

## Academic Council Policy

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### Graduate Studies Intellectual Property

# 6014

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**Description:**

This policy outlines copyright and intellectual property ownership of student work in the Graduate Studies Program.

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**Approvals:**

Revised by Graduate Studies Committee: December 2010  
Approved by Academic Policy and Planning: January 2011  
Approved by Academic Council: January 2011

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**Approval Authority:** Academic Council

**Signature:** Archie Graham, Academic Council

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**Policy:**

**Intellectual Property**

The Copyright Act protects the expressions of ideas. When, as a requirement of an academic program, a student submits to the university work that is eligible for copyright, the university acknowledges the student's sole copyright ownership with the following conditions:

1. The physical document submitted to OCAD by a student becomes the property of OCAD.
2. OCAD receives a non-exclusive royalty-free licence to:
  - i) circulate the thesis as part of OCAD Library collection;
  - ii) make copies or representations of the thesis for academic and scholarly research purposes within OCAD;
  - iii) make copies of the thesis or dissertation deposited in OCAD Library at the request of other universities or bona fide institutions for academic and scholarly research purposes;
  - iv) submit the thesis to Library and Archives Canada , in the required format (optional and with the permission of the student) and,
  - v) publish the abstract of the thesis in hard copy and electronic form.
3. The work has not been completed as part of a third party agreement in which OCAD and the student are required to transfer the copyright ownership to a third party.

The student retains the exclusive right to publish the thesis or sections of the thesis as a monograph and/or articles in professional and academic journals.

Computer programs written or partially written by a student in support of a thesis or dissertation may have potential value as a marketable intellectual property. The university acknowledges the student's ownership of all rights with respect to such software except as follows:

1. Students may be required to sign a waiver of rights to software by the academic department for which a supervised project or thesis is to be undertaken, or by the faculty supervisor of the project or thesis.
2. The university assumes a non-exclusive, paid-up, royalty-free license to use, for the university's administration, education and research activities, all software written using university facilities or written in support of academic work at the university. This license does not include the right to use the software for commercial purposes or to distribute the software to others.
3. Students acquire no rights to software written under supervision in the course of employment by the university.