The New CSUID

Social Security Numbers (SSNs) have been ubiquitous throughout CSU's administrative computing systems, typically used as the University Personal Identifier (PID). Although the central administrative computing systems are well protected, such use exposes University constituents to some risk of identity theft.

To protect against identity theft and to comply with state laws, the University is in the process of replacing Social Security Numbers (SSNs) with the new, public CSUID as personal identifiers in its systems. The replacement of SSN's with the CSUID is being accomplished by implementing the Banner Student Information System that will go fully live in fall 2007.

The University's implementation of Banner, termed Aries, is being used to generate and store the new CSUID. Currently, a CSUID has been generated for all students, faculty and staff. In addition, CSUIDs are available for those in the University Associates database.

The CSUID is in exactly the same format as a PID/SSN, 9 numeric digits, but unlike an SSN, it begins with a leading '8'. SSNs begin with the first three digits of 722 or lower, so a CSUID cannot be confused with a SSN. The cutover date for the transition from SSN/PID to CSUID in central systems is August 17, 2006.

Replacement ID cards with the new CSUID have been produced and distributed by the ID Card Office to most students, faculty, and staff. Others will pick up their replacement CSU ID cards at the beginning of the fall semester.

After August 17, 2006, old ID cards will no longer work in CSU systems. Please be sure to destroy your old CSU ID card after August 17, 2006, and replace it with your new CSU ID card.

As part of this effort, SSNs are being purged from non-central computer systems. Individuals should work with their IT staff to identify where in their files SSNs exist, take appropriate action depending upon the results of that exercise, and complete an "Individual SSN Attestation Form" available at http://csuid.colostate.edu/?page=forms. The forms will be collected by departments. The completed forms are to be returned by each department to ACNS in one package by no later than September 30, 2006.

Exceptions for files and computers where SSNs must be stored may be requested using the "SSN Exception Form," available at http://csuid.colostate.edu/?page=forms. SSN Exception Forms are to be returned by September 18, 2006 to the Associate Vice President for Information and Instructional Technology, Patrick J. Burns, ACNS, Dept. 1018.

Additional detail is available at http://csuid.colostate.edu. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Patrick J. Burns, Patrick.Burns@colostate.edu, (970) 491-5778.

Thank you for participating in this effort that will improve the security of all of our sensitive personal data.

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