I. Title: Internet Use

II. Policy

A. As part of UT Health San Antonio communications infrastructure, Systems & Network Operations (SNO) provides Internet access to facilitate information flow in support of our clinical education, research and service missions. In general, UT Health San Antonio Internet users must protect this valuable resource, see the *Handbook of Operating Procedures* (HOP), Section 5.2.5, “Protection of Information Resources”, and ensure compliance with HOP, Section 5.8.10, “Information Resources Acceptable Use and Security Policy”. However, due to the strategic significance of the Internet, additional user guidance is provided.

1. Personal use of the Internet is a privilege, not a right. As such, use should be limited, and in compliance with incidental use as defined in HOP, Section 5.8.10 “Information Resources Acceptable Use and Security Policy”. Abuse of this privilege may result in revocation of access, as well as appropriate disciplinary action.

2. All Internet usage can be recorded and stored along with the source and destination. The Internet path record is the property of the University. Such information is subject to the *Texas Public Information Act* and the laws applicable to state records retention.

3. Employees should have no expectation of privacy with regard to Internet use. Management has the ability and right to view employees’ usage patterns and take action to assure that University Internet resources are devoted to maintaining the highest levels of productivity.

4. Internet usage must be conducted with truthfulness and honesty in personal and computer identification.

5. HOP, Section 2.4.6, “Communications”, requires authorization to publicly speak on behalf of the University. Employees participating in news groups or chat rooms in the course of business must include a disclaimer in the comments similar to the following: “This contains the thoughts and opinions of (employee name) and does not represent official UT Health San Antonio policy.”
6. Accessing, posting, or sharing any racist, sexist, misogynist, xenophobic, threatening, obscene, or otherwise objectionable material (i.e., visual, textual, or auditory entity) is strictly prohibited.

7. The Internet should not be used for any personal monetary interests or gain.

8. The UT Health San Antonio reserves the right to monitor and/or throttle excessive resource usage impacting access to this shared resource.

9. Users must not intentionally use the Internet facilities to disable, impair, or overload performance of any computer system or network, or to circumvent any system intended to protect the privacy or security of another user.