Dear Campus Community:

As illustrated by the many hacking incidents recently involving locally and nationally known institutions such as Rockwood, Target, and Home Depot, data security is fast becoming a top IT priority. EWU takes very seriously the security of our data as well as people’s personal information.

At the state level, moreover, the state of Washington’s Chief Information Officer requires that all public universities develop IT security standards that comply with the state’s common IT security standards. These standards help to ensure that we have a secure environment for information technology.

As part of this mandate, EWU is required to provide training for all faculty and staff. The training, which will be similar to that provided on other state university campuses, will enable us all to understand the University’s Information Security Policy, the risks associated with a data compromise, each of our respective roles in preventing data breaches, and how to respond if there is a breach.

This Information Security Awareness Training & Education (iSATE) program is provided in Canvas, EWU’s Learning Management System. Each course has been developed for a specific audience:

- EWU faculty and staff in general
- Information Technology staff
- Employees with access to sensitive information (FERPA, PCI, HIPAA)

Each training module is only a few minutes in length, but it will take approximately 90 minutes to complete all assigned modules. The training has been designed as a self-paced course that can be taken all at once or at different times. Alternatively, everyone will have the option to take the training in face-to-face classes that will be offered, either in the morning, afternoon, on the Cheney and Spokane campuses.

To remain compliant with this mandate, beginning on December 15, 2014, each employee will be automatically enrolled in an iSATE course. You will receive an email on how to access and complete the training. The Division of Information Technology will implement and oversee the process. Please address questions to me or to Greg Crary, Chief Technology & Information Security Officer (gcrary@ewu.edu).

I realize this training will take some of your valuable time. However, it is essential that we comply with this mandate and ensure the highest level of security for our IT environment. The training will need to be completed by February 27, 2015. Please coordinate with your supervisor, as you will be given release time to complete this training.

If you would like more information on the policy, go to:

https://ocio.wa.gov/policies/141-securing-information-technology-assets/14110-securing-information-technology-assets

Thank you so much for your cooperation.

Gary
EWU expands opportunities for personal transformation through excellence in learning