To: IT Professionals at UAB and UA Hospital

From: Sabrina Hearn

Subject: Advance Notice of an Online Information Security Survey

Date: January 24, 2006

UAB and UA Hospital leadership has asked Internal Audit to survey all departments for the status of general security and data access controls. In response, we have built online surveys for management, faculty, IT professionals, and a select group of departmental personnel (primarily those with high-level/broad access to administrative systems).

We are using our surveys as security awareness and strategic planning tools. Surveys for management and faculty address high-level information security principles. Surveys for IT professionals and select departmental personnel address security practices.

Some of the practices featured in our survey may not be necessary or sufficient to safeguard information and systems in your area(s) of responsibility. You can best identify appropriate safeguards for information assets by conducting periodic, accurate, and thorough assessments of potential risks and vulnerabilities. Our surveys were not designed for this purpose.

We will use survey responses to gauge interest, awareness, and understanding of security principles and practices. We will present to executive and senior management our interpretations and recommendations for strategic governance and management of information security.

Within the next week, I will send you an e-mail message providing a link to our survey and instruction for its completion. We recognize your importance in managing information security and appreciate your participation in our project. If you have questions about this message or our surveys, please contact Mary Anne Canant, canant@uab.edu, 934-9153 or me, shearn@uab.edu, 934-4101.