Copyright Violation Information

Date: January 11, 2013

From: Dr. Thomas Wallace
Vice President for Student Affairs

Re: Copyright Violation Information

This is NOT a notification of you being in violation of copyright laws. This is a reminder that the Recording Industry of America (RIAA) will send to the University the Internet Protocol (IP) address to inform the University of any alleged violation of copyright law.

Copyright Infringement is the act of exercising, without permission or legal authority, one or more of the exclusive rights granted to the copyright owner under section 106 of the Copyright Act (Title 17 of the United States Code). These rights include the right to reproduce or distribute a copyrighted work. In the file-sharing context, downloading or uploading substantial parts of a copyrighted work (music/videos) without authority constitutes an infringement.

Penalties for copyright infringement include civil and criminal penalties. In general, anyone found liable for civil copyright infringement may be ordered to pay either actual damages or “statutory” damages affixed at not less than $750 and not more than $30,000 per work infringed. For “willful” infringement, a court may award up to $150,000 per work infringed. A court can, in its discretion, also assess costs and attorneys’ fees. For details, see Title 17, United States Code, Section 504, 505.

Willful copyright infringement can also result in criminal penalties, including imprisonment of up to five years and fines of up to $250,000 per offense.

CSUB Policy on Copyright Violation

Students who violate copyright laws are subject to university discipline as per Title 5, Section 41301 of the California Code of Regulations and may face criminal charges with the RIAA. Copyright infringement is a violation of subsection 15 (G) of the CSUB Student Code of Conduct which states: Use of computing facilities and resources in violation of copyright laws. The Student Code of Conduct is available at www.csub.edu/osrr. If the university receives multiple complaints about a single user, their use of the university’s wireless system will be disabled.

More information about the University’s computer and network use policy is available at http://www.csub.edu/its/infosecurity/acceptableUse/index.html.