

Policy Governing Use of University Computer Network

1. Governing Principles

- The University recognizes that all authorized users of university computer networks, equipment or connecting resources have a right of privacy in such use.
- Privacy, confidentiality, and the values of freedom of thought and expression so essential to the integrity of the academic institution shall be paramount.
- The University will maintain a functional computer network system available to all authorized users and will protect and respect privacy of all authorized users.

2. Authorized Users: Faculty, staff, students and authorized guest users.

3. Inspection and Disclosure

- A. The University acknowledges and honors the governing principles set forth in paragraph 1 above but reserves the right, within the guidelines set by the oversight committee described below, to examine the information on its networks and equipment when:
- a. there are reasonable grounds to believe that a user is abusing the electronic system as abuse is defined below;
 - b. it is necessary in order to repair, maintain or improve the computer networks;
 - c. it is necessary to prevent legally recognized injury to another person, property or system; and
 - d. rules of duly enacted law or judicial decision require inspection.
- B. The oversight committee described below will develop and publish guidelines, which will:
- a. provide specifically limited authorization to identified persons within the University to examine and inspect its networks and equipment, and to make only those disclosures that are required (see Notice 3.C).
 - b. establish acceptable procedures for inspection of networks and equipment for known conditions and for required disclosures, including such steps as isolating or shutting down network components or equipment, preserving evidence of abuse, informing the suspected abuser of these actions, as soon as possible, and defining allowable remote and direct procedures for inspection and threat assessment, which preserve privacy and confidentiality to the maximal extent achievable. No interception, examination, monitoring, recording, copying or disclosure of computer produced materials by authorized users of the network shall occur except with reasonable suspicion of abuse and as explicitly allowed by these procedures. Administrative action, authorized by the oversight committee, will be taken against any person who violates the privacy, confidentiality and free speech rights of authorized users.

c. establish guidelines and procedures for unforeseen circumstances with the intent to protect and preserve the governing principles of privacy and confidentiality, and to protect the legitimate interests of the University to control and maintain the integrity and use of the network resources. These guidelines will define allowable limited appropriate action by authorized personnel. They will include procedures to assess the specific situation encountered and timely consultation with the oversight committee to evaluate the actions taken by Information Systems' staff, to approve further action(s) deemed necessary, and, when needed, to develop acceptable procedures for future responses.

C. Notice: In all cases where the privacy of the user will be compromised as authorized above, notice of such intrusion will be given to the user in advance of the intrusion unless such notice will clearly prejudice the ability of the University to further its interests.

4. Abuse

Abuse of the network or any part thereof shall consist of the following:

- Violation of the Acceptable Use Policy (University of Missouri, Collected Rules and Regulations 110.005);
- Violation of Federal or State Law in a manner making it more likely than not that the University will incur legal liability;
- Violation of the expectations of privacy, confidentiality or free speech of an authorized user.

5. Oversight

A. The oversight committee will consist of:

- a. three faculty representatives: one member elected from among Faculty Senators and two members at large, elected from among the UMKC faculty, by Faculty Senate election processes;
- b. two student representatives selected and appointed by the Student Government Association in such a way that one member is an undergraduate student and one member is a graduate student;
- c. two staff representatives at large, elected from among the UMKC staff by a Staff Council election process;
- d. one administration representative, appointed by the Chancellor;
- e. the Executive Director of Information Services or his designate as an ex officio, non-voting member;
- f. the Chief Information Officer as an ex officio, non-voting member.

B. Each member is elected or appointed for a 2-year term in such a way that maximal staggering of terms of membership for each represented group is achieved.

C. The committee will elect its own chair.

D. The committee will meet at least once per regular semester.

E. Any two members can convene the committee.