

INFOSEC YEAR IN REVIEW ILLUSTRATION

The following sample analysis and data gathering illustrates how IYIR research assistants use materials supplied by Prof Kabay to stock the INFOSEC YEAR IN REVIEW database with new abstracts and entries.

The first part is a printout of an EDUPAGE digest. EDUPAGE editors have permitted Prof Kabay to use their abstracts directly in the database. EDUPAGE abstracts are formatted with hard carriage-returns at the ends of lines; other abstracts may also need minor processing to ensure that all lines flow properly without interruption into the next line before being pasted into the ABSTRACT field. In WORD, the REPLACE function using “^p^p” as the FIND WHAT string (without the “”) and “ ^p” as the REPLACE WITH (again, without the “”) removes the extra line break; then changing all double spaces into single spaces finishes the job. The title must be in all-capitals (WORD has the FORMAT | Change Case function) and is separated from the abstract by one blank line.

The research assistant who processed the file selected each appropriate story, copied the text and pasted into WORD, reformatted it, then pasted the reformatted abstract into the ABSTRACT field, added the date of the story, filled in as many keywords as (s)he could think of, and selected the best category code for the SELECT field. The category codes are shown in the document available on the IYIR Web page.

The assistant wrote EDUPAGE into the SOURCE field and then pasted the URL into that field as well. The research assistant then hunted down the source story for the abstract by following the link provided in EDUPAGE. In some cases, the link was dead (e.g., New York Times stories retire after 7 days). In those cases, the assistant could locate the original in the Kreitzberg Library database using the login <http://library.norwich.edu:2048/login> from off-campus or clicking on the appropriate link in CLiC when on-campus. The Periodicals A-Z database has links to almost all publications needed for this research.

The original article is then pasted into the ENTRY field.

EDUPAGE ENTRIES

From: EDUPAGE automatic digest system [LISTSERV@LISTSERV.EDUCAUSE.EDU]
Sent: Saturday, May 13, 2006 02:00
To: EDUPAGE@LISTSERV.EDUCAUSE.EDU
Subject: EDUPAGE Digest - 5 May 2006 to 12 May 2006 (#2006-19)

There are 3 messages totalling 1010 lines in this issue.

Topics of the week:

1. Edupage, May 8, 2006
2. Edupage, May 10, 2006
3. Edupage, May 12, 2006

Date: Mon, 8 May 2006 17:09:37 -0600
From: Educause <educause@EDUCAUSE.EDU>
Subject: Edupage, May 8, 2006

This is a multi-part message in MIME format.

-----=_NextPart_000_0030_01C672C2.2FBD6100
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

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advance higher education by promoting the

intelligent use of information technology.

TOP STORIES FOR MONDAY, MAY 8, 2006

File-Sharing Landscape Evolves
Journal Publishers Cringe at Access Bill
Guilty Plea in Computer Attack
Parents, City Council Call for End to Cell-Phone Ban
AOL Offers Free VoIP to IM Customers

FILE-SHARING LANDSCAPE EVOLVES

The fallout continues from a U.S. Supreme Court ruling in June that found
that the file-sharing service Grokster could be

sued for copyright infringements taking place with its application. After
that ruling, the Recording Industry Association of

America (RIAA) pressed a number of file-sharing companies to modify their
operations or face legal action. Grokster settled

with the RIAA in November, and, in the latest announcement, BearShare has
settled with the RIAA for \$30 million and committed

to stop facilitating illegal file sharing.

Another file-sharing company, iMesh, which settled with the RIAA in

2004 for \$4.1 million, announced it will acquire the assets of Free Peers Inc., which owns BearShare. Robert Summer, CEO of

iMesh, said his company is "committed to transitioning the compelling experience of [peer-to-peer file sharing] to an

authorized marketplace." Streamcast Inc., which owns the Morpheus file trading application, is pressing on with its defense

against the RIAA.

Wall Street Journal, 5 May 2006 (sub. req'd)

<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB114678807401044401.html>

JOURNAL PUBLISHERS CRINGE AT ACCESS BILL A bill introduced by Sens. Joseph Lieberman (D-Conn.) and John Cornyn

(R-Tex.) has prompted an outcry by publishers of scholarly journals, who argue that their publications would suffer under the

bill. The Federal Research Public Access Act of 2006 would require scholars who publish articles based on federally funded

research to place those articles on free Web sites within six months of being published in an academic journal. The sponsors

of the bill said it would ensure broad access to research funded with taxpayer money. A spokesperson for Lieberman said the

bill would "foster information sharing, prevent duplication of research efforts, and generate new lines of scientific

inquiry." Some scholarly publishers expressed concerns, however, that the business model of academic journals--both in terms

of subscriptions and of ad revenues--would falter if so much of the content were free online. The National Institutes of

Health last year began encouraging researchers working on NIH grants to submit their articles to a public database, but so

far fewer than 4 percent have done so.

New York Times, 8 May 2006 (registration req'd)

<http://www.nytimes.com/2006/05/08/business/media/08journal.html>

GUILTY PLEA IN COMPUTER ATTACK

Christopher Maxwell has pleaded guilty to charges that he and a group of conspirators used a network of zombie computers to

install adware on unsuspecting users' computer. Maxwell is said to have earned about \$100,000 in commissions from the adware.

