

CYBERCRIME NOTIFICATION

The Office of Finance would like to alert faculty, staff and vendors of an active email scam impacting colleges and universities across the country. The identity thieves contact university vendors with requests for quotes, with requests to establish credit, or even with a forged university purchase order. Messages may also include logos copied from university websites in an attempt to legitimize the correspondence.

Impacted institutions share that the communication from these scammers is not well written and often contains unusual phrasing or errors, and communications request product delivery to non-standard university delivery locations. Additionally, the requests for quotes and purchase orders usually reference large quantities of resalable items such as electronics, hard drives, toner cartridges, and medical or scientific goods.

Although the University of Puget Sound has not been negatively impacted by this type of scam, the awareness of our vendors, faculty and staff may prevent such a damaging event from even occurring. The University highly values our relationships with our vendors, so when in doubt, vendors should confirm orders by phone at (253) 879-2731 or (253) 879-3519 or by sending the potentially fraudulent order to a member of our Procurement team at procurement@pugetsound.edu.

Please note that there is an FBI ongoing investigation into this type of cybercrime.