



# The Security Minute

Take a second to be secure.

A communication of the Longwood University Information Security Office

Read *The Security Minute* Online: [www.longwood.edu/infosec](http://www.longwood.edu/infosec)

November 2009

## Be a Social Networking VIP



Keep your “very important person” status on social networking sites like Facebook by following these VIP tips:

### Value your privacy.

It is up to you to decide what personal information you provide on these sites. Remember that just because the site asks you to post your address, phone number or political or religious affiliation you are not required to include these items. Sharing too much information can put you at risk for stalking, identity theft or damage to your reputation. If you wouldn't share a piece of information with a room full of strangers then don't share it on a social networking site.

### Investigate the applications you install.

Facebook allows developers to provide applications on the Facebook site without having the application verified. Many popular applications are actually not verified by Facebook. In 2008 3% of Facebook users installed the application “Secret Crush.” The application turned out to be malware that infected users computers. In October 2009 several Facebook applications were hacked and used to push fake antivirus software.

### Post with the entire world in mind.

When you post information online you should consider it public knowledge so always be cautious about blowing off steam about your family, friends, job, co-worker, neighbor, etc and be cautious about providing private details of your personal life. Just because someone can't access your profile doesn't mean they can't see what you post. Remember that what you post online can live forever. Even if you remove a comment or a photo someone else may have kept a copy and that item may be saved in archived versions of that page for many years to come.

**56%**

Use the Internet to reconnect with old friends

**71%**

Report that the Internet makes it easier to keep in touch with family

**53%**

Believe the Internet has improved the quality of communications

\*From the Norton Online Living Report, 2009.

## Security Spotlight - Participate in the review of IITS policies!

In order to allow all faculty and staff the opportunity to comment on proposed revisions and additions to IITS policies, we have created a space on Blackboard for you to provide your feedback.

1. Go to [blackboard.longwood.edu](http://blackboard.longwood.edu).
2. Login using your LancerNet ID and password.
3. Enroll in the “(IITS) Policy Review” course. *If you've enrolled in this course before you can skip to step 4.*

To enroll:

- A. Go to the “Courses” tab.
- B. Select the “Organizations/Non-Class Usage” folder.
- C. Locate “(IITS) Policy Review”
- D. Click on the “Enroll” button.
- E. Submit.
- F. Click “OK.”

4. Follow the instructions provided to review the policy changes and provide your comments.

*You have until **December 11** to provide your comments on this round of policies.*



The Security Minute is a monthly publication aimed at raising awareness of information security related issues and concerns. If you have any questions regarding the newsletter, please contact the Information Security Office at 434-395-2034 or [infosec@longwood.edu](mailto:infosec@longwood.edu).