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Chapter Lead Nohemy Ornelas:
Chapter 3(CC),4&5
Policy Area Chapter 3
General Institution
References 10+1, CCLC |
Legally Advised

AP 3710 Securing of Copyright

The following securing of copyright procedure shall be interpreted consistent with other District policies, including, but not limited to, the District's policy on academic freedom and federal and state statutes and regulations. This procedure shall also be interpreted consistent with all collective bargaining agreements.

Definitions

For the purposes of this procedure, the following definitions apply to the following words or phrases:

"Administrative Activity" means the execution of the District's management or administrative functions such as preparing budgets, policies, contracts, personnel management, printing course materials and catalogs, maintenance of computer data, long range planning, and keeping inventories of equipment. Teaching and academic endeavors are not administrative activities.

"Author" or "Creator" means an individual who alone or as part of a group of other creators, invent, author, discover, or otherwise create intellectual property.

"District Resources" means all tangible resources including buildings, equipment, facilities, computers, software, personnel, and funding.

"Course Materials" Materials prepared for use in teaching, fixed or unfixed, in any form, including, but not limited to, digital, print, audio, visual, or any combination thereof. Course materials include, but are not limited to, lectures, lecture notes, materials, syllabus, study guides, bibliographies, visual aids, images, diagrams, multimedia presentations, web-ready content, and educational software.

"Course Syllabus" means a document that includes information about the outline, standards for student

evaluation, and additional information which reflects the academic work of the faculty member.

"Digital Encoded Work" means a work (on a bit-sequence) that can be stored on computer-readable media, manipulated by computers, and transmitted through data networks.

"District facilities" include buildings, equipment, and other facilities under the control of the District, that are designated by the appropriate administrative officer as requiring an advance agreement, from non-District personnel and District personnel acting outside the scope of their employment, concerning the disposition of any copyrighted works that are originated with the use of these facilities. Such facilities normally include campus computer centers and normally do not include District libraries.

"District funds," regardless of source, are administered under the control, and responsibility, or authority of the District.

"Employee" means an individual employed by the District, and shall include full-time and part-time faculty, classified staff, student employees, appointed personnel, persons with "no salary" appointments, and academic professionals, who develop intellectual property using District resources, unless there is an agreement providing otherwise.

"Intellectual Property" means works, products, processes, tangible research property, copyrightable subject matter, works of art, trade secrets, know how, inventions and other creations the ownership which are recognized and protected from unauthorized exploitation by law. Examples of intellectual property include scholarly, artistic, and instructional materials.

"Student" means an individual who was or is enrolled in a class or program at the District at the time the intellectual property was created.

"Student Employee" means a student who is paid by the District, and may include students participating in a work study program or who receive stipends while they are acting within the scope of their employment at the District at the time the intellectual property was created.

- A. "Use of District Resources" means use of District resources beyond the normal professional, technology, and technical support generally provided by the District and extended to an individual or individuals for development of a product, project, or program. The use of District resources must be important and instrumental to the creation of the intellectual property. The following do not constitute substantial use of the District's resources: (1) incidental use of District resources and/or (2) extensive use of District resources commonly available to District employees. A substantial use of the District's resources may be implicated in situations where the creator spends such time and energy in the creation of a work that results in a great reduction of the creator's teaching activity.

"Work" means an "original work of authorship fixed in a tangible medium" as used in the Copyright Act.

Intellectual Property

Please reference AP 3715 Intellectual Property for information regarding intellectual property.

Securing of Copyright

The general provisions for ownership of intellectual property rights may be modified by the parties as follows:

Sabbatical Works

Intellectual property created by District employees during a sabbatical is defined as an academic work. However, where a work to be created as part of an approved sabbatical plan requires resources beyond those normally provided to other employees during a sabbatical (substantial use District resources), the parties may enter into an written agreement to define the District and employee's intellectual property rights in the sabbatical work.

Assignment of Rights

When the conditions outlined in the sections on employee intellectual property rights or student intellectual property are met, ownership will reside with the employee or student responsible for creating the intellectual property. In these circumstances, the creator may pursue intellectual property protection, marketing, and licensing activities without involving the District. If such a decision is made, the creator is entitled to all revenues received.

Any person may agree to assign some or all of his or her intellectual property rights to the District.

