

Dear USC Staff Member:

President of the Staff Assembly Michelle Jones, Vice President for Student Affairs Michael Jackson, and I would like to share with you information about the copyright compliance letter that is sent to all students at USC when they register for the academic year.

USC strives to educate all students about respect for intellectual property, as well as copyright compliance and infringement. The copyright compliance letter, which we have been sending to students on an annual basis for several years, provides an overview of situations in which copyright infringement is likely to occur and indicates the serious financial and legal consequences of copyright infringement.

For the past few years, trade associations such as the Recording Industry Association of America [RIAA] and the Motion Picture Association of America [MPAA] have aggressively pursued copyright holders' rights and have been increasingly focused on university students. In addition, Congress recently passed the Higher Education Opportunity Act (H.R. 4137), which, when it is signed into law by the president, will impose new federal requirements on colleges and universities in order to reduce illegal file sharing on campus networks.

Since many students at USC are concerned about these issues, we would like you to be aware of the steps that we are taking to educate them.

You may find a copy of the letter at

<http://www.usc.edu/its/accounts/letter.html>.

You may also find the updated information regarding copyright useful.

Sincerely,

Ilee Rhimes  
Chief Information Officer  
Vice Provost for Information Technology Services

Michael Jackson  
Vice President for Student Affairs

Michelle Jones  
President, USC Staff Assembly