The scheme involved using a bot network of 13,000 zombie computers, which Maxwell controlled using powerful computers at

California State University at Northridge, the University of Michigan, and the University of California at Los Angeles.

Maxwell's bot network swamped the computers at Northwest Hospital in Seattle, causing disruptions to communications among

hospital staff. Costs for the hospital to address the issue were estimated to be \$150,000. Maxwell will be sentenced August

4.

ZDNet, 5 May 2006

http://news.zdnet.com/2100-1009_22-6069238.html

PARENTS, CITY COUNCIL CALL FOR END TO CELL-PHONE BAN Framing it as a "safety issue," City Councilwoman Letitia James has

called on administrators in New York City to lift a ban on cell phones in public schools. Opponents of the ban, including

most students, many parents, and a small number of city officials, pointed to incidents such as the September 11, 2001,

attacks, saying that cell phones can be an invaluable lifeline in times of crisis. They said rules requiring students to turn

cell phones off in school are acceptable but that the technology should be available in an emergency. Administrators

reiterated their belief that phones in school represent nothing so much as a source of distractions and of mischief,

including cheating and taking photos in restrooms or locker rooms. Joel Klein, chancellor of schools, said that alternate

solutions to the problems of cell phones are either too expensive or impractical. Mayor Michael Bloomberg also expressed his

support for the continuation of the ban.

Wired News, 6 May 2006

<http://www.wired.com/news/wireservice/0,70834-0.html>

AOL OFFERS FREE VOIP TO IM CUSTOMERS

AOL has announced a new voice over Internet protocol (VoIP) service for customers of its instant messaging service, AIM.

Starting May 16, AIM customers can get a free VoIP phone number and can receive unlimited inbound calls from traditional

phones, cell phones, and PCs. A premium service will be available for \$14.95 per month. The service ties in with customers'

instant messaging accounts, and voicemail will be provided at no extra charge. Analysts pointed out that companies including

Google, Yahoo, and Microsoft, among others, offer instant messaging services with phone features. In such a closely fought

market, they said, AOL is looking for something to differentiate itself, though the boost from the new service may be

minimal. Will Stofega, analyst at IDC, noted that "the mating of IM and VoIP has been very powerful." Joe Laszlo, analyst

with JupiterResearch, doubted that AOL's service will be noticed by non-AOL users and said that only a small percentage of

current AOL instant messaging customers will likely be interested in VoIP. Internet News, 8 May 2006

<http://www.internetnews.com/infra/article.php/3604556>

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Date: Wed, 10 May 2006 16:34:45 -0600
From: Educause Educause <educause@EDUCAUSE.EDU>
Subject: Edupage, May 10, 2006

This is a multi-part message in MIME format.

-----=_NextPart_000_0118_01C6744F.A57897A0

Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"

Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

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TOP STORIES FOR WEDNESDAY, MAY 10, 2006

State Schools See Benefits of Online Education Chinese Students Police Internet BitTorrent and Warner Bros. Partner on

Delivery

STATE SCHOOLS SEE BENEFITS OF ONLINE EDUCATION Online higher education programs are booming, and many state colleges and

universities are seeing significant benefits from the online programs they offer. At the University of Massachusetts, for

example, enrollment in online programs has quadrupled since 2001, and enrollment in Pennsylvania State University's online

program rose 18 percent last year. A greater number of public schools offer online programs than do private, nonprofit

colleges, which have had mixed success online. An online initiative of Oxford University, Stanford University, and Yale

University recently closed its doors, and a number of other elite schools have stayed away from online education, fearing it

would tarnish their reputations. Although many state schools charge more per credit for online courses than on-campus

learning, the costs are often still lower than, for example, tuition at the University of Phoenix, the leading for-profit

online institution. Applicants to most online programs are held to similar, if not identical, standards as on-campus

students, and most agree that the quality of online education in many cases approaches that of on-campus learning.

Wall Street Journal, 9 May 2006

<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB114713782174047386.html>

CHINESE STUDENTS POLICE INTERNET

In China, a government initiative known as "Let the Winds of a Civilized Internet Blow" aims to ensure that online content

conforms to government expectations. Students at some Chinese universities are a key part of the effort. At Shanghai Normal

University, 500 students serve as Internet monitors, participating in online discussions and trying to steer conversations

away from topics considered objectionable. Unknown to most of the other students on campus, the monitors also report some

content to campus officials, who delete it.

One student monitor said, "Our job consists of guidance, not control."

Critics argue that the practice amounts to nothing more than the censorship common to other areas of Chinese life. Chinese

officials acknowledged that more than two million images and 600 online forums have been deleted for being "unhealthy." Some

students dismissed the efforts, saying that with the Internet, you can always go elsewhere to share your opinions. "It's easy

to bypass the firewalls," said one student, "and anybody who spends a little time researching it can figure it out."