In the event the creator offers to share or assign intellectual property rights in the creation to the District, the District may support and finance application for intellectual property protection (trademark, patent, or copyright) or it may enter into an agreement for other exploitation of the work, including management, development and commercialization of the property under terms and conditions as may be agreeable to the parties. After evaluating the creator's offer, the District may or may not decide to become involved in a joint investment agreement. A negative response from the District will be communicated in writing to the creator. An affirmative response from the District will be summarized as an offer to enter into a written contract. If the creator accepts the District's proposed contract, any revenues received from commercialization of the intellectual property will be distributed as defined in the contract.

Sponsorship Agreements

A sponsored work is a work first produced by or through the District in the performance of a written agreement between the District and a sponsor. Sponsored works generally include interim and final technical reports, software, and other works first created in the performance of a sponsored agreement. Sponsored works do not include journal articles, lectures, books or other copyrighted works created through independent academic effort and based on the findings of the sponsored project, unless the sponsored agreement states otherwise. Ownership of copyrights to sponsored works shall be with the District unless the sponsored agreement states otherwise. Where a sponsorship agreement does not define ownership of the intellectual property, ownership shall be determined under applicable law. Any sponsorship agreement that provides for ownership of the work by one other than the District generally shall provide the District with a nonexclusive, world-wide license to use and reproduce the copyrighted

work for education and research purposes.

Collaboration/Partnership Agreements

The District may participate in projects with persons/organizations that result in the creation of intellectual property. Ownership rights of such intellectual property will be defined by the collaboration/partnership agreement, or shall be determined under applicable law.

Special Commissions

Intellectual property rights to a work specially ordered or commissioned by the District from a faculty member, professional staff member, other District employee, or other individual or entity, and identified by the District, as a specially commissioned work at the time the work was commissioned, shall belong to the District. The District, and the employee shall enter into a written agreement for creation of the specially commissioned work.

Use of Substantial District Resources

In the event the District provides substantial resources to an employee for creation of a work and the work was not created under an agreement (such as a sponsorship agreement, individual agreement, or special commission) the District and the creator shall own the intellectual property rights jointly in proportion to the respective contributions made.

Encoded Works/Software for Administrative Activities

The District may hire an individual or entity to develop software or other encoded works, to be used in the District's administrative activities. The District shall maintain ownership of the intellectual property rights in such encoded works. Similarly, the District shall have ownership of the intellectual property rights in encoded works created by an employee, even where the work was created out of the employee's own initiative, if the work is related to the employee's job responsibilities. For example, if an employee in the student records office creates a software program, on his own initiative, which will organize student records, such work is related to the employee's job duties and will belong to the District. Where an employee creates a program that does not relate to his or her job duties, and that program was created on the employee's own time, the work belongs to the employee.

Collective Bargaining Agreement

In the event the provisions of these procedures and the provisions of any operative collective bargaining agreement conflict, the collective bargaining agreement shall take precedence.

Jointly Created Works

Ownership of jointly created works shall be determined by separately assessing which of the above categories applies to each creator, respectively. Rights between joint owners of a copyright shall be determined pursuant to copyright law.

Work Acquired by Assignment or Will

The District may acquire copyrights by assignment or will pursuant to the terms of a written agreement or testament. The terms of such agreements should be consistent with District policies and these procedures.

Materials Implicating Third Party Rights

District employees and students must comply with District policies and state and federal laws, including copyright and privacy laws, in creating works. District employees and students must obtain all required licenses, consents, and releases necessary to avoid infringing the rights of third parties. District employees and students with questions or concerns regarding third party rights should direct all inquiries to the Chancellor or his/her designee.

Intellectual Property Coordinator

The Chancellor or his/her designee shall be the District's Intellectual Property Coordinator. The coordinator shall administer this procedure and will implement the District's Intellectual Property Policy. The Intellectual Property Coordinator will also monitor the development and use of the District's intellectual property. Any questions relating to the applicability of the District Intellectual Property or this procedure may be directed and answered by the Intellectual Property Coordinator.

References:

17 U.S Code Sections 101 et seq.;
35 U.S Code Sections 101 et seq.; and
37 Code of Federal Regulations Sections 1.1 et seq.

Attachments

-  [AP 3710 Securing of Copyright - Comments](#)
-  [AP 3710 Securing of Copyright - Legal Citations](#)

Approval Signatures

Step Description	Approver	Date
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Board of Trustees 2nd reading	Policy Stat	05/2020
Board of Trustees 1st reading	Policy Stat	05/2020
District Assembly Recommendation	Policy Stat	05/2020
District Assembly 1st reading	Policy Stat	05/2020
Chancellor's Cabinet	Policy Stat	05/2020
Chapter owners are notified	Policy Stat	05/2020

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