

# **Why are you so worried about secure passwords? We haven't had any problems with passwords before, have we?**

Your password protects sensitive information about you, other individuals at the College, and institutional processes and resources. With your username and password, anyone can look up personal information about you that you probably do not want to share. For example, many of our employees can see confidential information stored about them in our payroll database, such as birth date and Social Security Number. Students with work contracts can see bank account information associated with their paychecks. And some jobs on campus require access to confidential information for other Carleton community members.

ITS does not routinely publicize information about security breaches, but yes, we have had incidents caused by poor password security, and we believe it is important to do what we can to prevent such problems, and to update our password procedures as needed to guard against new threats.