New York Times, 9 May 2006 (registration req'd)

<http://www.nytimes.com/2006/05/09/world/asia/09internet.html>

BITTORRENT AND WARNER BROS. PARTNER ON DELIVERY A new deal between BitTorrent and Warner Bros. represents a convergence of

content providers and online distribution tools. Under terms of the deal, Warner Bros. will sell movies and TV programs to

BitTorrent, which will sell them to consumers for download. Until last November, BitTorrent was seen by many as part of the

peer-to-peer wave that entertainment companies blame for rampant piracy, which movie studios value at \$6.1 billion. At that

time, BitTorrent said it would cooperate with the Motion Picture Association of America in trying to limit the trade of

protected content. Now, according to Ashwin Navin, cofounder of BitTorrent, "We have just been embraced by the largest movie

studio." The deal also represents another step by a major studio toward online distribution of its content, a step most

studios have been hesitant to take. Pricing for the content on BitTorrent has not been announced, and Navin said he is in

talks with other providers to offer more content.

Wired News, 9 May 2006

<http://www.wired.com/news/technology/0,70852-0.html>

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Date: Fri, 12 May 2006 16:59:42 -0600

From: Educause Educause <educause@EDUCAUSE.EDU>

Subject: Edupage, May 12, 2006

This is a multi-part message in MIME format.

-----_NextPart_000_01B8_01C675E5.769B5610

Content-Type: text/plain;

charset="iso-8859-1"

Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

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TOP STORIES FOR FRIDAY, MAY 12, 2006

RPI to Develop Supercomputing Center

Congress Debates SSN Restrictions

Data-Breach Legislation on the Agenda

China Rejects Wikipedia, Starts Its Own Version

RPI TO DEVELOP SUPERCOMPUTING CENTER

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, N.Y., is working with several companies to develop a supercomputing center that

will be the largest at a university and one of the 10 largest worldwide. The Computational Center for Nanotechnology

Innovations will be used to study nanotechnology and its application in semiconductors. Researchers will try to shrink the

size of some components from 65 nanometers today to 22 nanometers by 2015. The center represents the latest move in a series of efforts by New York Governor George Pataki to

make the state a magnet for the high-tech sector. Companies participating in development of the new center, which has a

budget of about \$100 million, include IBM, Advanced Micro Devices (AMD), and Cadence, maker of semiconductor design tools.

IBM and AMD are also participating in an effort to establish a lithography research center in Albany.

ZDNet, 11 May 2006

http://news.zdnet.com/2100-9584_22-6071268.html

CONGRESS DEBATES SSN RESTRICTIONS

Members of Congress have vowed to enact legislation by the end of the year that will restrict use of Social Security numbers

(SSNs), which have become a prime target of identity thieves. Several bills are before Congress now, including one introduced

by Edward Markey

(D-Mass.) and another by Clay Shaw (R-Fla.). Joe Barton (R-Tex.) said the current practice of allowing data brokers to sell

SSNs to anyone able to pay for them should be banned outright. Federal Trade Commissioner Jon Leibowitz said SSNs are

"overused" and "underprotected." Officials from financial services institutions cautioned, however, that appropriate use of

SSNs is invaluable for sectors such as theirs. Oliver Ireland, representing the Financial Services Coordinating Council, said

SSNs "are critical for fraud detection."

CNET, 11 May 2006

http://news.com.com/2100-7348_3-6071441.html

DATA-BREACH LEGISLATION ON THE AGENDA

Rep. James Sensenbrenner (R-Wis.), chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, has introduced the Cybersecurity Enhancement

and Consumer Data Protection Act of 2006, which would require notification of government officials--but not of those

affected--any time a computer breach exposes data for 10,000 or more individuals. Data-breach bills have previously been

introduced by the House Financial Services Committee and the House Commerce Committee, with varying requirements for

notification. In the Senate, two bills have been introduced in the Judiciary Committee and a third in the Commerce Committee.

Some observers are concerned that the competing federal legislation, which would likely supersede any state laws concerning

data-breach disclosure, risks being reconciled into a law that would be worse than if no law were passed. Susanna Montezemolo

of the Consumers Union expressed support for one of the Senate bills, the Personal Data Privacy and Security Act, which has

been approved by committee and is waiting for a vote in the full Senate.

Internet News, 12 May 2006

<http://www.internetnews.com/bus-news/article.php/3605666>

CHINA REJECTS WIKIPEDIA, STARTS ITS OWN VERSION Baidu, the leading search engine in China, has launched a site that

approximates Wikipedia but with none of the content that prompted the Chinese government to block Wikipedia last year.

Chinese authorities exert strong control over Internet content available in the country, and Wikipedia includes enough

material deemed objectionable that the entire site is unavailable. Robin Li, chairman of Baidu, said his company's new site,

Baike, was inspired by Wikipedia, though he said he has never actually seen Wikipedia. China is second only to the United

States in Internet users, and Chinese users have reportedly written more than 25,000 Baike entries in the past week. Li said,

"I certainly hope our encyclopedia will be the most authoritative one for any Chinese users."

