Finance Town Hall - March 16, 2023
Questions that were not answered live

Question	Response
How can the academy, research, and scholarship help with addressing cyber-issues and consequences for attacks (i.e. law school, cyber law)?	Be more risk aware by following the tips on the Security Tips slide. Also, feel free to reach out to the OIT-Information Security Office. We would be glad to provide guidance.
Guy mentioned using MalwareBytes, but why not use the Cisco antivirus software provided by the university?	MalwareBytes was mentioned as a solution for personal use. Making use of an antivirus/anti-malware solution such as Cisco AMP is recommended.
What are the names of the malware you use personally?	I'm not sure I understand the question. But if you are asking for the names of malware I use, I do not use malware. If you are asking for the name of the anti-malware I use personally, it's MalwareBytes.
I'm seeing more companies asking me to do double security - sending me a code, etc. Should I always opt for this?	It is best practice to use multifactor authentication to mitigate the risks of having your accounts compromised.
The university has the Duo system on my personal phone. Should the university or us personally, purchase a phone just for university business? I am concerned about the liability of the use of the personal devices, and the lack of VPN technology.	It depends on your preference, your role, and other factors. Some people don't mind carrying two phones and others do. I personally carry two, one for university use and the other for personal use.
Is there a way to block phishing attempts via text messages on iPhones? They attempt phishing by saying Amazon account, Netflix, Venmo, PayPal accounts are being closed or frozen?	Similar to email phishing attempts, it's a challenge. Apple support suggests that you can block unwanted messages, filter messages from unknown senders, and report spam or junk messages in the Messages app.
There are times when the university may use an external site, example the HR Harassment and Title IX training. How do we know when this is legit?	The University will typically send an announcement describing the involvement of an external partner prior to the activity. Always look for that announcement. If one was not sent, be aware that it may be a phishing attempt. It is always best to confirm with the department.
Can you explain the differences in security by being logged into Rutgers Wi-Fi (at the university) vs. Rutgers VPN (on or off site) vs. home Wi-Fi?	Yes, but it's a bit much to answer in this format. Please reach out to Scott Borbely with the Information Security Office to provide a detailed response.
Do you have any presentations coming up that we can attend?	Not currently, however, I'd be glad to attend one of your team meetings.
What is Rutgers doing to try to reduce the fringe rate? Is there more that can be done? The impact on grant-funded research, among other things, is tremendous.	The University is actively advocating with the Governor and the State Legislature to help the research universities in finding ways to help alleviate some of the fringe rate increase. We will continue to share our story and the competitive impact the high fringe benefit rate is having on our application for grants. Our rate is actually twice the median of the other Big10 institutions, and both health care and pension costs are the culprits. This effort with the State has proven beneficial; the Governor's Proposed FY 2024 Budget proposes additional funds of approximately $70M to help offset the fringe benefit increases for research institutions of higher education, of which Rutgers can expect approximately $50M to lower the fringe rate. This is only a proposal, however, but if the full increase stays in the final state budget, this will start to address some of the rate increases we have experienced over the past several years.
The increased fringe rates make our application for grants make us look less desirable. Does the university have a plan to address this?	The University is actively advocating with the Governor and the State Legislature to help the research universities in finding ways to help alleviate some of the fringe rate increase. We will continue to share our story and the impact the high fringe benefit rate is having on our application for grants. This active effort has proven beneficial with the latest Governor's Proposed FY 2024 Budget providing additional funds to help offset the fringe benefit increases for research institutions of higher education. This is only a proposal and if the full increase stays in the final state budget, this will start to address some of the rate increases we have experienced over the past several years.
Could you provide an update on the fringe rate agreement process and when you expect we'll receive a fully executed rate agreement? The drastic delay of these agreements, as you know, has a significant impact on our grant/contract activity and planning.	We also understand the impacts caused by the delay in receiving a fully-executed rate agreement from the State, one that allows us to bill Federal and State agencies. We still have not received that agreement, now almost 9 months into the fiscal year, but we will share updates with the community as we learn more. My colleagues and I are working with the US DHHS on a new plan for a Rutgers-specific fringe benefit rate that could be official on July 1 of this year.