Copyright Infringement Policies and Sanctions

The purpose of NAA's Copyright Infringement Policy is to comply with copyright law for the use of copyrighted material on NAA's computers, networks and copiers. The policy seeks to make users aware of the seriousness and consequences for unauthorized use of copyrighted material. Unauthorized use of copyrighted material is illegal.

All faculty, staff, and students are expected to be aware of and follow these requirements. Any member of the campus community practicing unauthorized use or distribution of copyrighted material is subject to sanctions by NAA up to dismissal or termination. Violators are subject to Federal criminal offenses for copyright law violations.

What is Copyright? "Copyright is a form of protection provided by the laws of the United States (title 17, U.S. Code) to the authors of "original works of authorship," including literary, dramatic, musical, artistic, and certain other intellectual works. This protection is available for both published and unpublished works..." It is illegal for anyone to violate any of the rights provided by the copyright law to the owner of copyright.

These rights, however, are not unlimited in scope. Sections 107 through 121 of the 1976 13 Copyright Act establish limitations on these rights. In some cases, these limitations are specified exemptions from copyright liability. One major limitation is the doctrine of 'fair use,' which is given a statutory basis in section 107 of the 1976 Copyright Act. In other instances, the limitation takes the form of a 'compulsory license' under which certain limited uses of copyrighted works are permitted upon payment of specified royalties and compliance with statutory conditions. For further information about the limitations of any of these rights, consult the copyright law (http://www.loc.gov/copyright) or the U.S. Copyright Office (http://www.copyright.gov).