San Jose Mercury News, 12 May 2006

<http://www.siliconvalley.com/mld/siliconvalley/14563324.htm>

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End of EDUPAGE Digest - 5 May 2006 to 12 May 2006 (#2006-19)

IYIR DATABASE ENTRIES

DATE: 2006-05-05
KEYS: Christopher Maxwell computer crime criminal hacker hospital network damages adware malware distributed denial-of-service attack DDoS botnet zombie networks guilty plea
SOURCE: EDUPAGE; http://news.zdnet.com/2100-1009_22-6069238.html
ABSTRACT:

GUILTY PLEA IN COMPUTER ATTACK

Christopher Maxwell has pleaded guilty to charges that he and a group of conspirators used a network of zombie computers to install adware on unsuspecting users' computer. Maxwell is said to have earned about \$100,000 in commissions from the adware. The scheme involved using a bot network of 13,000 zombie computers, which Maxwell controlled using powerful computers at California State University at Northridge, the University of Michigan, and the University of California at Los Angeles. Maxwell's bot network swamped the computers at Northwest Hospital in Seattle, causing disruptions to communications among hospital staff. Costs for the hospital to address the issue were estimated to be \$150,000. Maxwell will be sentenced August 4.

ENTRY:

California man pleads guilty to bot attack

05 / 05 / 06 | By Dawn Kawamoto

A 20-year-old California man has pleaded guilty to launching a bot network attack that compromised computers at a Seattle hospital and several universities.

Christopher Maxwell, a Vacaville, Calif., resident, was accused of intentionally damaging a computer he was not authorized to access and using it to commit fraud. He made the guilty plea on Thursday in federal district court in Seattle.

Back in mid-2004, Maxwell and a group of co-conspirators created a network of bots, or automated programs, using more than 13,000 commandeered computers, or zombies. Maxwell used the bot network to install adware on compromised computers, reaping commissions of approximately \$100,000 for himself and his co-conspirators, according to the initial complaint.

In order to run the bot network, Maxwell used high-powered computers from California State University at Northridge, the University of Michigan and the University of California at Los Angeles, the complaint said. Some of the computers affected by Maxwell's efforts included those at Northwest Hospital in Seattle. As the bot network scanned the hospital computers to load adware, network traffic increased to such an extent that it interrupted communications of the hospital's surgical team, diagnostic imaging services and laboratory services, according to the complaint.

The cost to the hospital to address the botnet problem was initially pegged at almost \$150,000. Maxwell is scheduled to be sentenced on Aug. 4 in the Seattle court."

SELECT: 1A3

DATE: 2006-05-05
KEYS: file sharing peer-to-peer P2P music piracy copyright intellectual property rights RIAA US
Supreme Court
SOURCE: EDUPAGE; <http://online.wsj.com/article/SB114678807401044401.html>
ABSTRACT:

FILE-SHARING LANDSCAPE EVOLVES

The fallout continues from a U.S. Supreme Court ruling in June that found that the file-sharing service Grokster could be sued for copyright infringements taking place with its application. After that ruling, the Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA) pressed a number of file-sharing companies to modify their operations or face legal action. Grokster settled with the RIAA in November, and, in the latest announcement, BearShare has settled with the RIAA for \$30 million and committed to stop facilitating illegal file sharing. Another file-sharing company, iMesh, which settled with the RIAA in 2004 for \$4.1 million, announced it will acquire the assets of Free Peers Inc., which owns BearShare. Robert Summer, CEO of iMesh, said his company is “committed to transitioning the compelling experience of [peer-to-peer file sharing] to an authorized marketplace.” Streamcast Inc., which owns the Morpheus file trading application, is pressing on with its defense against the RIAA.

ENTRY:

Sharing Firm Settles Music Case

By SARAH MCBRIDE

May 5, 2006

Free Peers Inc.’s BearShare, a file-sharing service, settled allegations of copyright violation with the music industry for \$30 million, plus a pledge to stop facilitating illegal music sharing.

Separately, iMesh Inc., another file-sharing company, yesterday said it was acquiring the bulk of the assets of Free Peers, including BearShare, for an undisclosed price. iMesh itself agreed to settle with the recording industry in 2004 for \$4.1 million.

“iMesh is committed to transitioning the compelling experience of [peer-to-peer file sharing] to an authorized marketplace,” said Chief Executive Robert Summer. The BearShare software available on the site still allows downloads of copyrighted songs, but the company said it was working on changing that.

The BearShare settlement was reached with a group of major record labels, represented by the Recording Industry Association of America.

In September, several file-sharing companies received cease-and-desist letters from the RIAA after a key court ruling buttressed the industry’s legal position against open sharing of copyrighted music. BearShare is the first of that group to reach a settlement.

The music industry has been building on the favorable U.S. Supreme Court ruling it received in June in a key case involving the file-sharing company Grokster, which was accused of facilitating copyright violations. In that ruling, the court found that copyright holders could sue file-sharing companies for encouraging people to violate copyrights. Grokster settled in November. Another defendant, Streamcast Inc.’s Morpheus, is fighting on.

