



# SEX-BASED MISCONDUCT POLICY AND PROCEDURE

Effective July 1, 2025

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### **Appendix A: Statement of Rights**

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# I. Policy Statement

Pace University is committed to maintaining a safe and supportive working and learning environment for all community members. The Office of Institutional Equity/Title IX Compliance is responsible for processing allegations of harassment and discrimination, including sex-based harassment, and works collaboratively across the University with students, staff and faculty to achieve its mission of ensuring a campus environment where all members of the community have equitable access to academic and professional opportunities. In accordance with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act (the “Clery Act”), as amended by the Violence Against Women Act (“VAWA”)/Campus Sexual Violence Act (“Campus SaVE Act”), and Article 129-A and Article 129-B of the New York State Education Law (“Enough is Enough”), Pace University prohibits all forms of sex-based misconduct, including sex-based harassment. Under certain circumstances an attempt to violate this Policy and Procedure may itself be considered a violation. The use of alcohol or other drugs will not be accepted as a defense to a violation of this Policy and Procedure.

The University prohibits retaliation against any individual for reporting an incident of sex-based misconduct or for participating in any investigation or proceeding related to any such report.

Members of the University community who believe that they have been subjected to sex-based misconduct are encouraged to report such incidents to the University and, where applicable, to local law enforcement. Pursuant to the procedures detailed below, upon receiving a report, the University will respond promptly and fairly. When appropriate, the University will take steps to prevent future incidents and to ameliorate the effects of past incidents.

Pace University is committed to the following goals:

- Establishing a culture of respect for others;
- Educating the University community regarding the meaning and importance of consent;
- Providing information to help members of the University community identify sex-based misconduct;
- Providing clear and concise guidelines for students and other members of the University community to follow in the event that they or someone they know have (or think they have) been the victim of sex-based misconduct;
- Providing educational programs to help students and other members of the University community prevent sex-based misconduct, including bystander intervention training;
- Educating and training staff members, including counselors, security officers and Student Affairs and Residential Life staff to assist victims of sex-based misconduct;
- Assisting victims of sex-based misconduct in obtaining necessary medical care and counseling; and
- Ensuring that reports of sex-based misconduct are addressed promptly and in accordance with the University’s obligations and that investigatory and disciplinary procedures are prompt, fair, and impartial.

This Policy and Procedure applies regardless of the Complainant’s or the Respondent’s sexual orientation,

sex, gender identity or expression, age, race, color, creed, familial status, pregnancy, predisposing genetic characteristics, military status, domestic violence victim status, criminal conviction, national origin, religion, disability or other status protected by law.

This Policy and Procedure does not constitute a contract and can be amended at any time in the University's sole discretion.

**The University's Title IX Coordinator is Bernard Dufresne, Assistant Vice President, Office of Institutional Equity/Title IX Compliance, 41 Park Row, 14th floor, (212) 346-1310; [bdufresne@pace.edu](mailto:bdufresne@pace.edu).**

## II. Notice of Non-Discrimination

Pace University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, national origin, ethnicity, ancestry, religion, age, height/weight, caregiver status, sex (including gender, gender identity, sex characteristics, sex stereotypes, sexual orientation, and past/present/potential pregnancy, childbirth, and related conditions), marital status, partnership status, disability, genetic information, alienage, citizenship, military or veteran status, status as a survivor of domestic violence/stalking/sex offenses, or any other legally prohibited basis in accordance with federal, state, and local laws in any education program or activity that it operates, including in admission and employment.

Inquiries about sex-based misconduct may be referred to:

1. Bernard Dufresne, Assistant Vice President in the Office of Institutional Equity/Title IX Compliance who serves as Pace University's Title IX Coordinator. The Office of Institutional Equity/Title IX Compliance is located on the 14<sup>th</sup> floor of 41 Park Row on the New York City Campus and in Room 133 in Elm Hall on the Pleasantville Campus. The Title IX Coordinator can be reached by phone at (212) 346-1310 or email at [bdufresne@pace.edu](mailto:bdufresne@pace.edu) or [titleix@pace.edu](mailto:titleix@pace.edu).
2. The U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights Assistant Secretary of the Office for Civil Rights ("OCR"), U.S. Department of Education, Lyndon Baines Johnson Department of Education Building, 400 Maryland Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20202-1100. You may call the OCR main numbers toll free at (800) 421-3481 or (800) 877-8339 (TDD).

