Code of Conduct for Computer and Network Users in the GIS Labs (BSB-331 and BSB-332)

Excerpts are taken from http://www.mcmaster.ca/uts/policy/index.html. This document which governs all computer use at McMaster University can be found at the URL listed above.

McMaster University's computing systems and networks are provided to support authorized research, education, administration, intellectual pursuits and related support service goals and objectives. Use of these facilities, including electronic communications, should be conducted in a professional and responsible manner.

In adhering to the code of conduct, students are reminded they should not:

invade another person's privacy; unlawfully use, possess, post, transmit or disseminate obscene, profane or pornographic material; post, transmit, distribute or disseminate content which is unlawful, threatening, harassing, abusive, libelous, slanderous, defamatory or otherwise offensive or objectionable; unlawfully promote or incite hatred; or post, transmit or disseminate objectionable information, including, without limitation, any transmissions constituting or encouraging conduct that would constitute a criminal offense, give rise to civil liability, or otherwise violate any municipal, provincial, federal or international law, order or regulation

Computer and network abuses are not taken lightly and will be reported to the appropriate University officers. Reasonable suspicion will result in the withdrawal of computing privileges pending investigation and corrective action.

In addition, a computer related offense may be an offense under the Criminal Code or University sexual harassment and human rights policies and may be dealt with as such by the University. In particular, copying any application, network or system software products which are on University owned systems constitutes THEFT and anyone found doing so may be subject to disciplinary action by McMaster University as well as possible criminal prosecution by the producers of the copied software.

In addition to the above, the following are specific GIS Lab policies:

- 1. For academic use only, primarily for the courses that are offered in the facility. Other academic work is permitted in the facility as long as there is a seat and there is not a lab in session
- 2. All user accounts are for individual use only and must not be shared under any circumstance. Sharing of accounts will result in loss of your account.

- 3. Refrain from personal emailing and internet surfing for entertainment purposes in the facility
- 4. All food and drinks are prohibited in the GIS Labs
- 5. If a student introduces a virus to the network the account will be disabled until such time that the system administrator and the perpetrator can meet to discuss the source(s) of the virus and the proper course of action.
- 6. Students are obligated to treat the labs with the utmost care and not cause damage to any computers, desks, chairs and any other equipment that may be in either of the laboratories.

Violations of this Code of Conduct in any way will result in account suspensions and possibly disciplinary action.

Please be aware that both GIS Labs are continually monitored by video cameras with all video stored on a DVR device that can be traced back over the entire term. Additionally, an employee from the School of Geography and Earth Sciences will regularly police the two rooms when a lab is not in session.

Accounts will not be activated until the student agrees to the code of conduct. By signing this document, the student agrees to the policies and accepts all responsibility for his/her actions.

This document only needs to be signed once her academic year

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