CS 4873 Computers, Society, and Professionalism

Spring 2021

**Section Discussion Guide**

Week 7

Topics:

* Intellectual Property
* Software as Intellectual Property
* Term Paper Proposal

I.  Questions

* Remember each class to bring a question, observation or relevant news item for discussion

II.  Review the types of intellectual property, and make sure you understand the differences

* Trademark
* Patent
* Copyright

III. Review Fair Use

* What are the four criteria of fair use?

IV. Software as Intellectual Property

* Some firms buy patents in bulk, and their business model is entirely based on suing people to enforce them
  + What do you think about this practice? What are the pros and cons?
  + If you think this is a problem, what can be done about it?
* Changing the IP system
  + What do you think is working well?
  + What do you think needs fixing?
  + How would you fix it?

V. Term Paper Ideas

* Each person should present their ideas about what they want to do their term paper on
  + What is interesting about this topic?
  + Feedback:
    - Is this easy to research?
    - Is there enough written about it in peer-reviewed venues?
    - Is it too broad?
    - Is it too narrow?

VI. Introduce the readings for next week