## III. Policy and Procedure Summary

This Policy prohibits all forms of sex and gender-related misconduct, referred to here as "sex-based misconduct". A person who has experienced sex-based misconduct has several options:

1. **A report to a Confidential Resource.** A confidential resource provides emotional support and/or medical services and maintains confidentiality. A report to a confidential resource does not result in a University investigation or any other University action to respond to the incident.
2. **A report to a Non-Confidential Employee.** All non-confidential employees at the University are required to report sex-based misconduct to the Title IX Coordinator. Following receipt of a report alleging a

potential violation of this Policy, the Title IX Coordinator will attempt to contact the Complainant to inform them of their rights, their options, and the resources available to them, including the following:

- **Supportive Measures.** Supportive measures are intended to support the individual who experienced sex-based misconduct to continue in their involvement in the University's program and activities. Supportive measures may include no contact orders; academic accommodations; changes in housing assignment; or other academic, residential or work accommodations. A person who experiences sex-based misconduct may request supportive measures without having to file a formal complaint or they may request supportive measures at any time while seeking informal resolution or using the formal grievance procedure.
  - **Informal Resolution.** An informal resolution is a resolution that the parties (i.e., the person making the allegations and the accused person) agree upon to address the situation. Not all incidents are appropriate for informal resolution, and no party may be forced to accept an informal resolution. This is a voluntary process.
  - **Grievance Procedure.** The University's grievance procedure includes an investigation and adjudication process. The outcome of a grievance process is either that the person accused of sex-based misconduct is found either responsible or not responsible for having committed a violation of this Policy. A violation results in appropriate sanctions and other remedies to address the violation.
3. **A report to Law Enforcement.** If an incident involves criminal conduct, the victim may make a complaint to law enforcement and be assisted by campus authorities in notifying law enforcement. The victim may also decline to notify such authorities.

The options for reporting above are not mutually exclusive, and an individual may pursue one option but not others. An individual may obtain the services of a confidential resource and decide at that time or a later time to report to the University. An individual may report to the University and also make a report to law enforcement or may make a report to only the University or only to law enforcement.

Anyone with questions about their options is encouraged to reach out to Bernard Dufresne, Assistant Vice President, Office of Institutional Equity and Title IX Coordinator at (212) 346-1310 or [bdufresne@pace.edu](mailto:bdufresne@pace.edu). The Office of Institutional Equity/Title IX Compliance is located on the 14<sup>th</sup> floor of 41 Park Row on the New York City Campus and in Room 133 in Elm Hall on the Pleasantville Campus.

## IV. Sex-Based Misconduct Definitions

This policy sets forth conduct expectations for our community and provides a process for the reporting, investigation, and adjudication of alleged violations. This policy applies to alleged conduct violative of Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (i.e., "Title IX Category" violations) and also applies to a broader range of contexts and behaviors inconsistent with the University's commitment to equal opportunity (i.e., "University Category" violations).

The designation of conduct or allegations as either "Title IX Category" or "University Category" is not a function of the seriousness of the alleged conduct but rather a function of the scope and coverage of

Title IX versus the University's broader jurisdiction to prohibit and discipline a larger scope of inappropriate behavior.

The Title IX office looks at the following when determining whether the conduct falls under "Title IX Category" or "University Category":

- Where did the incident take place?
- Were the Complainant and Respondent actively affiliated with the university (e.g. employed/enrolled students or employees) at the time that the complaint was filed?
- Did the incident occur after August 2020?
- Does the sex-based misconduct meet the definition of a "Title IX Category" or "University Category"?

## A. Title IX Category Violations (Category A Cases)

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 provides: "No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance."

In accordance with Title IX as interpreted by the Department of Education, the University recognizes the following as conduct violations within the meaning of Title IX, provided that the context and circumstances of the conduct fall within the scope of Title IX, including but not limited to that the Complainant was in the United States at the time of the alleged conduct, that the Complainant be participating in or seeking to participate in the University's education program or activity at the time of the complaint, and that the conduct have occurred in the context of the University's education program or activity:

1. **Sexual harassment.** "Sexual harassment" means conduct on the basis of sex that satisfies one or more of the following:
  - a. **Quid pro quo:** An employee of the University conditioning the provision of an aid, benefit, or service of the University on an individual's participation in unwelcome sexual conduct (commonly referred to as a "quid pro quo"); or
  - b. **Hostile environment:** Unwelcome conduct determined by a reasonable person to be so severe, pervasive, **and** objectively offensive that it effectively denies a person equal access to the University's education program or activity (commonly referred to as a sexually or gender-based "hostile environment").
  - c. **Sexual assault:** "Sexual assault" is a sexual act directed against another person, without consent of the victim, including instances where the victim is incapable of giving consent. Sexual assault consists of the following specific acts:
    - Non-consensual sexual intercourse (rape): The penetration, no matter how slight, of the vagina or anus with any body part or object, or oral penetration by a sex organ of another person, without the consent of the victim. This offense includes conduct committed against both males and females.

