



Policy Title: Standards of Student Conduct	Effective Date: 11/5/2014
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Oversight Department: Office of Student

Standards and Conduct

Radford University (University) is committed to fostering an environment that is secure, inclusive, and conducive to academic inquiry, free expression, student engagement, and student success. An academic community exists on the basis of shared values and principles. At the University, student members of the community are expected to uphold and abide by these values and principles that form the basis of the

community. These values are embodied within a set of core values that include integrity, fairness, respect, trust, freedom, community, and responsibility. When student members of the community fail to exemplify these values, student conduct proceedings are used to assert and uphold the community standards. All students are expected to assume responsibility for their conduct. The student conduct process exists to protect the interests of the University community, and to educate and respond to those students whose behavior is not in accordance with the community standards.

B

. Honor Pledge

The University Honor Pledge provides the foundation for a university community in which freedom, trust, and respect can prevail. In accepting admission to the University, each student makes a commitment to support and uphold the Honor Pledge without compromise or exception.

I shall uphold the values and ideals of Radford University by engaging in responsible behavior and striving always to be accountable for my actions while holding myself and others to the highest moral and ethical standards of academic integrity and good citizenship as defined in the community standards.

C. Objectives of the Student Conduct System

1. Create an environment that provides the best opportunity for academic inquiry and learning;
2. Assure students a fundamentally fair opportunity to resolve allegations when they have been accused of violating the community standards;

3. Protect members of the University community from harm resulting from the misconduct of the few students who fail to respect the rights of others;

3.

Business Day: Any weekday the University is open, regardless of whether classes are in session.

Complainant: Any person alleging a violation of the § (or a proxy for that person).

Conduct Officer: The University official or officials assigned by the Director of Student Standards and Conduct to facilitate conduct conferences or hearings as described in the § .

Director of Student Standards and Conduct (Director): The University official with primary responsibility for the administration of the student conduct system as outlined in this document. This official may delegate all or part of this responsibility to such other persons as they deem appropriate and may take any action deemed necessary to ensure fundamental fairness consistent with the §

5.

may release the final results² of any conduct conference or hearing, without a respondent's prior consent, in circumstances where permitted, or required, by law.

10. Parental Notification: The University reserves the right to notify parents or guardians when a student is found responsible for violations of University policy related to the use or possession of alcohol or a controlled substance as permitted by FERPA. Notification will occur when the student is under the age of 21 at the time of the incident.

11. Online Misconduct: Students are cautioned that they can be subject to the student conduct system for behavior occurring online, such as harassment delivered by email, or acts of bullying or discrimination posted in video form or on gossip sites accessed through University computing resources. Students must also be aware that information posted to blogs, webpages, social networking sites, such as Twitter and Facebook, or other online postings are in the public sphere and are not private. These postings can subject a student to allegati (g)2.6 (7xTJ0.)10.6 (a)-3.35(gs)-4.3.2 (i)-3.3 (c)-4e3 (n)-0635(gs (t (n)-0635(gs (e)-6 (r)

11. **Impersonation:** Impersonating any person, group, or office.
12. **Violation of Residence Hall policy:** Violation of any policy published in the University's [Residence Hall Policy](#)
13. **Damage to property:** Destroying or damaging the property of the University or the personal property of another without permission.
14. **Disruptive Conduct/Interference:** Disrupting or interfering with the regular or normal function of the University community (on or off University property) or with the legitimate activities of any person or University activity.
15. **Drugs and other substances:**
 - a. Illegal use, possession, or consumption of cannabis, including but not limited to, use or possession of cannabis by those under 21 years of age
 - b. Possession or use of cannabis on University property or at University sponsored events. Federal law, including the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act continues to prohibit cannabis use or possession on University property or at University sponsored events.
 - c. Unlawful use, possession, or consumption of narcotics, controlled substances, other illegal drugs, or drug paraphernalia
 - d. Illegal cultivating, growing, manufacturing, distributing, selling, sharing, or possessing any illegal or controlled substance
 - e. Improper use of a substance or substances for intoxicating purposes
 - f. Violating any local, state, or federal drug laws
16. **Endangering Conduct:**

- 20. Fire Violation:** Violation of state or local fire policies, including:
- a. Failure to evacuate a University-owned or operated building

29. **Weapons:** Carrying, maintaining, or storing of any firearm or weapon in violation of **b** § 87(2)(b) on any University property. Weapons include any instrument carried or used for the purpose of inflicting or threatening bodily injury.

