

Q & A on Use of GroupWise and Owl Mail and Discussion of Student Grades

Questions:

- ❖ I am assuming we still cannot discuss grades with students even if both parties are using pgcc.edu email addresses. Is this correct?
- Or
- ❖ What does the advent of Owl Mail allow us to do when it comes to discussing student grades in e-mail communication?

VPAA's Reply:

Thanks for the question. I have talked with our IT folks, especially those dealing with privacy issues, and with the college's FERPA rep. All concur that a major purpose of a college-directed student e-mail system and college-owned faculty e-mail system is to permit discussion via e-mail of sensitive issues like grades. **So, as long as both College e-mail systems are being used, discussing grade information is okay.** That seems to be the standard that most institutions of higher ed are using. And, that is also why we are now insisting that faculty MUST use GroupWise.