Write to Sarah McBride at sarah.mcbride@wsj.com

SELECT: 31.2

DATE: 2006-05-08
KEYS: intellectual property copyright public domain government funding legislation law proposal
scholarly journals research findings taxpayers science business
SOURCE: EDUPAGE; <http://www.nytimes.com/2006/05/08/business/media/08journal.html>
ABSTRACT:

JOURNAL PUBLISHERS CRINGE AT ACCESS BILL

A bill introduced by Sens. Joseph Lieberman (D-Conn.) and John Cornyn (R-Tex.) has prompted an outcry by publishers of scholarly journals, who argue that their publications would suffer under the bill. The Federal Research Public Access Act of 2006 would require scholars who publish articles based on federally funded research to place those articles on free Web sites within six months of being published in an academic journal. The sponsors of the bill said it would ensure broad access to research funded with taxpayer money. A spokesperson for Lieberman said the bill would "foster information sharing, prevent duplication of research efforts, and generate new lines of scientific inquiry." Some scholarly publishers expressed concerns, however, that the business model of academic journals--both in terms of subscriptions and of ad revenues--would falter if so much of the content were free online. The National Institutes of Health last year began encouraging researchers working on NIH grants to submit their articles to a public database, but so far fewer than 4 percent have done so. New York Times, (registration req'd)

ENTRY:

ORIGINAL LINK EXPIRED – ABSTRACT ONLY AVAILABLE:

Some Publishers of Scholarly Journals Dislike Bill to Require Online Access to Articles

*Please Note: Archive articles do not include photos, charts or graphics. More information.

May 8, 2006, Monday

By SARA IVRY (NYT); Business/Financial Desk

Late Edition - Final, Section C, Page 4, Column 1, 477 words

DISPLAYING ABSTRACT - Scholarly publishing has never been a big business. But it could take a financial hit if a proposed federal law is enacted, opening taxpayer-financed research to the public, according to some critics in academic institutions. The Federal Research Public Access Act of 2006, proposed last week by Senators Joseph ...

USED KREITZBURG LIBRARY DATABASE "PERIODICALS A-Z" TO LOCATE ORIGINAL; FOUND IN LEXIS-NEXIS

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The New York Times

May 8, 2006 Monday

Late Edition - Final

SECTION: Section C; Column 1; Business/Financial Desk; Pg. 4

LENGTH: 510 words

HEADLINE: Some Publishers of Scholarly Journals Dislike Bill to Require Online Access to Articles

BYLINE: By SARA IVRY

BODY:

Scholarly publishing has never been a big business. But it could take a financial hit if a proposed federal law is enacted, opening taxpayer-financed research to the public, according to some critics in academic institutions. The Federal Research Public Access Act of 2006, proposed last week by Senators Joseph I. Lieberman, Democrat of Connecticut, and John Cornyn, Republican of Texas, would require 11 government agencies to publish online any articles that contained research financed with federal grants. If enacted, the measure would require that the articles be accessible online without charge within six months of their initial publication in a scholarly journal.

"Not everybody has a library next door. I don't mean to be flippant about it, but this gives access to anybody," said Donald Stewart, a spokesman for Senator Cornyn. "The genesis of this was his interest in open government and finding ways to reform our Freedom of Information laws and taxpayer access to federally funded work."

Some members of the scholarly publishing industry are wary of the legislation. Howard H. Garrison, the director of public affairs at the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology, an organization whose members collectively publish approximately 60 journals, argued that the legislation would weaken the connection between the journals and their readers and that journals could lose subscribers and ad revenue if articles were available online.

"People won't be able to gauge how many people will be reading the articles and that has ramifications for advertising, promotion," he said. "Does it reach 1,000 scientists, 2,000 or 50? If the articles are on a government Web site, your readership may be halved."

Scientific data is easily misinterpreted, said Joann Boughman, executive vice president of the American Society of Human Genetics, publisher of The American Journal of Human Genetics. "Consumers themselves are saying, 'We have the right to know these things as quickly as we can.' That is not incorrect. However, wherever there is a benefit, there is a risk associated with it."

A year ago, the National Institutes of Health introduced a policy encouraging scientists who had received N.I.H. financing to submit published articles within a year to a central database at the National Library of Medicine. Fewer than 4 percent of researchers have complied.

Catherine McKenna Ribeiro, the deputy press secretary for Senator Lieberman, said mandatory compliance would "foster information sharing, prevent duplication of research efforts, and generate new lines of scientific inquiry." She said in an e-mail message that the bill would, in effect, allow agencies to better monitor what publications were a result of their grants.

Betsy L. Humphreys, the deputy director of the National Library of Medicine, said she was not surprised that researchers had not always complied with N.I.H.'s request. "I think it's like anything else in the lives of busy people who prefer to spend their time doing science," she said.

DATE: 2006-05-09
KEYS: China censorship students bypass filters firewall
SOURCE: EDUPAGE; <http://www.nytimes.com/2006/05/09/world/asia/09internet.html>
ABSTRACT

CHINESE STUDENTS POLICE INTERNET

In China, a government initiative known as “Let the Winds of a Civilized Internet Blow” aims to ensure that online content conforms to government expectations. Students at some Chinese universities are a key part of the effort. At Shanghai Normal University, 500 students serve as Internet monitors, participating in online discussions and trying to steer conversations away from topics considered objectionable. Unknown to most of the other students on campus, the monitors also report some content to campus officials, who delete it. One student monitor said, “Our job consists of guidance, not control.” Critics argue that the practice amounts to nothing more than the censorship common to other areas of Chinese life. Chinese officials acknowledged that more than two million images and 600 online forums have been deleted for being “unhealthy.” Some students dismissed the efforts, saying that with the Internet, you can always go elsewhere to share your opinions. “It’s easy to bypass the firewalls,” said one student, “and anybody who spends a little time researching it can figure it out.”

