

Title:	Internet Peer-to-Peer File Sharing Policy	
Policy Number:	2010-002	Topical Area: Security
Document Type:	Program Policy	Pages: 3
Effective Date:	8/20/2010	
POC for Changes:	Director, Office of Computing and Information Services (OCIS)	
Synopsis:	Establishes a Dalton State College-wide policy regarding copyright infringement.	

Overview

The popularity of Internet peer-to-peer file sharing is often the source of network resource allocation problems and copyright infringement.

Purpose

This policy will define Internet peer-to-peer file sharing and state the policy of Dalton State College (DSC) on this issue.

Scope

The scope of this policy includes all DSC computing resources.

Policy

Internet peer-to-peer file sharing applications are frequently used to distribute copyrighted materials such as music, motion pictures, and computer software. **Such exchanges are illegal and are not permitted on Dalton State College computers or network.** See the standards outlined in the Appropriate Use Policy.

DSC Procedures and Sanctions

Failure to comply with the appropriate use of these resources threatens the atmosphere for the sharing of information, the free exchange of ideas, and the secure environment for creating and maintaining information property, and subjects one to discipline. Any user of any DSC system found using IT resources for unethical and/or inappropriate practices has violated this policy and is subject to disciplinary proceedings including suspension of DSC privileges, expulsion from school, termination of employment and/or legal action as may be appropriate. Although all users of DSC's IT resources have an expectation of privacy, their right to privacy may be superseded by DSC's requirement to protect the integrity of its IT resources, the rights of all users and the property of DSC and the State. DSC thus, reserves the right to examine material stored on or transmitted through its resources if there is cause to believe that the standards for appropriate use are being violated by one of its users or a trespasser onto its systems or networks.

Summary of Civil and Criminal Penalties for Violation of Federal Copyright Laws

Copyright infringement is the act of exercising, without permission or legal authority, one or more of the exclusive rights granted to the copyright owner under section 106 of the Copyright Act (Title 17 of the United States Code). These rights include the right to reproduce or distribute a copyrighted work. In the file-sharing context, downloading or uploading substantial parts of a copyrighted work without authority constitutes an infringement.

Penalties for copyright infringement include civil and criminal penalties. In general, anyone found liable for civil copyright infringement may be ordered to pay either actual damages or "statutory" damages affixed at not less than \$750 and not more than \$30,000 per work infringed. For "willful" infringement, a court may award up to \$150,000 per work infringed. A court can, in its discretion, also assess costs and attorneys' fees. For details, see Title 17, United States Code, Sections 504, 505.

Willful copyright infringement can also result in criminal penalties, including imprisonment of up to five years and fines of up to \$250,000 per offense.

For more information, please see the Web site of the U.S. Copyright Office at www.copyright.gov, especially their FAQ's at www.copyright.gov/help/faq.

Alternatives to illegal file sharing

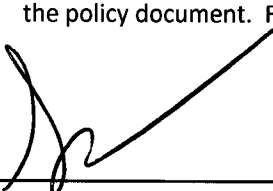
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Document Type:	Program Policy	Pages: 4 <i>AD</i>
Revision Date:	06/2014	
POC for Changes:	Director, Office of Computing and Information Services (OCIS)	
Synopsis:	Establishes a Dalton State College-wide policy regarding the copyright infringement and File Sharing.	

Policy Approval –Policy is officially approved when this page has been signed by all members of the IT Governance and Security Committee. This policy approval page will be attached and be part of the policy document. Future revisions to this policy will require a new approval page.



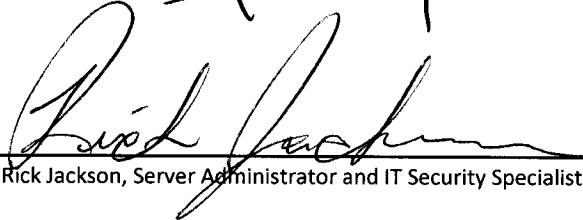
Scott Bailey, VP for Fiscal Affairs

6/17/14
Date



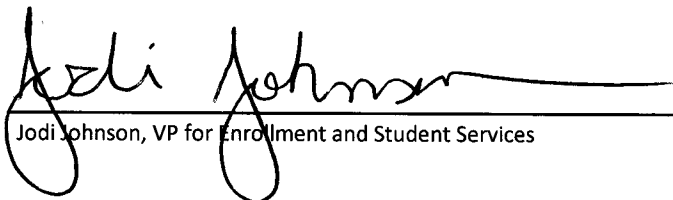
Terry Bailey, Director OCIS

6/16/2014
Date



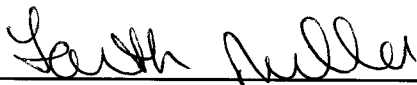
Rick Jackson, Server Administrator and IT Security Specialist

6/16/14
Date



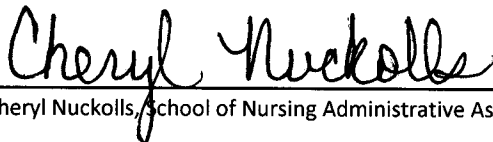
Jodi Johnson, VP for Enrollment and Student Services

6/17/14
Date



Faith Miller, Director of Human Resources

6/16/14
Date



Cheryl Nuckolls, School of Nursing Administrative Assistant

6/18/14
Date