Dear UW Employees,

Ensuring the security of UW's data systems and maintaining your health and safety is of paramount importance. Therefore, the UW Safety Office and Information Technology have implemented a new mandatory training initiative to enhance your understanding of advanced cybersecurity threats and increase awareness of proper safety measures.

Key reasons why these trainings are necessary and required:

1. **Cybersecurity Threats**: Cyber-attacks, such as phishing, are becoming increasingly sophisticated and prevalent in our digital age. Without continued training, UW employees may inadvertently fall victim to hackers, leading to potential data breaches and financial losses for the organization.

2. **Data Protection**: UW manages vast amounts of sensitive information, including student records, research data, and fiscal documents. Essential cybersecurity practices can safeguard this information from unauthorized access or disclosure.

3. **Federal Compliance**: UW is subject to various regulations and government standards related to data protection, such as FERPA, GDPR, and HIPAA. Compliance with these mandates requires all employees to be aware of their responsibilities as digital users to protect sensitive organizational information.

4. **Personal Safety**: General safety training can help UW employees mitigate and prevent personal injuries in the workplace. According to OSHA, an average of three million workers are injured while on the job every year, and 4,500 of those injuries result in death.

5. **Professional Development**: Obtaining advanced cybersecurity and general safety skills as an employee can enhance your workplace knowledge and capabilities, making you a more valuable asset to the organization.

We understand that your time is important, but we believe that investing in these trainings is crucial for protecting UW's data and ensuring a safe environment for all employees. Failure to complete these courses could leave our systems vulnerable and our workplace unsafe. The trainings will be accessible in the **Oracle Learning Center,** and you will be **required to complete them by June 30, 2024**.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation. **Together, we can strengthen UW's cybersecurity measures and create a safer environment for everyone**.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the **UW Safety Office** at uwehs@uwyo.edu, (307) 766-3277 or **Information Technology** at userhelp@uwyo.edu, (307) 766-HELP (4357).