

# Information Security Transformation

Finding a new way to protect the university.

## The Role of Information Security @ UNCG

#### Support Student Success

• Ensure the **Confidentiality**, **Integrity**, and **Availability** of the systems and data that directly or indirectly aid in the delivery of knowledge to students.

#### Protect the university's reputation

Data breaches make headlines, negatively affect public perceptions, and significantly increase costs in addition to creating
operational disruption.

#### Mitigate Risk

• Security risks result in operational, financial, reputational, legal, regulatory, and other types of impacts. Reducing security risks means reducing institutional risk in all these areas.

#### Preserve the capability to function in key areas

• Information Security controls play a critical role in complying with FERPA, HIPAA, PCI, and other regulatory requirements.

#### Protect our research environments

• Information Security technologies and practices help preserve the integrity of research data.

#### Provide local solutions to global challenges

 Information Security is a global concern, but local solutions are needed that meet the unique needs of UNCG's faculty, staff, administration, and students.



# Headlines

#### Add Butler University to Breach List

Latest Incident Highlights Breach Vulnerabilities in Academia

A data breach affecting 163,000 students, faculty, staff and alumni at Butler University in Indianapolis, Ind., offers just the latest example of the risks facing educational institutions, which are seen as easy targets by cyberattackers.

One month after the **University of Maryland** reported a breach that affected 288,000 students, faculty and staff, the institution has suffered a second cyber-intrusion.

### **Indiana University Reports Breach**

Information on 146,000 Students Potentially Exposed



#### University Breach Exposes Employee Info

The **University of Central Oklahoma** is notifying 16,000 current and former employees about a breach involving unauthorized access to information stored on a server.

#### Global University Provides Notice Of Data

Breach - Data on current and former students leaked

**NEWS PROVIDED BY** Global University →

May 08, 2018, 06:00 ET



# DOJ INDICTS 9 IRANIANS FOR BRAZEN CYBERATTACKS AGAINST 144 US UNIVERSITIES

a massive three-year campaign to penetrate and steal more than 31 terabytes of information—totaling more than \$3 billion in intellectual property—from more than 300 American and foreign universities.

May 21, 2018

2,500 students, alumni and staffers affected by University at Buffalo data breach



#### Yale University discloses old school data breach "119.000 individuals affected"

The data breach was discovered a decade too late to do anything about it.



## Current State of Information Security @ UNCG

- Current posture is strong, but needs to continue changing, adapting, and improving
  - As technologies continue to decentralize and migrate to the cloud, defenses need to adapt to the changing environment.
  - New areas include expanded mobile platforms, IoT, machine learning, AI, and Open Data initiatives
- Leveraging reactive capabilities, investing in proactive capabilities
  - Traditional reactive posture effectively helps us recover from compromises and protect against known threats
  - Next step in maturity is to start proactively assessing new and emerging threats prior to compromise
- What we think vs. What we know
  - Our history indicates but does not guarantee a strong posture of invulnerability.
  - A comprehensive program of internal and external assessments will help prove the strength of our defenses.
  - Measurable benefits of security tools/strategies needs to be shown via value-based metrics.
- Increasing Focus and Coordination at UNC System level
  - Complying with the February 2018 mandate for Information Security accountability from UNC System
  - Entering a new era of cooperative interactions with sister schools, with opportunities to lead the way



# The Challenge

- Deliver a transformative plan that shapes the future of Information Security at UNCG
  - Assess the current Information Security program to identify potential areas for improvement, and paths for the future.
  - Leverage industry and academic resources to identify desirable postures for the Information Security program and team.
  - Provide ITS and university leadership with value-based propositions and strategic plans for suggested improvements.
  - Translate the assessed needs for Information Security program improvements into outcomes that are aligned with the strategic goals of ITS and the university.
  - Pursue alignment with UNC System guidelines, industry standards and best practices, and regulatory requirements.



# The Plan

#### Assess:

- Work to identify the university's critical assets and systems, and how they are protected.
- Assess the existing Information Security program and start building a plan for a new program focused on strategic risk mitigation.
- Surface critical gaps and weaknesses that need immediate attention.

#### Transform:

- Deliver a multi-year strategic plan for critical information security program transformation and improvement.
- Work closely with UNC System counterparts to leverage the combined resources of the system.
- Pursue strategic partnerships that will measurably improve information security risk mitigation posture.
- Transform the ITS organization and Information Security team to a new embedded security team model.

#### Sustain:

- Deliver on the goals of targets of the strategic plan for program transformation
- Periodically reassess and adjust to changing conditions



# Intended Outcomes

- A new program-level definition for Information Security as part of the ITS portfolio of services
  - Aligned to strategic plans for the university and ITS
- A prioritized list of policy improvement initiatives, with suggested timelines and downstream dependencies
- A sustainable program of periodic assessments ensuring the viability and continuity of security and compliance activities
- Lists of identified security gaps and weaknesses, with impact statements and suggested improvements for each
- Prioritized and rationalized suggestions for process and workflow changes to support new program elements
- Key partnerships for sustaining security operations and prioritized risk management
- Proposed organizational changes needed to sustain new modes of operation

