Kicking Off National Cyber Security Awareness Month (NCSAM) (On Behalf of Sam Horowitz, Chief Information Security Officer (CISO))

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September 30, 2020

TO: UCSB Campus Community
FR: Sam Horowitz, CISSP CISM, Chief Information Security Officer (CISO)
Kip Bates, Associate CISO

RE: Kicking Off National Cyber Security Awareness Month (NCSAM)

****This message is being sent on behalf of Sam Horowitz and Kip Bates. Please do not reply to this message.****

October is National Cyber Security Awareness Month (NCSAM) and we are celebrating for our fifth year at UCSB. NCSAM aims to promote awareness about cybersecurity by educating faculty, staff, students, and other members of our community about ways to protect themselves and the campus. Hackers continuously bombard UCSB with cyberattacks. Our networks and servers include security measures that thwart most, but not all, of these attacks. Each of us plays a critical role in protecting our data, PCs, and mobile devices. With all of our security protections, it's often easier for a criminal to hack you than your computer.

This year, the Systemwide Security Awareness Team has created over two dozen remote events during October to help create awareness for you and your colleagues. Highlights include:

- Tips on how to use Zoom securely
- Insightful industry discussions
- Cyber-safety for families
- Suspenseful movie events
- Comedy improv
- And much more!

Let's spread the word and pass this message to others in your organizations so everyone can participate in NCSAM!

Visit our NCSAM 2020 Events page to see what we've planned, register to attend, and download your location’s NCSAM Zoom background!

Remember, you are the front line of cybersecurity. When you open an infected attachment or click a bad link, you can instantly render all other protections moot, but you are not alone. No single person, university, or business can secure the Internet. Each one of us has a part to play. Securing our mobile devices, computers, networks, and private information requires a collective effort. You can make the Internet safer and more secure for everyone by using more robust cybersecurity practices.