ENTRY:

ORIGINAL ARTICLE WAS UNAVAILABLE. MIRROR FOUND THROUGH GOOGLE SEARCH ON TITLE AT <http://www.theadminzone.com/forums/showthread.php?t=22321>

As Chinese Students Go Online, Little Sister Is Watching

By Howard W. French | The New York Times
09 May 2006

SHANGHAI, May 8 — To her fellow students, Hu Yingying appears to be a typical undergraduate, plain of dress, quick with a smile and perhaps possessed with a little extra spring in her step, but otherwise decidedly ordinary. And for Ms. Hu, a sophomore at Shanghai Normal University, coming across as ordinary is just fine, given the parallel life she leads. For several hours each week she repairs to a little-known on-campus office crammed with computers, where she logs in unsuspected by other students to help police her school’s Internet forums.

Once online, following suggestions from professors or older students, she introduces politically correct or innocuous themes for discussion. Recently, she says, she started a discussion of what celebrities make the best role models, a topic suggested by a professor as appropriate.

Politics, even school politics, is banned on university bulletin boards like these. Ms. Hu says she and her fellow moderators try to steer what they consider negative conversations in a positive direction with well-placed comments of their own. Anything they deem offensive, she says, they report to the school’s Web master for deletion. During some heated anti-Japanese demonstrations last year, for example, moderators intervened to cool nationalist passions, encouraging students to mute criticisms of Japan.

Part traffic cop, part informer, part discussion moderator—and all without the knowledge of her fellow students—Ms. Hu is a small part of a huge national effort to sanitize the Internet. For years China has had its Internet police, reportedly as many as 50,000 state agents who troll online, blocking Web sites, erasing commentary and arresting people for what is deemed anti-Communist Party or antisocial speech.

But Ms. Hu, one of 500 students at her university’s newly bolstered, student-run Internet monitoring group, is a cog in a different kind of force, an ostensibly all-volunteer one that the Chinese government is mobilizing to help it manage the monumental task of censoring the Web. In April that effort was named “Let the Winds of a Civilized Internet Blow,” and it is part of a broader “socialist morality” campaign, known as the Eight Honors and Disgraces, begun by the country’s leadership to reinforce social and political control.

Under the Civilized Internet program, service providers and other companies have been asked to purge their servers of offensive content, which ranges from pornography to anything that smacks of overt political criticism or dissent. Chinese authorities say that more than two million supposedly “unhealthy” images have already been deleted under this campaign, and more than 600 supposedly “unhealthy” Internet forums shut down.

Having started its own ambitious Internet censorship efforts—a “harmful-information defense system,” as the university calls it—long before the government’s latest campaign, Shanghai Normal University is promoting itself within the education establishment as a pioneer.

Although most of its students know nothing of the university’s monitoring efforts, Shanghai Normal has conducted seminars for dozens of Chinese universities and education officials on how to tame the Web. Nevertheless, school officials were not eager to talk about the program. “Our system is not very mature, and since we’ve just started operating it there’s not much to say about it” said Li Ximeng, deputy director of the school’s propaganda department. “Our system is not open for media, and we don’t want to have it appear in the news or be publicized.” For her part, Ms. Hu beams with pride over her contribution toward building a “harmonious society.”

“We don’t control things, but we really don’t want bad or wrong things to appear on the Web sites,” she said. “According to our social and educational systems, we should judge what is right and wrong. And as I’m a student cadre, I need to play a pioneer role among other students, to express my opinion, to make stronger my belief in Communism.”

While the national Web censorship campaign all but requires companies to demonstrate their vigilance against what the government deems harmful information, the new censorship drive on college campuses shows greater subtlety and, some would say, greater deviousness.”

SELECT: 32.2

DATE: 2006-05-11
KEYS: Congress debate SSN restrictions identity theft fraud detection
SOURCE: EDUPAGE; http://news.com.com/2100-7348_3-6071441.html
ABSTRACT:

CONGRESS DEBATES SSN RESTRICTIONS

Members of Congress have vowed to enact legislation by the end of the year that will restrict use of Social Security numbers (SSNs), which have become a prime target of identity thieves. Several bills are before Congress now, including one introduced by Edward Markey (D-Mass.) and another by Clay Shaw (R-Fla.). Joe Barton (R-Tex.) said the current practice of allowing data brokers to sell SSNs to anyone able to pay for them should be banned outright. Federal Trade Commissioner Jon Leibowitz said SSNs are "overused" and "underprotected." Officials from financial services institutions cautioned, however, that appropriate use of SSNs is invaluable for sectors such as theirs. Oliver Ireland, representing the Financial Services Coordinating Council, said SSNs "are critical for fraud detection.