- Non-consensual sexual contact (fondling): The touching of the private body parts<sup>1</sup> of another person for the purpose of sexual gratification, without the consent of the victim, including instances where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of his/her age or because of his/her temporary or permanent mental incapacity.
  - Incest: Non-forcible sexual intercourse between persons who are related to each other within the degrees wherein marriage is prohibited by law.
  - Statutory Rape: Non-forcible sexual intercourse with a person who is under the statutory age of consent. The statutory age of consent in New York is 17.
- d. **Dating violence:** “Dating violence” means violence committed by a person who is or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the victim; and where the existence of such a relationship shall be determined based on a consideration of the following factors: (i) the length of the relationship; (ii) the type of relationship; and (iii) the frequency of interaction between the persons involved in the relationship.
- e. **Domestic violence:** “Domestic violence” means violence committed by a current or former spouse or intimate partner of the victim, by a person with whom the victim shares a child in common, by a person who is cohabitating with or has cohabitated with the victim as a spouse or intimate partner, by a person similarly situated to a spouse of the victim under the domestic or family violence laws of New York, or by any other person against an adult or youth victim who is protected from that person’s acts under the domestic or family violence laws of New York.
- f. **Stalking:** “Stalking” is engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to: (1) fear for his or her safety or the safety of others; or (2) suffer substantial emotional distress.<sup>2</sup>

## B. University Category Violations (Category B Cases)

The below conduct is prohibited even if the conduct occurs off-campus, outside the United States, the Complainant is not participating or seeking to participate in the University’s education program or activity, or otherwise in circumstances over which the University does not have influence or control, including but not limited to during University academic breaks. The University may take action pursuant to this policy with respect to any behavior regardless of where and in what context it occurs if the conduct had an impact or effect on or poses a risk to the work or learning environment. Therefore, a University Category violation

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<sup>1</sup> Private body parts include: genital area, anus, groin, buttocks or breast, and the prohibited conduct includes contact over or under clothing.

<sup>2</sup> Course of conduct means at least two instances of unwanted actions—such as following, monitoring, surveilling, communicating, or threatening. Substantial emotional distress means significant mental suffering or anguish.

may occur even if the prohibited conduct occurs off-campus or during an employee's or student's or third party's off duty time.

The University retains discretion to not respond to, investigate or adjudicate circumstances in which no University interest is implicated.

1. **Sexual harassment.** "Sexual harassment" means unwelcome, offensive conduct that occurs on the basis of sex, sexual orientation, self-identified or perceived sex, gender, gender expression, gender identity, gender-stereotyping or the status of being transgender, but that does not constitute sexual harassment as a Title IX Category Violation as defined above. This definition prohibits conduct which is intentional and also conduct which, regardless of intent, has the effect or impact of creating an intimidating, hostile or offensive working or learning environment on the basis of sex. It makes no difference in determining whether conduct violates this Policy, that the person accused of violating the Policy was "just joking," "teasing," or being "playful" or had an evil motive. The fact that a person does not object to the alleged harassing conduct or does not request that the harassing conduct stop, does not necessarily mean that they welcome the conduct. Unwelcome conduct of a sexual nature constitutes sexual harassment when:
  - submission to such conduct is made either explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of an individual's education, campus life activities or employment (quid pro quo harassment);
  - submission to, or rejection of such conduct by an individual is used as the basis for employment, academic or other student life decisions affecting such individual (quid pro quo harassment); or
  - such conduct has the purpose or effect of interfering unreasonably with an individual's academic performance or ability to participate in or benefit from the University's programs or activities, or creating an intimidating, hostile or offensive academic or work environment that is, or would be, offensive to a person of reasonable sensitivity and sensibilities (hostile environment sexual harassment).

