Information security at PCC
Pima Community College, Office of the Chancellor
Sent: Tuesday, December 10, 2013 9:09 AM
To: #Pima-All

Colleagues,

As you might have heard, a recent information security breach at an Arizona academic institution may have put the personal information of millions of students, employees and suppliers at risk. Unfortunately, incidents such as this are all too common.

I am writing to inform you that we take information security very seriously at Pima and work diligently to protect the data we are entrusted with. The challenge is extraordinary. Every day, on average, Pima blocks 165 viruses, nearly 29,000 spam emails and more than 5.8 million foreign and domestic attempts to log in to our network.

Given the persistence and determination of the cyber threats we face, the sad reality is that no institution can guarantee with complete certainty that its systems are impenetrable. Pima is no exception. But I would like you to know about some of the many steps the College takes to protect our information assets and minimize the likelihood of a breach.

The College uses a variety of industry-approved security controls designed to achieve a layered defense of our systems. We continuously monitor and test our security measures to make sure they are working. And should a breach occur, our primary objective is to detect it and move swiftly to contain it.

The College constantly assesses information security and continually plans enhancements aimed at strengthening our approach. Steps we will be taking in the near future include deployment of new database encryption technology, the installation of next-generation firewalls and additional security training for IT personnel.

All Pima employees can help to strengthen our information security efforts by making sure your passwords are strong. I encourage you to read about password security on the Information Security page of our website.

Should you have any concerns or ideas about information security at Pima, please don’t hesitate to contact Matt Weber in our IT Department at 206-4767 or infosec@pima.edu.

Lee D. Lambert
Chancellor