Travel: Protection Guidelines Against Intellectual Property Theft

Here are a few guidelines to prevent intellectual property theft while traveling internationally.

1. Use a throwaway phone.
2. Make sure there is no university data on the tablet/device being taken.
3. Use a PA VPN on all connections back to the university.
4. Use webmail access for all e-mail.
5. Do not install software in China.
6. Clear the tablet/device when you return.
7. Leave your laptop and cell phone at home if they are unneeded.
8. Disable Bluetooth and Wi-Fi on all devices.
9. Remove the cell phone battery (if possible), or turn off the phone during meetings.
10. Copy/paste passwords from a USB drive.
11. Act as if you might be under surveillance, so go about your normal business, and do not call attention to yourself.
12. If a foreign customs official demands to examine your device, assume hard drives have been examined.
13. In most countries, you have no expectations of privacy.