30. **Solicitation Activities:** Any type of door-to-door sales or solicitation not in accordance with federal, state, local laws, or University policies may not take place.

31. **Violation of the University's *Animals on University Property Policy*:** Possession of any animal or other action in violation of the University's § 87(2)(b)

32. **Physical Abuse/Harm:** Any intentional or reckless action that causes physical injury or physical harm.

33. **Unauthorized Recording:** Using electronic or other means to make or disseminate a video, audio, or photographic record of any person(s) where there is a reasonable expectation of privacy and without the person's consent. The areas include but are not limited to, restrooms, locker rooms, changing areas, and individual residential rooms.

34. **Violation of the University's *Acceptable Use Policy for University Computers and Information Technology Systems*:** Any unauthorized use of University information technolog1.2 (r)-2-0.7 (o)-9.6 (.5 (C)132.2 ()10.62 (t62 (r)-2-0.7)-0.7 (o32.2 ()(n)-0.7 10.62 (t62 (r id)-0.7 ()

2. **Conduct Probation:** Conduct probation is a designated period of time during which the fitness of a respondent to continue at the University is evaluated. A student or student organization placed on probation is not considered to be in good standing with the University. Subsequent violations may result in suspension or dismissal from the University.
3. **Deferred Suspension:** Deferred suspension is used for violations found serious enough to warrant suspension, but where the specific circumstances of the case mitigate the offense or for repeated violations of a less serious nature. Deferred suspension is a designated period of time during which a student is given the opportunity to demonstrate the ability to abide by the community's expectations of behavior articulated in the **§**. A student or student organization placed on deferred suspension is not considered to be in good standing with the University. Subsequent violations may result in suspension or dismissal from the University.
4. **Educational or Restorative Measures:** Educational or restorative measures may include, but are not limited to, the following:
 - a. Active or passive sanctions, such as research or reflection papers, projects, meetings, or attending or organizing appropriate educational activities
 - b. A specified number of community restitution hours in which a student or student organization must perform service to a designated community
 - c. Participation in classes, assessments, counseling, programs, modules, or workshops
 - d. Applicable fees may apply
5. **Loss of Privileges:** Loss of privileges includes denial or restriction of privileges for a designated period of time. Loss of privileges may include, but is not limited to, restriction or exclusion from the following:
 - a.

9. **Academic Grade Penalty:** Grade penalty is at the discretion of a faculty member for a grade reduction on an assignment or in a class that is a result of an academic integrity violation. Once a student has received notice that they have been charged with an academic integrity offense

5. PROCEDURES

A. Reporting Suspected Violations

1. The Office of Student Standards and Conduct will accept a written complaint or allegation of a suspected **§** violation from any person.
 - a. Any complaint alleging an academic integrity violation that originates from a person other than the faculty member overseeing the academic exercise in question will be forwarded to the faculty member for action consistent with the procedures outlined in Section 5.D.
2. After reviewing the complaint, the Director, or designee, will determine whether sufficient

1. **Conduct Conference:** Respondents may be provided with a conduct conference (hereafter "conference"). Conferences are closed meetings that permit respondents to discuss the complaint/allegation informally with a conduct officer. When warranted, a professional staff representative from Student Life may be present with a conduct officer at a conduct conference held with a student organization.

A case may be resolved informally during a conference if the respondent admits violating the **6**

D. Academic Integrity Procedures

1. Faculty members who believe that a student may have engaged in an academic integrity violation are encouraged to consult with the Office of Student Standards and Conduct regarding the applicability of the **6** , potential courses of action, and guidance on imposing appropriate sanctions.

a. Given the nature of graduate studies, graduate students will normally face suspension or dismissal for any violation of academic integrity.

2. Faculty should submit a written complaint or allegation to their college case coordinator or the Office of Student Standards and Conduct within ten (10) business days of the alleged violation's discovery. The complaint should include, when available: a description of the information giving rise to the allegation; the names of any witnesses; a copy of the course syllabus; the student's accumulated grade for the course (notwithstanding the academic exercise in question); and any other relevant information, documents or correspondences concerning the allegation. The complaint should indicate whether the student and faculty have reached a voluntary resolution in accordance with Section 5.D.2.a., or if the matter is being referred for a hearing. Faculty members are required to meet with the student prior to submitting a complaint in order to discuss the allegation and/or seek a voluntary resolution.

