



Beeper Article, June 9, 2005

## **IPI Survey results are in; Fix Assessment work begins**

Last month's Identity Protection Initiative data inventory results have been tallied and the IPI Fix Assessment team has begun its work, analyzing the information and compiling recommendations to strengthen campus business practices.

"We had a great response to the inventory," said Deb Barshafsky, executive to the president and chair of the IPI task force. "We actually received more surveys than we initially sent out – some sort of record, I'm sure. That shows how seriously the campus is taking this initiative."

Responses revealed security weaknesses in the business practices of most departments on campus.

"The inventory wasn't designed to point fingers or incriminate departments," said Ms. Barshafsky. "We wanted to identify our vulnerabilities and the candid way the inventories were completed has helped us to do that."

The Fix Assessment Team, led by Vice President for Information Technology Support Services Beth Brigdon, has begun to analyze the results of the inventory and develop a plan for overcoming the vulnerabilities.

According to Ms. Brigdon, the team's list of recommendations will include simple changes in work habits regarding storage and disposal. For example, employees will be encouraged to lock work in a drawer at the end of the day and discard unneeded documents.

"I think many of the problems can be fixed with common sense," said Ms. Brigdon. "We will need a few 'high tech' solutions, but mostly we just need to raise awareness about the way we do things and work at changing our habits."

The Fix Assessment report will be presented to the IPI Steering Committee later this month and final recommendations will be presented to MCG President Daniel W. Rahn.