

DIVISION BUSINESS SERVICES

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Agriculture, Life &
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Dear Colleagues,

Cyber-attacks have been on the rise for several months in the form of phishing email attempts and increased hacking attacks on our servers. The conflict in Ukraine increases the probability of more cyber attacks in the weeks and months to come.

As a response, our University community has access to Sophos' [Ukraine Crisis Resource Center](#) and an accompanying [recorded webinar](#).

Our IT and info security colleagues are working every day to prevent damage from attacks; however, the risk to our cyber infrastructure is serious, from ransom attacks of sensitive and critical research data to service denial attacks of our backbone enterprise systems. We do not want to dramatize the risk but instead raise a clear-eyed vigilance to our cyber security.

Our cyber defense depends upon our collective actions.

- Don't delay updating the software on your computers and electronic devices.
- Scrutinize emails that don't seem right, especially emails from outside the University with an "External Email" stamp. DON'T click on links you don't trust.
- Use [strong passwords](#)
- Review resources offered by the [Information Security Office](#).
- If nearing expiration, renew your [Cyber Security Awareness Training](#)
- Respond promptly to changes to your paycheck that you did not initiate.
- Reach out! Your departmental [cyber professionals](#) are experts with specialized training and are ready to help you.

Thank you for your attention to cyber security and your resolve to keep the organization secure.

Jeff Ratje – Associate Vice President, Finance, Administration, Operations

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