Examples of behaviors that may constitute sexual harassment include, but are not limited to:<sup>3</sup>

- subtle or persistent pressure for sexual activity;
- unwelcome touching of a sexual nature or impeding or blocking movements
- requesting or demanding sexual favors concerning employment, academic activities or other activities;
- unwelcome communications (verbal, written, electronic, etc.) of a sexual nature;
- failure to accept the termination of a consensual relationship with repeated and persistent requests and behavior;

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<sup>3</sup> The examples of conduct listed here also may apply to Title IX Category sexual harassment, depending on the circumstances, including whether the conduct occurred in the context of the University's educational program or activities.

- engaging in visual conduct such as leering or making sexual gestures;
- displaying sexually suggestive or degrading objects, pictures, cartoons, posters;
- distributing sexually suggestive, pornographic or obscene material;
- making derogatory comments on the basis of sex; sexual propositions; sexually explicit jokes or jokes concerning gender-specific traits or sexual preference;
- making sexually explicit comments about an individual's body or clothing; comments about an individual's sexual desirability; or using sexually degrading words to describe an individual; and
- engaging in verbal or written slurs, degrading or negative stereotyping.

To determine whether sex-based harassment rises to the level of a University Category Violation, the University will consider the severity, persistence or pervasiveness of the sex-based harassment. The more severe the sex-based harassment, the less need there is to show a repetitive series of incidents. A single instance of sex-based harassment may be sufficient to constitute University Category sexual harassment. Likewise, a series of incidents may be sufficient even if each instance of the sex-based misconduct is not particularly severe.

Sexual harassment is harassment "based on sex" which may consist of behavior that is not sexual in nature but that belittles or shows hostility or aversion toward an individual because of gender. Gender-based harassment includes verbal and/or physical aggression toward another based upon a perception that the other fails to conform to stereotypical notions of expected characteristics for males or females.

The fact that a person was personally offended by a statement or incident does not alone constitute a violation. Instead, the determination is based on a "reasonable person" standard and considers the totality of the circumstances. The University considers the context of a communication or incident and the relationship of the individuals involved in the communication or incident.

2. **Sexual assault.** "Sexual assault" is a sexual act directed against another person, without the consent of the victim, including instances where the victim is incapable of giving consent but that does not constitute sexual assault as a Title IX Category Violation as defined above because of the context in which it occurs (for example because the Complainant was not in the United States at the time of the alleged conduct, because the Complainant was not participating in or seeking to participate in the University's education program or activity at the time of the complaint, or because the conduct did not occur in the context of the University's education program or activity). Sexual assault consists of the following specific acts: Sexual assault consists of the following specific acts:

- a. Non-consensual sexual intercourse (rape). The penetration, no matter how slight, of the vagina or anus with any body part or object, or oral penetration by a sex organ of another person, without the consent of the victim. This offense includes conduct committed against both males and females.

- b. Non-consensual sexual contact (fondling): The touching of the private body parts<sup>4</sup> of another person for the purpose of sexual gratification, without the consent of the victim, including instances where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of his/her age or because of his/her temporary or permanent mental incapacity. This also may include forcing or causing another to touch one's own private body part(s) without consent.
  - c. Incest: Non-forcible sexual intercourse between persons who are related to each other within the degrees wherein marriage is prohibited by law.
  - d. Statutory Rape: Non-forcible sexual intercourse with a person who is under the statutory age of consent. The statutory age of consent in New York is 17.
3. **Dating violence.** "Dating violence" means violence committed by a person: who is or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the victim; and where the existence of such a relationship shall be determined based on a consideration of the following factors: (i) the length of the relationship; (ii) the type of relationship; and (iii) the frequency of interaction between the persons involved in the relationship. This includes dating violence that does not constitute dating violence as a Title IX Category Violation as defined above because of the context in which it occurs (for example, because the Complainant was not in the United States at the time of the alleged conduct, because the Complainant was not participating in or seeking to participate in the University's education program or activity at the time of the complaint, or because the conduct did not occur in the context of the University's education program or activity).
4. **Domestic violence.**<sup>5</sup> "Domestic violence" means violence committed by a current or former spouse or intimate partner of the victim, by a person with whom the victim shares a child in common, by a person who is cohabitating with or has cohabitated with the victim as a spouse or intimate partner, by a person similarly situated to a spouse of the victim under the domestic or family violence laws of New York, or by any other person against an adult or youth victim who is protected from that person's acts under the domestic or family violence laws of New York, if the conduct does not constitute domestic violence as a Title IX Category Violation as defined above because of the context in which it occurs (for example because the Complainant was not in the United States at the time of the alleged conduct, because the Complainant was not participating in or seeking to participate in the University's education program or activity at the time of the complaint, or because the conduct did not occur in the context of the University's education program or activity). This includes any behaviors that intimidate, manipulate, humiliate, isolate, frighten, terrorize, coerce, threaten, blame, hurt, injure or wound someone. Domestic violence can be a single act or a pattern of behavior in relationships.

