University of Pittsburgh Bradford Copyright Infringement Procedures

This procedural due process was approved by the Student Government Association Senate and General Assembly provided suggestion from the Computing Telecommunication and Media Services Committee.

Violation of copyright laws in the form of file sharing will be handled as follows:

Procedural Due Process

1st Offense and Subsequent Offenses- The student is contacted via email and written letter by University of Pittsburgh Bradford Computing Telecommunication and Media Services disclosing the violation and requesting the student to respond to the notice immediately. The student must respond to the notice via email or direct consultation within five business days after notice of alleged violation. If the student does not respond within the five business days, the student’s Resnet privileges will be suspended pending a response to Computing Telecommunication and Media Services. After Computing Telecommunication and Media Services has investigated the alleged violation they will refer the incident to the University Judicial System to adjudicate any charges. If found in violation the following sanctions may be imposed: See recommended sanctions. If found not in violation the student’s telecommunication privileges may be restored.

Recommended Sanctions for Violation of Student Code of Conduct Section D: Offenses Related to the Utilization of University Information Technology Resources 9. Makes and/or distributes unauthorized duplicates of copyrighted information technology resources, and/or violates the terms and conditions of software license agreements for software distributed by the University of Pittsburgh to students by giving, lending, selling, leasing such media or software to others for their own use. (Unauthorized copying of copyrighted software or proprietary files may also lead to proceedings in civil court.)

Sanctions are a recommended range that are imposed based on the seriousness of the infraction.

First Violation:
Disciplinary Warning
Restitution (amounts due to University and agencies as a result of infringement and getting services restored)

Second Violation:
Information Technology Resource Suspension up to 100 days/one academic term (Resource suspension depending on type of resource and method of disruption).
Restitution (amounts due to University and agencies as a result of infringement and getting services restored)
Disciplinary Probation (minimum 100 days/one term)

Third Violation:
Information Technology Resource Termination for a minimum of one academic term (Resource suspension depending on type of resource and method of disruption).
Restitution (amounts due to University and agencies as a result of infringement and getting services restored)
Disciplinary Suspension (minimum 100 days/one term)

Fourth Violation:
Restitution (amounts due to University and agencies as a result of infringement and getting services restored)
Disciplinary Dismissal