Identity Theft Prevention

This is a supplement to the Identity Theft Prevention Seminar.

You can see a short 10 minute video on identity theft by going to http://www.delval.edu/idtheft.

- What is identity theft?
  - Thieves look for:
    - Name and Address, Social Security Number, Birth Date, Customer Numbers, Account numbers or partial account numbers, driver’s license numbers and passwords.
  - Thieves use social engineering to get information without even using a computer.
  - Social engineering uses various techniques to manipulate people into giving out confidential or sensitive information.
  - Lost or Stolen Items often have personal information on them
    - Laptops, PDA’s, Cell Phones, Flash drives/USB Memory Sticks, old computers, etc.

- Responsibility
  - You are responsible for your personal data.
  - Companies are responsible for protecting the privacy of the data you provide. This applies to us as custodians of data for students, employees, etc...
    - There are regulations that we must follow. (FERPA, SOX, HIPPA, PCI)
    - Failure to comply with these regulations can be very bad for the college.
  - As you have seen there is a lot you can do to protect yourselves at work and at home
    - Check financial statements promptly. Always review your monthly banking, brokerage, and credit-card statements for accuracy. Report problems immediately.
    - Opt-out of pre-approved credit offers by calling the Credit Reporting Industry Pre-Screening Opt-Out Number at 888-567-8688.
    - Guard mail. Consider using a locked mailbox or slot to receive mail at home. Deposit mail in postal mailboxes or in the post office to discourage mail theft.
    - Shred paper with a cross cut shredder.
    - Use on-campus shredder boxes.
  - Common sense will prevent problems more than any other thing you can do.
    - Always remember, don’t do anything online that you wouldn’t do on a corner in Doylestown.
    - Read all messages and pay attention to what you are doing.
    - Don’t believe everything you read.
    - Make sure the web sites you are going to are real.
      - You can look in the address bar to see what web site you are at.
  - Secure deletion software is also available.
  - Deletes confidential data in a way that it is essentially unrecoverable.

- Protect your passwords
  - Secure password management software is available.
  - Encrypt or lock up sensitive information.
  - Lock your PC whenever you leave your desk– Control/Alt/Delete or Windows Key/L

- Important Web Sites
  - https://www.annualcreditreport.com – Real site to get the free credit reports that you are entitled to.
  - http://www.delval.edu/techtools – Tools that we have collected links to, like password management software.

- Don’t be afraid to ask questions!
  - Report suspicious activity. Not just computer stuff but suspicious people and phone calls.
  - All of these things are important to help us comply with government regulations and to protect the College’s reputation.