

## APNS Social Media Guidelines

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Public social networks (e.g., Facebook) and organizational Forums (e.g. APNS) are not private. Some may be open only to invited or approved members but even then, users should not expect privacy among the members. If you choose to participate on such Forums, assume that anything you post will be seen, read, and open for comment. Anything you say, post, link to, comment on, upload, etc., can and may be used against you by your peers, colleagues, employer, potential employers, fellow members, and so on. Also it is worth remembering that once on-the-web, always on-the-web.

### **Guidelines for Forums**

#### **APNS' Responsibility:**

- Forums must be monitored by a designated APNS administrator, who has the authority to remove content and/or people who violate these guidelines.
- APNS shall have the right, in its sole discretion to review, refuse, monitor, edit or remove any content that is available on the Forum.
- The forum may provide, or third parties may provide, links to other forums or sites. Such links are provided for your convenience and do not reflect any endorsement by APNS.
- The use of the forum is solely at your own risk. APNS makes no guarantee that the forum and/or any content therein will meet your requirements; is secure, current, accurate, complete or error-free; or that the results that may be obtained by use of the forum and/or any content therein will be accurate or reliable.

#### **Users' responsibility:**

- Forum participants must not intentionally interfere with or disrupt other Forum members, network services, or network equipment. This includes distribution of unsolicited advertisements or chain letters, propagation of computer worms or viruses, and use of the network to make unauthorized entry into any other machine accessible via the Forum.
- You may not collect or store personal data of other users of the forum without the prior, written permission of such user(s). You may not directly or indirectly, intentionally disrupt or interfere with the forum in any manner that may adversely affect APNS or any user of the Forum.
- Commercial Postings: Forums may not be used for commercial purposes. "Commercial" in this context means communications whose primary purpose is to advance the business or financial interests of any person or entity.
- Non-Commercial: Announcements that provide useful professional information to forum members but may also have some incidental commercial benefit to the sender (e.g., an author merely advising the Forum of publication of a professional book) are acceptable.

#### **Copyright and permissions:**

- In using the forum, whenever you upload, post, e-mail or otherwise transmit content, data, information or other materials for display on the forum, you will be responsible for all such content.
- Referring to an article or news item with typical reference citations, providing a brief quote, or offering a link to legitimate online published content is OK; posting the entire article to the forum, without the permission of the author or publisher, is a copyright violation.

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- In using the forum, you guarantee that you have all the rights necessary to receive, use, transmit and disclose all data that you submit in any way.
- By submitting third-party content to the forum, you automatically grant that the owner of the content has expressly granted the royalty-free, non-exclusive right and license to use this content.

### **Responsible conduct:**

- Keep criticism on an objective basis that is factually verifiable and refrain from use of personal commentary or attacks about character, competence, qualifications, or motives.
- False statements that harm someone's reputation can be considered libel. There is a substantial difference between disagreeing with how someone did their research or treated a patient and accusing the person of fraud or incompetence.
- You are expressly prohibited from placing any message or posting on the forum that is unlawful, harmful, threatening, abusive, harassing, defamatory, vulgar, obscene, sexually explicit, profane, hateful, racial, ethnic or otherwise objectionable material of any kind.

*The American Psychological Association's and Dalhousie University's Guidelines have been used as a basis for these Guidelines.*