Statement on Unauthorized Distribution of Copyrighted Materials and Penalties for Violation of Federal Law

Technology Guideline

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Authorized ?Agent? per the
Digital Millennium Act
December 2010

Respect for a person's work and personal expression is especially critical in a computer environment because electronic information is volatile and easily reproduced. UNI will not condone actions that infringe copyrights or violate property rights, including those rights applicable to computer software or digital media (music and video). The unauthorized sharing of copyright protected materials is a violation of Federal law and university policy covering the appropriate use of computer resources and copyright protected materials.

Unauthorized distribution of copyright protected materials, including unauthorized peer-to-peer file sharing, may subject individuals to civil and criminal penalties, and university disciplinary actions.

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

Civil liability for infringement of the exclusive rights of a copyright owner under the United States Copyright Office summary of copyright law (http://www.uni.edu/its/policy/copyright.pdf) [illegible] infringement, including statutory damages of $750 and not more than $30,000 per work infringed. For willful infringement, the court may award up to $150,000 per work infringed. A court may also order the seizure and destruction of infringing copies. For details, see Title 17, United States Code, Sections 504, 505.

December 2010

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Links:
[1] http://www.copyright.gov
[2] http://www.copyright.gov/help/faq