version to this group during the March, 2015 meeting.

Enhanced Security for Banner Direct Deposit

Terry Melton gave a brief demonstration of additional security measures added to prevent compromise for Direct Deposit information, this includes additional information needed, additional authentication during the process and notification of the user when changes are made.

Preventing Tax Fraud

Gunther Doerr reminded the group of the upcoming tax season and refund fraud. Jim has added to the security web page tips in protecting yourself at <http://security.appstate.edu/fraud/taxreturn>

Information Security Incident Response Plan

Kevin Wilcox gave a brief summary of the steps necessary in building a response plan for security incidents. These steps are:

1. Preparation/Prevention
2. Detection and Analysis
3. Containment, Eradication and Recovery
4. Post-incident Activity

There are plans for “practice” sessions for both cyber-intruders and cyber-attacks – including communication plans. Prevention is important, but having a plan for incidents that can’t be prevented are important. Other areas such as police, lawyer’s office and audits will have representatives involved.

Enhancements to Security Website

Jim Webb showed the council some of the enhancements to the security.appstate.edu and requested feedback. Jim reminded the group of FileLocker and how it can be used for confidential data.

Enhanced Password Manager

Jim gave an update on the recommendations for the Password Standard. He asked the council for their opinion on passwords of 12 characters instead of 8 characters. The council generally agreed that lengthening the time between password changes was a good trade-off for longer and more secure passwords.

Goals for 2015

- Inventory
- Security Awareness

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, February 19, 2015 9am – 10 am – Room 122 Roan Mountain Room of the Student Union.