To all members of the SEAS community:

The SEAS login server (login.seas.harvard.edu) was recently rebuilt as the result of a compromised account. In order to reduce our exposure to this sort of problem we will be making changes to better secure the SEAS login shell environment.

Please note that these changes are expected to be temporary until we can put into place authentication services that provide a higher level of identity assurance on login systems.

WHAT: Changes to SSH authentication
WHEN: Wednesday, Oct. 13 2010, 10:00 AM

We will be making the following changes to authentication policies for login.seas.harvard.edu services. Access to this server from on or off campus will now require using (1) the FAS VPN or (2) SSH keys.

- (1) Members of the community wishing to authenticate to login.seas.harvard.edu with a password must connect through the FAS VPN. Instructions for using the FAS VPN are available from FAS at:

  http://www.fas-it.fas.harvard.edu/node/79

  The FAS VPN supports Windows, OS X, and Linux. It requires your HUID and PIN for authentication (or your FAS account and password).

- (2) Members of the community authenticating using SSH keys will continue to be able to access login.seas.harvard.edu from arbitrary locations. If you wish to learn more about using SSH key-based authentication, please read our online documentation:

  http://ircs.seas.harvard.edu/display/USERDOCS/SSH+Access+to+SEAS+Hosts

If you have questions or concerns about these changes, please contact SEAS Instructional and Research Computing Services (IRCS) at ircshelp@seas.harvard.edu.

Thank you,

The IRCS Team

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