Information Technologies’ Network Acceptable Use Policy

Background
This statement represents a guide to the acceptable use of the WSC Network for data communications. It is intended to address the use of the WSC network only. Data communications carried across other networks such as local area networks, regional networks, or the Internet are subject to acceptable use policies of those other networks.

Acceptable use refers to whether the use of the network is consistent with the guidelines for each network that the traffic traverses. Given both the volatile nature of the technology employed and the demand that users make of networks, determining acceptable use is a dynamic and iterative process. The intent of the use policy is to make clear certain cases that are consistent or inconsistent with the purposes of the WSC Network, not to completely enumerate all such possible uses.

WSC Network Primary Goals
The WSC Network is a data communications network managed by Worcester State College to link together the WSC community. Access to the network is provided to active staff, faculty and students of Worcester State College. The goal of the WSC Network is to support and enhance instruction and research activities at the college by providing access to computer mediated communication resources, shared resources, unique resources, and the opportunity for collaborative work. In addition to access to local-network shared resources, the WSC network provides access to regional, national, and international resources.

The WSC Network Acceptable Use Policy
- All use of the WSC network must comply with this policy.
- All users of the WSC network must obtain a WSC network username and account. Proper identification and proof of enrollment must be offered at the time of application.
- Users may not share or transfer network, user, or hardware account information under any circumstance. Users are obligated to keep all technology account information confidential.
- All use of the WSC network must be consistent with the WSC network's primary goals.
- It is not acceptable to use the WSC network for any illegal purposes, including the storage and transfer of copyrighted, restricted, or illegal materials.
- It is not acceptable to use the WSC Network to interfere with or disrupt network users, services, or equipment. Disruptions include, but are not limited to, distribution of unsolicited advertising, propagation of computer worms and viruses, and using the network to make unauthorized entry to any other machine accessible via the network.
- It is not acceptable to use the WSC network to transmit threatening, obscene, or harassing materials.
- It is not acceptable to use the WSC network to run any file servers, web servers, or file sharing services without written permission from the Vice President of Information Technologies.
- It is assumed that information and resources accessible via the WSC network are private to the individuals and organizations that own or hold rights to those resources and information unless specifically stated otherwise by the owners or holders of such rights. It therefore is not acceptable for an individual to use the WSC network to access information or resources (even when that information or those resources are not securely protected) unless permission to do so has been granted by the owners or holders of such rights to those resources or information.
- It is not acceptable to use the WSC network for for-profit activities (consulting for pay, sales or administration of campus stores, etc.) or use by for-profit institutions except when engaged in open scholarly communication and research.
- WSC at any time may make determinations that particular uses are not consistent with the purposes of the WSC network. Such determinations to the user community in an appropriate and timely fashion.

Violation of Policy
Any alleged violations of the Acceptable Use Policy will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. Violations of this policy may result in action, such as the loss of electronic mail privileges, loss of college-owned computer access, loss of network privileges, and/or referral to appropriate college or legal authorities.