

Question Time

I very much appreciate the response from the Chancellor to my original question, and the disturbing consequences of centralization of decisions about IT for our campus. I do have a few follow up questions:

1. Why did we not get a detailed explanation like this? It may have reduced the stress of that tumultuous time to better understand why it was happening.

2. I appreciate the importance of not losing more money after the loss of \$3800. Have any attempts been made to see how much this change ended up costing the university, in particular:

--loss of productivity both during the first weeks of the semester, but also continued loss of productivity

I am having a hard time believing I am the only person whose ability to work continues to be disrupted by this. I have increasingly heard "vpn issues" as a reason all sorts of things are not getting done in a timely manner. I recently discovered a program that appeared on my computer that wanted to have access to all my internet searches and screen them (?). I was able to delete it from my laptop but only because I was granted admin privileges on my laptop, something that I had to specifically petition to receive--a recent policy change that was not publicly announced to the best of my knowledge.

Just a small example--I now have to duplicate all my coursework--uploading it to Brightspace but still sending it to students by email to ensure they can access it.

--impact on student retention and enrollment

I only have anecdotal data as instructor and president of Brown Ink society, but this continues to be a problem for our students. Not all of them own their own computers and thus can not install vpn on devices owned by others. Is someone tracking how this has impacted students? How it will impact grades? retention?

3. Is there any effort being placed in better education about internet security? The statistics about people clicking on the bad links is disturbing. Given the evolution of cybercrime, without better education we are going to be at risk again in the future.

4. Why is our security system for our campus different than that for PWL? During the time of vpn-induced chaos, it was possible for us to get into PWL based systems, including PWL's version of Brightspace, but not PFW-based ones. Does this mean we have another change on the horizon for us?

5. Is there any conversation about regaining some control over decisions about IT on our campus?

Introduction of vpn was not the only change that disrupted our ability to work on our campus (e.g. forced change of our login names for purdue accounts).

A. Livschiz