Despite recent attempts to curb online copyright infringement, the number of college and university students illegally "trading" copyrighted material over peer-to-peer (P2P) computer networks has never been greater. This article highlights the pervasiveness of this practice on campuses nationwide and summarizes efforts taken to suppress it. More importantly, it describes how this epidemic, in concert with current aspects of copyright law, could have a "chilling" effect on academic freedom and technological innovation throughout academia.