

Effective Date:November 2020Previous Version:NonePolicy Owner:Chief Human Resources OfficerApproved by:PresidentApproval Date:11/1/2020

## COMPUTERS, INTERNET, EMAIL, AND OTHER RESOURCES

NewU provides a wide variety of communication tools and resources to employees for use in running day-to-day business activities. University computing and network resources are to be used only for University-related instruction, learning, enrichment, dissemination of scholarly information, and administrative activities. The computing and network facilities of the University are limited and should be used wisely and carefully with consideration for the needs of others. All communication using these tools should be handled in a professional and respectful manner.

The University encourages employees to use e-mail only to communicate with fellow employees, suppliers, customers, or potential customers regarding University business. Internal and external e-mails are considered business records and may be subject to federal and state recordkeeping requirements as well as to discovery in the event of litigation. Be aware of this possibility when sending e-mails within and outside the company.

While respecting confidentiality and privacy, the University reserves the right to examine all university owned and operated computer systems and electronic/digital resources. The University takes this step to enforce its policies regarding harassment and the safety of individuals; to prevent unauthorized reproduction or distribution of proprietary software or digital texts, images (moving and still) or music; to safeguard the integrity of computers, networks, and data either at the University or elsewhere; and to protect the University against seriously damaging consequences. The University may restrict the use of its computers and network systems for electronic communications when faced with evidence of violation of University policies, or federal or local laws. The University will comply with, and respond to, all validly issued legal process, including subpoenas. The University reserves the right to limit access to its networks through University-owned or other computers, and to remove or limit access to material posted or distributed on University-owned computers.

All members of the University community are bound by federal and local laws relating to civil rights, harassment, copyright, security and other statutes relating to electronic media. It should be understood that this policy does not preclude enforcement under the laws and regulations of the United States of America or the District of Columbia. All users are expected to conduct themselves consistent with these responsibilities and all other applicable University policies. Abuse of computing and/or network privileges will subject the user to disciplinary action, as established by the applicable operating policies and procedures of the University. Abuse of networks or computers at other sites through the use



of University resources will be treated as though it occurred at the University. When appropriate, restrictive actions will be taken by system or network administrators pending further disciplinary or legal action.

Nothing in this policy is designed to interfere with, restrain, or prevent employee communications regarding wages, hours, or other terms and conditions of employment as protected under the National Labor Relations Act. Employees have the right to engage in or refrain from such activities.

[End]