Resolution on Copyright Policy

Whereas, the University Copyright policy adopted in 1990 does not reflect the changes in academic use of technology during the past decade, the Faculty Senate requests the Dean of the Faculty to work with the Provost in initiating a comprehensive review of the University Copyright Policy.

As a basis for this review, the Faculty Senate endorses four general principles:

1. The university policies on intellectual property should be independent of the media in which ideas are expressed. For example, the same policies should apply to lecture notes printed on paper and to lecture notes mounted on a web site.

2. The university should retain the long-standing academic tradition that creators of works have control over the intellectual output resulting from their research, teaching, and writing.

3. When there are multiple creators of an individual work, the control should be shared among the creators.

4. When the university contributes substantial resources to the development of specific materials, it has a right to share in the control and returns. To be considered substantial, the contribution should be significantly beyond the normal level of support provided to all faculty members.

Draft originated with Provost’s Advisory Committee on Distance Learning
Resolution submitted by University Faculty Committee

2/7/01