

FAYETTEVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY

POLICY ON ACCEPETABLE USE OF COMPUTER RESOURCES

Authority:	Chancellor, Fayetteville State University
Category:	University-wide
Applies to:	Faculty, Staff, and Students
History:	Approved on...February 3, 2007. First Issued on...June 21, 2003.
Related Policies:	UNC Policy Manual 1400.1 – The Use of Information Technology Copyright Ownership and Use Policy - [1.20] Information Security Policy University Email Policy Data Ownership Network Use Policy
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I. Summary

This policy defines the boundaries of "acceptable use" of limited university electronic resources, including computers, networks, electronic mail services and electronic information sources, as detailed below. It includes by reference a self-contained compilation of specific rules that can be modified as the electronic information environment evolves.

The policy is based on the principle that the electronic information environment is provided to support university business and its mission of education, research and service. Other uses are secondary. Uses that threaten the integrity of the system; the function of non-university equipment that can be accessed through the system; the privacy or actual or perceived safety of others; or that are otherwise illegal are forbidden.

By using university electronic information systems you assume personal responsibility for their appropriate use and agree to comply with this policy and other applicable university policies, as well as Board of Trustees, the UNC Board of Governors' policies and any local, state or federal laws.

The policy defines penalties for infractions, up to and including loss of system access, employment termination or expulsion. In addition, some activities may lead to risk of legal liability, both civil and criminal.

Users of electronic information systems are urged to review and understand the contents of this policy.

All computing resources must be used in an ethical and responsible manner. All computing resources provided by the university are intended to further the mission of the university. Equipment, supplies, bandwidth and accounts are to be used for university related work. You are responsible for taking care of all equipment provided by the university and not consuming more than your fair share. All users should be respectful of other users' privacy and needs.

II. Purposes

Fayetteville State University makes computing resources (including, but not limited to, computer facilities and services, computers, networks, electronic mail, electronic information and data, and video and voice services) available to faculty, students, staff, registered guests, and the general public to support the educational, research and service missions of the University.

When demand for computing resources may exceed available capacity, priorities for their use will be established and enforced. Authorized faculty and staff may set and alter priorities for exclusively local computing/networking resources. The priorities for use of University-wide computing resources are:

1. **Highest:** Uses that directly support the educational, research and service missions of the university.
2. **Medium:** Other uses that indirectly benefit the education, research and service missions of the university, as well as and including reasonable and limited personal communications.
3. **Lowest:** Recreation, including game playing.
4. **Forbidden:** All activities in violation of the General Standards or prohibited in the Specific Rules section interpreting this policy.

The university may enforce these priorities by restricting or limiting usages of lower priority in circumstances where their demand and limitations of capacity impact or threaten to impact usages of higher priority.

III. Implied Consent

Each person with access to the university's computing resources is responsible for their appropriate use and by their use agrees to comply with all applicable university, school, and departmental policies and regulations, and with applicable Board of Trustees, or the UNC Board of Governors' policies and any local, state or federal laws, as well as with the acceptable use policies of affiliated networks and systems as stipulated in the Specific Rules section of this policy.

IV. General Standards for the Acceptable Use of Computer Resources

Failure to uphold the following General Standards for the Acceptable Use of Computer Resources constitutes a violation of this policy and may be subject to disciplinary action. General standards for the acceptable use of computer resources require:

1. Responsible behavior with respect to the electronic information environment at all times;
2. Behavior consistent with the mission of the university and with authorized activities of the university or members of the university community;
3. Respect for the principles of open expression;
4. Compliance with all university, Board of Trustees, or the UNC Board of Governors' policies and any local, state or federal laws;
5. Truthfulness and honesty in personal and computer identification;
6. Respect for the rights and property of others, including intellectual property rights;
7. Behavior consistent with the privacy and integrity of electronic networks, electronic data and information, and electronic infrastructure and systems; and
8. Respect for the value and intended use of human and electronic resources.

V. Specific Rules Interpreting the Policy on Acceptable Use of Electronic Resources

The following specific rules apply to all uses of university computing resources. These rules are not an exhaustive list of proscribed behaviors, but are intended to implement and illustrate the General Standards for the Acceptable Use of Computer Resources, other relevant university policies, and applicable laws and regulations. Additional specific rules may be promulgated for the acceptable use of individual computer systems or networks by individual schools, departments, or system administrators.

1. Except as provided by applicable university, Board of Trustees, or the UNC Board of Governors' policies and any local, state or federal laws, regulations or other university policies, the content of electronic communications is not by itself a basis for disciplinary action.
2. Unlawful communications, including threats of violence, obscenity, child pornography, and harassing communications (as defined by law), are prohibited.
3. The use of university computer resources are strictly prohibited for the following:
 - private business or commercial activities (except where such activities are otherwise permitted or authorized under applicable university policies);

- personal entertainment at workplace;
- fundraising or advertising on behalf of non-university organizations;
- reselling of university computer resources to non-university individuals or organizations;
- unauthorized use of the university's name.

VI. Enforcement and Penalties for Violation:

1. Any person who violates any provision of this policy, or the above mentioned rules interpreting this policy, or other relevant university policies, Board of Trustees, or the UNC Board of Governors' policies and any local, state or federal laws may face sanctions up to and including termination or expulsion. Depending on the nature and severity of the offense, violations can be subject to disciplinary action through the student disciplinary system or disciplinary procedures applicable to faculty and staff.
2. It may at times be necessary for authorized systems administrators to suspend someone's access to university computing resources immediately for violations of this policy, pending interim resolution of the situation (for example by securing a possibly compromised account and/or making the owner of an account aware in person that an activity constitutes a violation). Additionally, suspension of access may occur when there has been an allegation of personally or professional misconduct not directly related to computer resources and/or use. In the case of egregious and continuing violations suspension of access may be extended until final resolution by the appropriate disciplinary body.
3. System owners, administrators or managers may be required to investigate violations of this policy to ensure compliance.