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<sup>4</sup> Private body parts include: genital area, anus, groin, buttocks or breast. The definition includes contact over or under clothing.

<sup>5</sup> Information about New York State Domestic Violence related laws is available online at this link: [NYS Domestic Violence Laws](#)

5. **Stalking.** “Stalking” is engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to: (1) fear for their safety or the safety of others; or (2) suffer substantial emotional distress, but that does not constitute stalking as a Title IX Category Violation as defined above because of the basis on which it occurs or the context in which it occurs (for example because the Complainant was not in the United States at the time of the alleged conduct, because the Complainant was not participating in or seeking to participate in the University’s education program or activity at the time of the complaint, or because the conduct did not occur in the context of the University’s education program or activity).<sup>6</sup>
6. **Sexual Exploitation.** Sexual Exploitation occurs when, without Affirmative Consent (defined below), an individual takes sexual advantage of another. Examples of sexual exploitation include, but are not limited to:
- invasion of sexual privacy and voyeurism (e.g., observing or recording others engaged in sexual activity, whether in-person or through audio or video recording or streaming, without the consent of all involved);
  - taking intimate pictures of another, but then distributing the pictures to others without the photographed person’s consent;
  - engaging in sexual activity with another while knowingly infected with a sexually transmitted disease without informing the other person of such infection;
  - exposing of a person’s genitals in non-consensual circumstances;
  - prostituting or soliciting another community member; and
  - incest.
7. **Retaliation.** Retaliation occurs when an adverse action is taken against an individual because the individual engaged in an activity protected by law or this Policy, including intimidating, threatening, or coercing an individual who reported or complained of sex-based misconduct or participated in a school or government investigation or other proceedings related to allegations of sex-based misconduct.

## V. General Definitions

**Affirmative Consent** is a knowing, voluntary, and mutual decision among all participants to engage in sexual activity. Consent can be given by words or actions, as long as those words or actions create clear permission regarding willingness to engage in the sexual activity. Silence or lack of resistance, in and of itself, does not demonstrate consent. The definition of consent does not vary based upon a participant’s sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, or gender expression.

Each person involved in the sexual activity is responsible to ensure that they have the Affirmative Consent

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<sup>6</sup> Course of conduct means at least two instances of unwanted actions—such as following, monitoring, surveilling, communicating, or threatening. Substantial emotional distress means significant mental suffering or anguish.

of the other or others to engage in the sexual activity. A person who has been drinking alcohol or using drugs is still responsible for ensuring that they have the other person's Affirmative Consent to engage in any sexual activity. Affirmative Consent must be ongoing throughout a sexual activity and can be withdrawn at any time, and, if it is, the sexual activity must stop. Consenting to a specific sexual activity does not constitute consent to any other sexual act. Consent is not assumed based on previous consensual encounters or implied by a relationship. Consent to a sexual encounter with one person does not constitute consent to such an encounter with another.

Consent does not exist when there is the presence of threat, coercion, force or intimidation. Lack of protest or resistance does not mean consent. Consent cannot be given when a person is incapacitated. Incapacitation occurs when an individual lacks the ability to knowingly choose to participate in sexual activity. Incapacitation may be caused by the lack of consciousness or being asleep, being involuntarily restrained, or if an individual otherwise cannot consent. Depending on the degree of intoxication, someone who is under the influence of alcohol, drugs or other intoxicants may be incapacitated and therefore unable to consent.

All references to "consent" in this policy refer to "Affirmative Consent."

**Incapacitation** is a state where someone lacks the ability to knowingly choose to participate in sexual activity. A person may be incapacitated due to mental disability, sleep, unconsciousness, physical restraint or from the consumption (voluntary or otherwise) of drugs or alcohol. In New York a person under age 17 is also incapable of giving consent. Evidence of incapacity may be detected by physical cues, such as slurred speech, bloodshot eyes, the odor of alcohol on a person's breath, inability to maintain balance, vomiting, unusual or irrational behavior and unconsciousness. The presence of one or more of these cues does not necessarily indicate incapacity, nor does the absence of these cues necessarily indicate capacity.

