Modern libraries are committed to promoting a high level of access to information resources regardless of format. At the same time, they are also dedicated to protecting their users’ privacy. In a world where information is increasingly internet-based and internet services are more likely than ever to collect user information as part of the access process, balancing access to information with the protection of user privacy is complex and challenging. As a result, libraries are increasingly embarking on collaborations to promote increased awareness of practices that help users most efficiently find information, while not putting their personal information at risk. This poster will illustrate how IUP libraries worked with campus partners including their IT Support Office, Institute for Information Assurance, Center for Teaching Excellence, and professors in Computer Science, Political Science, and Education, to increase awareness of basic cybersecurity practices across campus through summer camps, pedagogy panels, contests, and curriculum development. Participants can expect to leave with new ideas on how they can foster similar partnerships.

LIBRARIES, PRIVACY, AND FREEDOM TO READ

Libraries traditionally guarded user privacy and freedom to read through ensuring that they could investigate any topic without concern that their interests and borrowing history would be reported to third parties, resisting efforts to remove challenged titles from our collections, and offering access to comprehensive collections of information resources. New methods of accessing information have made honoring these principles much more complex. For today’s users, access to e-books, electronic databases, and the open Internet are often as important as the availability of paper collections. When users access and share information online, library personnel may not even be involved except through the provision of internet access. In such an environment, balancing access to information with protecting user privacy may take the form of facilitating increased awareness of practices that help users most efficiently find information while not putting their personal information at risk. On our campus, librarians have sought partnerships with professors, administrators, staff and students to help users increase awareness of online privacy threats and best practices and stay safe while searching online.

DEVELOPING PARTNERSHIPS FOR IMPROVED ONLINE PRIVACY AND CYBERSECURITY

Dr. Theresa McDevitt, Government Info/Outreach Librarian
Dr. Stephanie Taylor-Davis, Director of Center for Teaching Excellence

ABSTRACT

High School Summer Camp

OnGuard Online. Tips to help you stay safe and secure online. https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/features/feature2017

Pedagogy Panels for Faculty

OnGuard Online. Tips to help you stay safe and secure online. https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/features/feature2017

OnGuard Online. Tips to help you stay safe and secure online. https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/features/feature2017

Other Resources

Choose Privacy Week https://chooseprivacyweek.org/
Library Freedom Project https://libraryfreedomproject.org/
National Cyber Security Awareness Month. https://staysafeonline.org/ccsm/
OnGuard Online. Tips to help you stay safe and secure online. https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/features/feature-0038-onguardonline

CONTESTS

National Cyber Security Awareness Month (NASCAM) is an annual event sponsored by the National Cyber Security Division of the Department of Homeland Security and the National Cyber Security Alliance. It attempts to increase awareness of cyber threats and share tips and best practices concerning how to stay safe online. The theme of “Our Shared Responsibility” suggests that cybersecurity cannot be secured without the help of all users.

On our campus, librarians collaborated with the IUP Institute for Cyber Security, IUP IT Support Center, and IUP Center for Teaching Excellence to promote cyber security awareness through a video contest. The contest included weekly educational videos that offered online safety and security tips followed by a quiz which entered the participants into a drawing for gift cards for the campus bookstores. Over 700 quizzes were completed by IUP employees and students during the month. Links to videos and quizzes were made available via a LibGuide page at: http://libraryguides.lib.iup.edu/p/570717

CURRICULUM MATERIALS

The IUP Center for Teaching Excellence (our faculty professional development group) sees the use of information technology, information literacy, and information access as integral priorities. In an effort to increase awareness of online privacy best practices in college students, it promoted the NASCAM cyber security awareness contest by advertising the contest videos as curriculum materials.

Librarians helped choose videos and set up a LibGuide page to make the curriculum materials permanently available. IT Support tracked student participation and provided information to instructors at the end of the month to facilitate grading. Links to http://libraryguides.lib.iup.edu/p/570717

LIBRARY ROLE

Government Information Librarian presented instruction on online privacy threats and government sources of information on best practices in information sharing online. Topics included: Password strength and protection, phishing threats and avoidance, social engineering, cookies and browser information collecting, and social media sharing.

Professional Studies in Education, the Libraries, and campus IT Cyber Security Team members from IUP and nearby universities present their technologically related expertise and teaching practices. At the “What Every College Student Should Know about Online Privacy sessions, librarians, an accounting professor, an IT security professional, a Professional Studies in Education professor discussed how they teach their students best practices in information sharing and access.

Information Assurance Day.

Each year, IUP’s Institute for Cyber Security in collaboration with the Computer Science Department, Center for Teaching Excellence, and IT Support Services, hosts Cyber Security/IA Day. This daylong event features nationally recognized security experts as well as speakers from local law enforcement, government, security industry, and academic institutions. In the fall of 2016, the final session was a pedagogy panel on teaching college students about online privacy. A librarian organized and moderated both panels.

IUP hosted a GenCyber Summer Camp for Middle and High School Students and their Teachers. This national program is supported by the National Security Agency and National Science Foundation. Indiana University of Pennsylvania hosted a GenCyber Summer Camp for high school students in the summers of 2016 and 2017.

It has the following objectives: Increase interest in cybersecurity careers and diversity in the cybersecurity workforce of the nation. Help all students understand correct and safe online behavior. Improve teaching methods for delivering cybersecurity content for K-12 curricula 

Instructors from Computer Science, Business and Information Science, Criminology, Professional Studies in Education, the Libraries, and campus IT Cyber Security Team collaborated to provide instruction for this summer camp. 

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