ENTRY:

Congress may slap restrictions on SSN use

By Anne Broache

http://news.com.com/Congress+may+slap+restrictions+on+SSN+use/2100-7348_3-6071441.html

Story last modified Fri May 12 06:34:57 PDT 2006

WASHINGTON--Democratic and Republican politicians on Thursday both promised to enact new federal laws by the end of the year that would restrict some commercial uses of Social Security numbers, which are often implicated in identity fraud cases.

"Whether Social Security numbers should be sold by Internet data brokers to anyone willing to pay, indistinguishable from sports scores or stock quotes... to me, that's a no-brainer," Texas Republican Joe Barton, chairman of the U.S. House of Representatives Energy and Commerce Committee, said at a hearing. Such a practice should not be allowed, he said, "period, end of debate."

In both the House and the Senate, there are at least three pieces of pending legislation that propose different approaches to restricting the use and sale of SSNs. Politicians have expressed astonishment at what they see as a rising identity fraud problem, frequently pointing to a 2003 Federal Trade Commission survey that estimated nearly 10 million consumers are hit by such intrusions each year.

One bill, sponsored by Massachusetts Democrat Edward Markey, would require the FTC to make new rules limiting the sale and purchase of those identifiers, with exceptions for law enforcement, public health, certain emergency situations and selected research projects.

Another measure, sponsored by Florida Republican Clay Shaw, would restrict the display of SSNs on credit reports and on various government-issued documents and identification tags. It would also make it illegal in certain cases for anyone to refuse to do business with people who decline to supply their SSNs.

Testifying at Thursday's hearing, FTC Commissioner Jon Leibowitz stopped short of endorsing either bill, but he readily acknowledged that the identifiers "are overused, and they are underprotected."

"Users of Social Security numbers should migrate toward using less-sensitive identifiers whenever possible," he said, adding that companies also need to do more to protect the data they possess.

The SSN hasn't always had such broad applications. Back in 1935, Congress first directed the Social Security Administration to develop an accounting system to track payments to the fund. Out of that mandate came a unique identifier that has ultimately found applications in everything from issuing food stamps to tracking down money launderers.

One use of particular concern to the privacy community is the vast databases compiled by commercial "data brokers" about the American population that financial institutions can use to verify identities. One such company, ChoicePoint, grabbed headlines last year after a breach of its database came to light. That incident and other high-

profile breaches unleashed a number of proposals in Congress, some of which target what some deem unregulated data brokers.

The controversy over the connection between SSNs and identity fraud is hardly new, and a number of states have already enacted restrictions in that area. Several federal laws, including the Fair Credit Reporting Act and the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act, better known as HIPAA, also include restrictions on use and disclosure of the identifiers.

As they pursue new laws, politicians said they're facing a difficult "balancing act" between rooting out abuses of Social Security numbers and protecting uses that tax collectors, the financial sector and law enforcement officials, among others, claim are invaluable.

Numerous industries have found a number of "beneficial uses" for SSNs, said Oliver Ireland, who testified on behalf of the Financial Services Coordinating Council. That group represents trade associations for the banking, securities, and insurance industries.

The numbers, for instance, "are critical for fraud detection," Ireland said in prepared testimony. Also on Thursday, a California Senate committee approved an identity fraud bill that would improve state residents' ability to freeze their own credit reports when mischief is suspected.

CNET News.com's Declan McCullagh contributed to this report.

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SELECT: 38.6

DATE: 2006-05-12
KEYS: China Wikipedia rejection censorship Baidu search engine Biake encyclopedia
SOURCE: EDUPAGE; <http://www.siliconvalley.com/mld/siliconvalley/14563324.htm>
ABSTRACT:

CHINA REJECTS WIKIPEDIA, STARTS ITS OWN VERSION

Baidu, the leading search engine in China, has launched a site that approximates Wikipedia but with none of the content that prompted the Chinese government to block Wikipedia last year. Chinese authorities exert strong control over Internet content available in the country, and Wikipedia includes enough material deemed objectionable that the entire site is unavailable. Robin Li, chairman of Baidu, said his company's new site, Baike, was inspired by Wikipedia, though he said he has never actually seen Wikipedia. China is second only to the United States in Internet users, and Chinese users have reportedly written more than 25,000 Baike entries in the past week. Li said, "I certainly hope our encyclopedia will be the most authoritative one for any Chinese users."

ENTRY:

Chinese version of Wikipedia is launched

JOE McDONALD
Associated Press

BEIJING - China's biggest Internet search site, Baidu.com, has launched a Chinese-language encyclopedia inspired by the cooperative reference site Wikipedia, which the communist government bars China's Web surfers from seeing.

The Chinese service, which debuted in April, carries entries written by users, but warns that it will delete content about sex, terrorism and attacks on the government.

Government censors blocked access last year to Wikipedia, apparently due to concern about its references to Tibet, Taiwan and other topics.

The emergence of Baidu's encyclopedia reflects efforts by Chinese entrepreneurs to take advantage of conditions created by the government's efforts to simultaneously promote and control Internet use.

Baidu calls its site Baike - pronounced "bye kuh" - or "One Hundred Chapters." It says users have written more than 25,000 entries in the past week alone on cooking, the stock market, Chinese tourist sites and other topics. Wikipedia, by comparison, currently has more than 2.7 million entries.

