

Software Copyright

Policy Memorandum No. 87

Recommended by the Computer Committee
Approved by University Council: March 7, 1988
Approved by the President: March 7, 1988
Effective: Immediately

The University Council, on March 7, unanimously approved a policy statement concerning intellectual rights and commends it to the attention of the University community. The statement is to remind the University community that even though it is quite easy to copy computer material, the material contains all the usual copyright and authorial privileges any other medium does.

Following is the text of the resolution as adopted by University Council.

Whereas, the past several years have witnessed dramatic growth in the number of computers available to faculty, students, and staff; and

Whereas, the University acknowledges its responsibility to protect the intellectual rights of all who publish in whatsoever medium, and

Whereas, it is timely to remind all members of the academic community of this University's continuing commitment to protect intellectual rights; therefore

Be it resolved, that the University Council does support the following statement concerning intellectual rights and commends it to the attention of the University community.

Respect for intellectual labor and creativity is vital to academic discourse and enterprise. This principle applies to work of all authors and publishers in all media. It encompasses respect for the right to acknowledge, right to privacy, and right to determine the form, manner, and terms of publication and distribution.

Because electronic information is volatile and easily reproduced, respect for the work and personal expression of others is especially critical in computer environments. Violations of authorial integrity, including plagiarism, invasion of privacy, unauthorized access, and trade secret and copyright violations, may be grounds for sanctions against members of the academic community.

PET:gf

President's Policy Memorandum

URL: <http://purl.vt.edu/vtdocs/policies/ppm87>