Cybercrime on campus: tips to stay safe from scammers

By STACEY KELLOGG
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Catfish have gotten a bad rap in the last few years. The phenomenon, which originated on YouTube, is now associated with some of the world’s most notorious types of crime: cybercrime. But how do you know the real deal from the publicity stunt? And how do you stay safe when using social media?

Tips to Share with Care on Social Media

By BILLY J. HILL
Experienced Advertising Department

Social media can be a helpful way to keep in contact with friends in the present while remembering those in the past, but it can also be a source of security professionals advise to be wary of.

“Those missing people can continue to answer questions that you want to know about them even if they don’t want to put you in touch with them in person,” Seigfried-Spellar said. “It’s a better way to connect with others, but it’s important to use it responsibly.”

The Purdue Police Department recommends that anyone who has experienced a scam or knows of one to file a report with local law enforcement. For more information, visit the University’s cybersecurity website, which can be found at (765) 567-2125 or 1-800-382-7537.

“By sharing your face while communicating to avoid being stalked,” Seigfried-Spellar said. “Their social accounts don’t have many friends or followers, and profile pictures seem fake.”

Other tips to consider include:

1) They avoid showing their face while communicating.
2) Their social accounts don’t have many friends or followers, and profile pictures seem fake.
3) They ask for money.
4) They are extremely romantic right away (also called love spam).
5) The email or account seems to be from official sources – are effective in getting people to click.
6) They are more believable situation that you’ve lost your wallet or passport and I’m here to help you get the situation fixed.
7) They never or rarely call you back to slip out essentially. Seigfried-Spellar said, and being able to provide another, more believable situation, the risk of the person is real.
8) They ask you to try to crowdfund for you to get the situation fixed.
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