Baidu said managers weren't immediately available to answer questions about the site. But Chairman Robin Li told The Financial Times newspaper this week that it was inspired by Wikipedia, though he said he hasn't seen the U.S.-based site.

"I certainly hope our encyclopedia will be the most authoritative one for any Chinese users," Li was quoted as saying. "The initial reaction has been very positive, so we are quite confident that we will quickly become the No. 1 in this area."

China has 111 million Internet users, second only to the United States. The government promotes Web use for business and education but operates the world's most sweeping censorship system, trying to block access to foreign sites considered obscene or subversive.

Baidu was founded in 2000 by Li, a U.S.-trained computer scientist who worked for search engine firm Infoseek, and Eric Xu, a veteran of American biotech firms. Xu later left the company. Baidu has benefited in the past from China's Internet controls.

It saw a competing search engine, U.S.-based Google Inc., plunge in popularity in China after Beijing imposed filters on its search results, sharply slowing access to Google's foreign-based site.

Google has since created a China-based site that allows faster access while leaving out search results on banned topics. But it is far behind Baidu in Chinese market share.

ON THE NET

Baike (requires Chinese-character software): <http://baike.baidu.com>”

SELECT: 32.2

DATE: 2006-05-12
KEYS: data breach legislation discuss Consumer Data Protection Act
SOURCE: EDUPAGE; <http://www.internetnews.com/bus-news/article.php/3605666>
ABSTRACT:

DATA-BREACH LEGISLATION ON THE AGENDA

Rep. James Sensenbrenner (R-Wis.), chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, has introduced the Cybersecurity Enhancement and Consumer Data Protection Act of 2006, which would require notification of government officials--but not of those affected--any time a computer breach exposes data for 10,000 or more individuals. Data-breach bills have previously been introduced by the House Financial Services Committee and the House Commerce Committee, with varying requirements for notification. In the Senate, two bills have been introduced in the Judiciary Committee and a third in the Commerce Committee. Some observers are concerned that the competing federal legislation, which would likely supersede any state laws concerning data-breach disclosure, risks being reconciled into a law that would be worse than if no law were passed. Susanna Montezemolo of the Consumers Union expressed support for one of the Senate bills, the Personal Data Privacy and Security Act, which has been approved by committee and is waiting for a vote in the full Senate.

ENTRY:

Data Breach Bills Crowding Congress

By Roy Mark
May 12, 2006

WASHINGTON -- Seeking to make it a crime to conceal data breaches involving personal information, the U.S. House Judiciary Committee Thursday jumped into the data breach debate playing out on Capitol Hill.

The Cybersecurity Enhancement and Consumer Data Protection Act of 2006 (H.R. 5318) would require disclosure to the government for any breaches involving 10,000 or more individuals. The bill does not require notice to consumers.

The legislation, introduced by Judiciary Chairman James Sensenbrenner (R-Wis.), also makes it a crime to access certain "means of identification" contained in any computer that operates in interstate commerce.

"This bill creates strong deterrents and protects consumer personal information," Rep. Howard Coble (R-N.C.) said. "It also provides the Department of Justice with tools to enforce the law."

Democrat Robert Scott of Virginia called the bill "only part of the needed solution," referring to other House efforts to curb the type of data breaches characterized by ChoicePoint and LexisNexis.

The Judiciary Committee is the third House panel to propose data breach legislation.

The House Financial Services Committee in March approved the Financial Data Protection Act (H.R. 3997), which would allow data brokers to determine if notification to consumers is necessary.

Last month, the House Commerce Committee passed the Data Accountability and Trust Act (H.R. 4127) requiring data brokers to notify consumers of breaches unless there is "no reasonable...risk of identity theft, fraud or other unlawful conduct."

Both the House Commerce bill and the House Financial Services legislation also pre-exempt existing state data breach laws.

Testifying before a Judiciary subcommittee today, Susanna Montezemolo of the Consumers Union (CU) said her organization thinks Sensenbrenner's bill needs to be considered in the wider context of the other House bills. "We are concerned that the bill, which is limited in scope, may be combined with another, broader vehicle," Montezemolo said.

Combined with the House Financial Services bill, consumers, she said, "would be worse off if such a bill becomes law than if Congress takes no action at all."

Montezemolo called efforts in the Senate at data breach disclosure “much more comprehensive than the Sensenbrenner bill.”

In particular, she praised the Personal Data Privacy and Security Act (S. 1789) calling for breach notification unless a data broker submits a risk assessment to the federal government showing there is no significant risk of harm. The bill, introduced by Senate Judiciary Chairman Arlen Specter (R-Pa.), passed the committee and awaits a full Senate vote.

Specter’s bill is one of three bills approved at the Senate committee level.

A second Judiciary bill, the Notification of Risk to Personal Data Act (S. 1326) for disclosure only “when there is a reasonable basis to conclude that a significant risk of identity theft to an individual exists.”

The Senate Commerce Committee is supporting the Identity Theft Protection Act (S. 1408) requiring notification when a “reasonable” risk of identity theft is involved in a data breach.

SELECT 38.6