University of Maryland Data Breach Impacts Faculty, Staff, Students and Graduates

February 20, 2014 - The University of Maryland has announced a data breach affecting more than 300,000 faculty, staff and current & former students. The school didn't waste any time in making the breach public. It was apparently discovered on 2/18 and the announcement was made a day later. It impacts people who have worked or attended the College Park or Shady Grove campuses since 1998.

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In the school's announcement, University President Wallace D. Loh said that the breach was caused by hackers who bypassed multiple levels of security were able to gain access to a file containing records on 309,079 people. The file contained names, Social Security Numbers, dates of birth and student ID numbers for those affected. Address information was not breached but the information released is enough to commit identity theft.

The announcement stated that the school doesn't know how their security was breached yet but that they are working to find out and to prevent any future breaches. The school has involved appropriate law enforcement agencies.

The school is offering those affected with one year of free credit monitoring services. Anyone who thinks that they may have been affected by the breach can call the university at 301-405-4440 or email them at datasecurity@umd.edu.
byJim Malmberg
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