

# Albright College

## Statement Regarding Copyright and Electronic File Sharing

*Respect for intellectual labor and creativity is vital to academic discourse and enterprise. This principle applies to works of all authors and publishers in all media. It encompasses respect for the right to acknowledgement, 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 digital 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.*

- Excerpt from the Albright College Information Technology Services Ethical and Legal Practices Agreement  
This Agreement must be read and signed by all users of all Albright systems before access is granted.

All members of the Albright Community should remember that the unauthorized reproduction or use of copyrighted material in any form is a violation of federal law for which they can be held personally responsible.

It is each individual's responsibility to find out what constitutes "fair use" for any given work.

Albright employees and students alike should know the extent of the College's responsibilities under law.

As stated in the Albright College Residence Hall Network Terms of Service Agreement, Albright must comply with the Terms of Service Agreement of the College's own Internet Service Provider. Therefore, Albright is required to temporarily discontinue internet service to any residence hall computer detected sharing copyrighted material when notified of such activity by the copyright holder. Service may be restored as soon as the copyrighted material is no longer shared.

Under the *Digital Millennium Copyright Act of 1998 (DMCA)* and the *Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)*, Albright is required to fully cooperate with legal authorities in the identification of individuals violating copyright law using College resources when presented with the proper and legal information request.

In order to protect yourself from service interruption or potentially costly litigation, Albright recommends that all students and employees:

- Proactively research exactly what constitutes "fair use" for any work or media used in coursework or curricula.
- Refrain from illegally downloading or sharing digital music.
- Know your rights and responsibilities under the DMCA and FERPA.