

## Internet Usage Policy

The BISC provides High Speed Internet Access but this is not unlimited. The Internet connection is shared by the entire BISC community, students, staff and faculty. It is provided primarily as an Academic resource for the BISC.

In recent years file sharing programs have become incredibly popular especially in student residences where Internet access is perceived to be "free", which has led to a huge demand for Internet bandwidth. The BISC has increased its bandwidth annually, however Internet access has still become intolerably slow at many times.

While monitoring the situation over the last few terms it has become evident that a large proportion of our Internet bandwidth is being consumed by a very small minority of users downloading or uploading large multimedia files. This small minority slow down the Internet connection for everyone else. Because of this we are imposing limits on the amount of Internet traffic allowed for individual users, which will be far more than enough for normal Internet usage.

**There will be a weekly limit of 10 Gigabytes. This will be measured 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and the week runs from midnight Sunday.**

The penalties for exceeding these limits will be as follows:

First Offence: A verbal warning from the Computer Support Manager

Second Offence: Denial of Internet access from your laptop for a period of one week.

Third Offence: Disciplinary hearing

Your weekly limit will include the amount of data both uploaded and downloaded to the Internet so do not leave computers with file sharing programs switched on when not in use. Apart from file sharing programs such as Bittorrent and limewire, listening to Internet radio and watching streaming video will also use a great deal of bandwidth. Data accessed on the BISC web page will not count towards total.

Please note we are not monitoring the content of downloaded material just the quantity. Limits on permissible bandwidth consumption may be relaxed for specific Academic purposes. Demonstrable proof of Academic value will need to be provided to the Computer Support Manager.

The ethernet address of your computer will be recorded along with the IP address allocated to you. Do not attempt to change the IP address allocated.

Anyone attempting to circumvent these Regulations will face disciplinary procedure under the BISC Computer Code of Conduct.

Where a user believes that he or she has a valid reason for doing so, an appeal against a decision can be made to the BISC Computer Support Manager. Thereafter if the user is still unsatisfied, to the Academic Director whose decision will be final.

If anyone is unclear about this policy please see the Computer Support Manager.