

## Digital Rights Management and Higher Education

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## What Is Digital “Rights”?

- No one accepted definition
- Co-opted by the industry
- Two major themes:
  - Management of digital rights – the responsibility of expressing and managing the rights to content in electronic or digital form
  - The ability to physically manage IP and proprietary rights by way of an electronic system or process



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## What Can DRM Systems Do?

- Bypass the spirit of copyright law
- Deny fair use
- Protect rights in perpetuity
- Change the copyright landscape as we know it



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## Why is DRM Deployed on Campus?

- Comply with license agreements
- Protect sensitive information
- Protect copyrighted materials



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## Types of DRM

- Deniability is preferred
- Traceability DRM systems raise concerns



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## Findings



- Fair use is of central importance
- DRM cannot balance rights
- Current DRM controls meet the needs of the law and campus
- Open source alternatives are preferred
- More perfect DRM systems do not exist and they would present more problems than solutions

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