

GOOD SAMARITAN COLLEGE OF NURSING AND HEALTH SCIENCE  
CINCINNATI, OHIO

**POLICY TITLE: SOCIAL MEDIA**

Online social networking communities, like Facebook and MySpace, have helped staff and students at GSC and other colleges and universities connect in many positive ways. Through these online communities, people have met others with similar interests, formed groups to explore and celebrate specific interests, and changed channels of communication. It is recommended that everyone become sensitive to the information and pictures they post (of themselves and others) as these postings may lead to implications about themselves and others that adversely affect personal safety, personal and institutional character, and career aspirations.

GSC staff and students who choose to participate in social network websites must be careful to read the terms and conditions set forth by these services. Everyone must be aware that they are solely responsible for the content of their sites and that neither the TriHealth networking services nor GSC assumes any responsibility for what students place there. Everyone is cautioned to exercise discretion and uphold standards of respect and decency. Anyone who displays behavior that violates GSC policy or any laws (such as FERPA, Copyright, or HIPAA) will be held accountable through GSC conduct policies and/or the legal system.

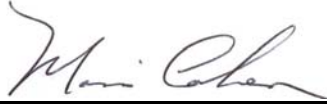
Everyone should pay specific attention to GSC conduct policies that address harassment, privacy and confidentiality. In addition to violations of GSC or TriHealth policy, the posting of inappropriate material may subject students to criminal and civil penalties. As referenced in the terms and conditions of these networking services, everyone should refrain from posting material that is deemed to be criminal; harassing; racially, sexually, ethnically or religiously objectionable; defamatory; obscene; invasive of another's privacy; or infringing of copyright. Everyone should be aware of the following suggestions regarding participation in online social networking communities:

1. Your profile will be a part of how others know you. You should keep that in mind as you use Facebook, MySpace and other online communities.
2. You are posting content onto the World Wide Web and you cannot ensure who does and does not have access to your information. Assume that people you don't know and haven't "friended" are going to be looking at your profile if they can.
3. Information you post online may continue to stay on the World Wide Web even after you erase or delete that information from your profiles or blog.

Students and staff who identify themselves within social media as being affiliated with GSC must use a disclaimer indicating that such views are personal and not reflective of GSC. Additionally, the use of GSC brands, images, its seal or logo is prohibited.

Any student participating in a clinical nursing experience at TriHealth must follow TriHealth policy #08\_HIPAA\_19.00 titled "Social Media: Text Messaging, Cell Phones and Other Electronic Devices".

Any person found to be in violation of this or any other GSC or applicable TriHealth policy must assist, in a manner determined by GSC, in removing or modifying the information to conform to policy.

Approved By:  Date: 01/06/2011

Effective Date: January 6, 2010

Review/Revision Dates:

Responsible Committee: Administration, Board of Trustees