

Afternoon,

I am constantly answering the question of what happens to my UBC email after I leave. This info is hard to find and I hope I can clarify the situation

Unless one has an active appointment, resource access and email ends when the appointment ends. Sessional instructors have the option for a 9-month extension and this was instituted because sessionals may have a 8 month gap between teaching assignments. A few months extension for post-docs and RAs is possible but their UBC email will eventually end. Faculty members moving to a new institution will also have their UBC access and email eventually cut. One can opt for an Out-Of-Office message with info on how to contact them but this is also time limited. My advice is to email all your contacts to inform them where to send future emails to long before one leaves. For publications, see below.

The ending of access is beyond contestation, it's a HR process approved by the BoG on request by UBC legal. It's also a practical thing as well: allowing mailboxes to exist forever means the University will take more out of our pockets to fund a larger and larger infrastructure to house mailboxes of long gone people that may have forgotten they have one. This was true when Interchange was decommissioned, the majority of the emails on that system were either orphaned or the person was deceased.

If you wish to argue this, take your concerns to the University CIO, this is the best venue. Also, please don't argue this with Dept staff, besides being bound to UBC policies and procedures, we don't have access to make changes anyway.

My advice for your grads/PDFs/RAs in regard to their email listing on their publications. This is just my advice, does not reflect any official advice, it is how I view the situation.

- PDFs/RAs can use a Gmail/Outlook.com/etc. account, this will allow publication communication for many years after they leave. Once they are a faculty member at another institution, they can then start using their institutional email on their new publications. My SFU and UBC email address on my publications was revoked immediately when I left SFU and UBC as a RA.
- For grads, they should be using the @student.ubc.ca email service that will continue after they graduate (not to be used for TA work, they are assigned another email just for communicating with students in the course they are TA for). After graduation the email will flip to @alum.ubc.ca but email sent to @student.ubc.ca will still be received. However, my advice for grads is also use their personal email for publications until they are more or less settled in their career.
- The above minimizes where to check for communication from publishers, it avoids keeping tabs on multiple accounts.

Is a grad personal email address on a publication a privacy issue? No, if they choose to use it on their publications, they can choose whatever they want. If you put their personal email on a publication without their explicit permission, that is a privacy issue.