**Force** is the use of physical violence and/or imposing on someone physically to gain sexual access. Force also includes threats, intimidation and coercion to overcome resistance.

**Coercion** is unreasonable pressure. The use of emotional manipulation to persuade someone to do something they may not want to do, such as being sexual or performing certain sexual acts, constitutes coercion. Coercing someone into having sex or performing sexual acts does not constitute obtaining consent and is considered sex-based misconduct.

**Intimidation** means to unlawfully place another person in reasonable fear of bodily harm through the use of threatening words and/or other conduct, but without displaying a weapon or subjecting the victim to actual physical attack.

**Advisor of Choice.** An Advisor of choice is a person selected by the Complainant or Respondent to advise and accompany the Complainant or Respondent throughout the investigation and adjudication process. An Advisor of choice may be any person, including an attorney. The institution does not appoint or pay for an Advisor of choice. An Advisor of choice's role is limited to the functions further described in this policy.

**Institutional Advisor.** A Complainant or Respondent who does not opt to be accompanied by an Advisor of choice at a hearing is entitled to be appointed an Advisor by the University at no charge to the party. This Advisor is referred to an “Institution Advisor” who may be but need not be an attorney. An institution Advisor’s role is to ask cross-examination questions of the other party during a hearing. An Institution Advisor does not represent a party in any legal sense. At a hearing, an Institution Advisor is allowed the same right of participation as an Advisor of choice. The party is responsible for formulating the cross- examination questions the Institution Advisor will pose during the hearing.

**Complainant.** The term Complainant refers to the person who allegedly experienced the sexual misconduct in violation of the policy whether or not a formal complaint is filed. In some cases, the Title IX Coordinator may file a formal complaint and thereby initiate an investigation and adjudication process pursuant to this policy. In that instance, the Title IX Coordinator is not the “Complainant.”

**Respondent.** The term Respondent refers to the person alleged to have committed a violation of this policy.

## VI. Medical Attention and Evidence Preservation

In incidents of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence or stalking, it is important to preserve evidence to aid in the possibility of a successful criminal prosecution or obtaining a protection order. Evidence of violence, such as bruising or other visible injuries, following an incident should be documented, including through the preservation of photographic evidence. Evidence of stalking including any communication, such as written notes, voicemail, or other electronic communications should also be saved and not altered in any way.

Victims of sexual assault or other acts of violence are encouraged to seek prompt medical attention. Medical attention is available through University Health Care or at local hospital emergency rooms. A medical exam obtained from a hospital or sexual assault response center can diagnose and treat the full extent of any injury or physical effect (sexually transmitted infection or possibility of pregnancy) and properly collect and preserve evidence. Victims should avoid showering, washing, changing clothes, combing hair, drinking, eating, or doing anything to alter physical appearance until after a physical exam has been completed. Victims should strive not to touch or alter any evidence of struggle, even if the assault took place at the victim’s home.

To gain assistance in getting to an emergency room, a victim can call 911 or notify Pace University Safety and Security: New York City Campus, 161 William Street, 1st floor (212) 346-1800; Pleasantville Campus, Alumni Hall (914) 773- 3400; or Haub Law Campus, Preston Hall (914) 421-4300. [More information about emergency response is located online.](#) Communications with medical staff are not disclosed. Medical staff will not report the incident to the University. Seeking medical attention will in no way obligate a victim to file a complaint or press criminal charges.

