



# Attitudes and Activities of Students towards Internet and Information Security

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The internet is a global technological advancement that is rapidly changing our society in very fundamental ways. Not only is it here to stay, it is now a vital resource that is becoming part of our daily lives. While students are well informed about the good, the bad and the ugly of the Internet and Information Security, it needs to be seen if they are practicing what they are preached about it at educational institutions.

This poster will present the results of a preliminary study of students' attitudes and activities towards Internet and Information Security undertaken at the School of Computing and Information Technology at UNITEC New Zealand. It is proposed in the *computing research* thread of the NACCQ conference.

A survey was undertaken in the School of Computing and Information Technology at UNITEC New Zealand to identify how one of the most innovative technologies of recent times (the Internet) has changed activities and attitudes of young adults in ways that were unimaginable prior to this technological revolution. The results suggest that Internet usage is a daily part of life among most if not all of the students. Out of all the students surveyed, 100% had used the Internet and had ongoing access to it.

The number of hours per week that these students spend on the net is as follows:

Over 56 hours:	23%
40-56 hours:	0%
25-44 hours	31%
5-24 hours	46%
Less than 5 hours:	0%

The activities of these students are broken down as follows:

Chatting:	23%
Games:	20%
Shopping:	10%
Information:	47%

This clearly suggests that Internet has taken over the old fashioned ways of socialising and looking for information in our daily lives. Students are spending more time over the net chatting to people and looking for information rather than going out and meeting actual people and doing physical activities. The Internet has revolutionised our way of thinking and interacting with people.