

RESPONSIBLE USE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY FACILITIES AND SERVICES

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AUTHORITY	ASSOCIATE VICE PRESIDENT, INFORMATION TECHNOL GY SERVICES
	DEANS AND DIRECTORS
PRIMARY CONTACT	VICE-PRESIDENT, FINANCE AND ADMINISTRETIC

POLICY

GENERAL

This policy is intended for the general support of and to provide a foundation for responsible use of Thompson Rivers University (TRU) information technology facilities and is applicable to all TRU students and employees.

TRU encourages research and scholarship to percesse knowledge and understanding. It upholds the academic freedom of all members of TRU to en , ge in open inquiry and public discourse in an atmosphere of mutual respect. Computing and communications facilities (including any TRU owned or TRU leased computing, telephone and communications services, equipment and facilities) shall be used in a manner which is consistent with the requirements of TRU.

REGULATIONS

I. <u>RESPON_'BL'US</u>F

- 1. Computer nos, accounts, and other communications facilities are to be used for authorized purposes. Subject to TRU Policy ADM 4-2, Conflict of Interest, limited personal use is acceptable if it does not interfere with use of the facility for its intended purpose and, in the case of employees, if does not interfere with his or her job performance.
- 2. Users are responsible for the uses to which their computing accounts are put. Users must not share their login credentials (username and password) to any accounts to which they have access.

- 3. Users are prohibited from accessing other users' computer IDs or accounts and communications, without specific prior authorization of the user and from the appropriate administrative head of unit.
- 4. Users must not misrepresent their identity as senders of messages nor vary the content of such messages with intent to deceive.
- 5. All users must adhere to TRU policies and all laws that govern the use of TRU's computing and communication facilities. Applicable legislation includes, but is not limited to, the *Criminal Code of Canada*, the *B.C. Civil Rights Protection Act*, the *Canadian Copyright Act*, the *B.C. Proclom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*, and the *B.C. Human Rights Code*.

Users must not use TRU's information technology facilities for gambling or betting

II. PRIVACY AND SECURITY

- 1. Users must:
 - a. Preserve the privacy of data to which they have ac ess ... accordance with applicable laws and the University's policies including Confidentia.'ty of Student Information;
 - b. Respect the privacy of others by not tamp ring with e-mail, files, or accounts they use; and
 - c. Respect the integrity of computing systems and data.

For example, users must not: intentionally develop programs or make use of already existing programs to harass other users, it filtration a computer or computing system, damage or alter the components of a computer or $m_{\rm F}$ using system, gain unauthorized access to other facilities accessible via the network, or inappropriately use the telephone system.

2. Although electron ic re-ords on TRU equipment are the property of TRU and TRU is entitled to review those records, the over community can be assured that system administrators will not examine electronic files without the individual's knowledge, except in emergencies or under unusual circums onces. In no event will ITS personnel examine other users' electronic files without oriza ion from senior administration.

III. INTEL. FCTUAL PROPERTY

- 1. Users must respect the legal protection provided by copyright laws for computer programs and data compilations and for all other works (literary, dramatic, artistic or musical). Also, users must respect the legal protection provided by trademark law and the common law for names, marks, logos, and other representations that serve to distinguish the goods or services of one person from another.
- 2. Users must respect the rights of others by complying with all TRU policies regarding intellectual property regardless of medium (i.e. paper or electronic).

IV. FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION

Users should be aware that, while the University has programs to screen e-mails for viruses, worms etc., its practice is not to control the information available on our campus network.

V. <u>HARASSMENT</u>

All users must comply with the TRU Harassment Prevention Policy ADM 6-0.

VI. EXAMPLES OF ILLEGAL USES

The following are representative examples only and do not comprise a conprehensive list of illegal uses:

- Uttering threats (by computer or telephone);
- Child pornography;
- Gambling, betting, or pyramid schemes; and
- Copyright infringement.

VII. EXAMPLES OF UNACCEPTABLE USES

The following are representative exactly and do not comprise a comprehensive list of unacceptable uses:

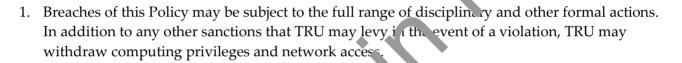
- Seeking information on past words or data belonging to another user;
- Making unauthorized copies of proprietary software, or offering unauthorized copies of proprietary software to there;
- Distribution of pornographic materials (provided that those with a legitimate academic purpose for doing so, may distribute such material for that legitimate academic purpose);
- Crypting symeone else's files, or programs, or examining such information unless authorized;
- Attenpting to circumvent computer security methods or operating systems (e.g. subverting or obstructing a computer or network by introducing a worm or virus);
- Using TRU-provided computer accounts for commercial purposes such as promoting by broadcast non-educational profit-driven products or services;
- Intercepting or examining the content of messages, files, or communications in transit on a voice or data network;

- Interfering with the work of other users of a network or with their host systems, seriously disrupting the network (e.g. chain letters or spamming), or engaging in any uses that result in the loss of another user's files or system; and
- Harassing or discriminatory messages.

VIII. SYSTEM ADMINISTRATORS

Subject to Section II(2) above, this policy shall not be construed as preventing or restactog duly authorized system administrators or other technical personnel from carrying out the rautes. Complaints under this policy may be directed to the administrative head of a valit or to me head of Information Technology Services.

IX. ACTIONS



2. TRU reserves the right to limit, restrict or extend computing privileges and access to its computing and communications resources including all information stored therein.

NOTE

This Policy is not intended to set fort an chaustive list relating to the use of TRU computing resources. All users continue to be rac, ct and applicable laws and TRU policies (see TRU Policy Web site http://www.tru.ca/policy).