a. Voluntary Resolution – u 6 9 4 (R 1 4 6 3) 3 (e) 7 c D 7

- ii. The case will be referred to a conduct board unless an administrative hearing is necessary to provide a more timely resolution.
- iii. The reporting faculty member and any relevant witnesses will be given the

1. **Composition of Conduct Board:** The conduct boards are composed of members of the University community who convene to review alleged violations of the **§** that may result in suspension or dismissal or when resolution is not reached through a conference. Conduct boards are generally comprised of five (5) members: three (3) students, one (1) faculty member, and one (1) staff member. At times, due to schedule conflicts, it is not possible to convene a full conduct board. In such situations, hearings will convene with a quorum of three (3) conduct board members as long as one (1) student, one (1) staff member, and one (1) faculty member are present. Hearings are facilitated by a conduct officer who serves as chairperson and is not a voting member of the conduct board. Whenever possible the student member of the conduct board will be of the same student level as the respondent (i.e. undergraduate or graduate.)
2. **Removal of Conduct Officer or Board Member:** Conduct officers and board members

6. **Standard for Decision-Making:** If the conduct officer or a majority of conduct board members determines there is a preponderance of evidence (i.e. more likely than not) that the respondent violated the policies as alleged, the respondent will be found responsible.
7. **Maintaining Order:** The conduct officer or chairperson has the responsibility and authority to maintain order and determine the proper sequence of events during a hearing. Any person who fails to comply with instructions provided by the conduct officer

13. **Observers:** Respondents and participating complainants may have up to two (2) non-participating observers present at their hearing. Respondents are requested to provide the conduct officer with notice of their intent to be accompanied by observers no later than two (2) business days prior to the respondent's scheduled hearing.
14. **Witnesses:** A witness is regarded as someone who has direct knowledge of the incident at issue. Witnesses may have no other role in the hearing, such as an advisor, and should be present only during their opportunity to provide information and answer questions. The conduct officer or chairperson will decide whether the respondent or complainant may question witnesses directly, or if questions must be submitted to the conduct officer or chairperson, who will decide which of the questions to ask. Character witnesses are not relevant and therefore not permitted. Should a respondent seek to invite any witnesses, it will be the respondent's responsibility to email a list of witnesses and a summary of their roles to the conduct officer no later than two (2) business days prior to the respondent's scheduled hearing. It is the responsibility of the respondent or complainant to ensure their requested witnesses are available and are invited to the board.
15. **Remote Participation:** Any party directly involved, including the respondent, complainant or any witness, may participate in a hearing remotely by way of videoconferencing, or other appropriate and reasonable means provided the identity of the person participating remotely is known to all parties and all other guidelines and procedures described in the [Handbook](#) are followed. Notice of intent to participate remotely, should be provided to the conduct officer, in writing, no later than two (2) business days prior to the scheduled hearing in order to permit sufficient time to review the request and make any necessary arrangements.
16. **Recordings:** The conduct officer or chairperson will create a single, verbatim audio/video recording of the hearing (not to include any deliberations in cases heard by a conduct board). Hearing recordings are the property of the University. Students will be given reasonable access to the recording as determined by the conduct officer for the purposes of preparing an appeal. Any request to review a recording should be made via email to the Office of Student Standards and Conduct. Recordings are a part of a respondent's conduct record and maintained in accordance with Section 4.F.
17. **Hearing Outcome:** The conduct officer or chairperson will share the responsibility outcome after the conduct officer or board has determined whether the respondent is responsible or not responsible for the alleged violations. If the respondent is found responsible, they will have an opportunity to provide any additional information that may impact the conduct officer or board's decision on recommended sanctions. The conduct officer or board will then deliberate to determine the recommended sanctions. The responsibility outcome and sanction recommendation will then be reported to the Director of Student Standards and Conduct or designee. Sanctions will be determined by the Director of Student Standards and Conduct or designee. A rationale for the decision, responsibility (or lack thereof), and sanctions will be provided, typically within two business days. A hearing decision letter, emailed to the respondent by the Office of Student Standards and Conduct after the hearing, communicates the outcome, supporting rationale, and details and deadlines related to any sanctions imposed, in writing.

6. EXCLUSIONS

Decisions of the Faculty: The **§** do not cover decisions made by the faculty in any academic program, department, or professional school as to the character or professional disposition required of a student for the purposes of awarding a degree or certificate, for continuation as a candidate for such degree or certificate, for eligibility to maintain an assistantship, or any other activity typically within the purview of the faculty. Therefore, such decisions are not subject to review within the procedures established in the **§** unless