

CYBERSECURITY COMMUNICATION

Please circulate

November 2, 2017

TO: University Cybersecurity Communication Recipients
FROM: University Systems
RE: **Keyloggers and Instructor Credentials**

We have received reports that keyloggers have been used at other higher education institutions to steal instructor credentials. These credentials have then been used by students or hired hackers to modify grades within administration systems.

A keylogger is a tool that is used to record key strokes, which includes usernames and passphrases. Hardware keyloggers are physical devices that are connected to the computer itself or other devices such as a keyboard or mouse.

To help protect against credential theft, please remember to:

- Lock your office to keep your computer secure
- Inspect your computer for additional hardware devices that you do not recognize (such as a USB stick or an adapter on your keyboard cable)
- Contact the Computer Help Desk or your Desktop Support Services team member if you notice anything unusual or believe that someone may have tampered with your computer

More information about the use of keyloggers at other institutions can be found at <https://www.insidehighered.com/news/2017/11/01/new-type-hacking-puts-professors-accounts-risk>.

If you have any questions about this issue, please contact the Computer Help Desk or your Desktop Support Services team member.

Regards,

Chandra



Chandra Beaveridge

Cybersecurity Working Group

University Systems
[University of Victoria](http://www.uvic.ca)

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