A New Tool to Fight Computer Viruses and Malware

ITS will implement a new security tool this month to help reduce the occurrences of malware, viruses and phishing on campus. Student Government, the Graduate Student Association, Faculty Senate, the Executive Council, the Council of Deans, the academic technology directors, and Staff Council have all had the chance to discuss this addition to Baylor’s technology security with ITS leadership and the response from everyone has been very favorable. The system was piloted in the residence halls, the central libraries, and the Dutton ITS offices last fall.

Users who attempt to access a web address that is classified as potentially threatening will see a warning page similar to the one pictured below. The page will identify the category of the threat and provide a button marked “Continue”. We strongly recommend avoiding sites that generate this warning page. However, it is possible to choose to click the button and continue to the site. If this choice is made, select the “click here to contact us” link before continuing to the site and provide feedback about the site identified in error as malicious.

This new tool will be added into the campus wired and wireless networks in stages over the coming days. This implementation schedule is available on the ITS website at www.baylor.edu/its ->Security -> Web Filtering.

BearID Password Reminder

Your BearID is the key to online access to personal and university data for students, faculty, and staff. It is critically important that BearID passwords remain private, are changed regularly, and are “strong” (that is, difficult to guess). Baylor policy requires that passwords be changed at least every 180 days and that they contain characters from three of the four following categories: lowercase, uppercase, number and symbol.

When you receive notice that your BearID password will soon expire, or if you think it might be known by someone else, please update it as soon as possible. The instructions for changing your BearID password are straightforward and are always available online at www.baylor.edu/bearid.

More information about BearID passwords, including instructions for password changes when off campus, is available in ITS Self-Service Help and by choosing “Security” and then “BearID Password Information” on the ITS website.