| AVAILABLE MEDICAL FACILITIES                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                         |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| NEW YORK CITY CAMPUS                                                                                                                                                                      | PLEASANTVILLE AND HAUB LAW CAMPUSES                                                                     |
| <b>University Health Care.</b> 161 William Street, Room 212. Tel: (212) 346-1600                                                                                                          | <b>University Health Care,</b> Paton House, Ground Floor, (914) 773-3760                                |
| Bellevue Hospital Center Rape Crisis Program. 462 First Avenue, Room 408 967. Tel: (212) 562-3755.                                                                                        | Montefiore Mount Vernon Hospital. 12 North 7th Avenue, Mount Vernon. Tel: (914) 664-8000.               |
| Bellevue Hospital Center. 462 First Avenue. Tel: (212) 562-4141 or (212) 562-4347.                                                                                                        | Montefiore New Rochelle Hospital. 16 Guion Place, New Rochelle. Tel: (914) 632-5000.                    |
| Domestic and Other Violent Emergencies Program. 622 West 168th Street. Tel: (212) 305-9060.                                                                                               | New York–Presbyterian Hudson Valley Hospital. 1980 Crompond Road, Cortlandt Manor. Tel: (914) 737-9000. |
| Mount Sinai Medical Center Sexual Assault and Violence Intervention Program (SAVI). One Gustave Levy Place. Tel: (212) 423-2140. <a href="http://www.mssm.edu/SAVI">www.mssm.edu/SAVI</a> | New York-Presbyterian Westchester. 55 Palmer Avenue, Bronxville. Tel: (914) 787-1000.                   |
| Mount Sinai Morningside. 1111 Amsterdam Avenue at 114th Street. Tel: (212) 523-4000.                                                                                                      | Northern Westchester Hospital. 400 East Main Street, Mount Kisco. Tel: (914) 873-0902.                  |
| Mount Sinai West. 1000 Tenth Avenue at 58th Street. Tel: (212) 523-4000.                                                                                                                  | Phelps Memorial Hospital. 701 North Broadway, Sleepy Hollow. Tel: (914) 366-3000.                       |
| New York–Presbyterian Hospital/Columbia Campus. 622 West 168th Street. Tel: (212) 305-2500.                                                                                               | St. John’s Riverside Hospital. 967 North Broadway, Yonkers. Tel: (914) 964-4444.                        |
| New York–Presbyterian Hospital/Weill Cornell Medical Center. 525 East 68th Street. Tel: (212) 746-5454.                                                                                   | University Health Care. Paton House, Ground Floor. Tel: (914) 773-3760.                                 |
| New York–Presbyterian/Lower Manhattan Hospital. 170 William Street. Tel: (212) 312-5000. (Available 24/7) <a href="http://www.nyp.org/lowermanhattan">www.nyp.org/lowermanhattan</a>      | Westchester Medical Center. 100 Woods Road, Valhalla. Tel: (914) 493-7000.                              |
| NYC Health + Hospitals/Harlem Center for Victim Support. 506 Lenox Avenue. Tel: (212) 939-4621 or (212) 939-4613.                                                                         | White Plains Hospital Center. 41 East Post Road, White Plains. Tel: (914) 681-0600.                     |
| NYC Health + Hospitals/Harlem. 506 Lenox Avenue. Tel: (212) 939-1000.                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                         |
| Rape Crisis & Domestic Violence Intervention Program. Department of Social Work, 317 East 17th Street. Tel: (212) 420-4516.                                                               |                                                                                                         |

## VII. Confidential Resources

The University encourages any person who has experienced sexual assault or other forms of sex- based misconduct to talk to someone about what happened, so they can get the support needed. There are a variety of confidential resources available to members of the University community. Some of these resources maintain near complete confidentiality; talking to them is sometimes called a “privileged communication.”

What is the difference between a confidential and non-confidential resource?

A confidential resource does not reveal the information shared with him/her without the disclosing person's consent. (There may be instances where a confidential resource must disclose information in a criminal or civil court proceeding, but those are very limited circumstances. Similarly, a report of sexual abuse of a minor under 17 years of age in the context of a University program, activity or facility will not be treated as confidential.) A list of confidential resources is provided below, but usually confidential resources are counselors and healthcare providers. **The only University employees who can offer confidentiality are those listed as confidential resources below.**

A non-confidential resource is a person who must report information to the Title IX Coordinator. A University employee who is a non-confidential resource will disclose to as few individuals as possible, but a non-confidential resource cannot promise that they will not tell others within the University, including the Title IX Coordinator, about the sex-based misconduct information that has been shared with them. At a minimum, a non-confidential resource will share all relevant information with the Title IX Coordinator.

## VIII. Reporting to the University

The following section discusses the various ways of reporting sex-based misconduct to the University. Following receipt of a report alleging a potential violation of this Policy, the Title IX Coordinator will attempt to contact the Complainant to inform them of their rights, their options, and the resources available to them, and will provide the following:

- An invitation to meet to offer assistance and explain their rights, resources, and options under this policy;
- Access to this policy;
- Information regarding available campus and community resources for counseling, health care, mental health, or victim advocacy. Upon request, information regarding legal assistance, visa and immigration assistance, student financial aid and other available services may be provided;
- The availability of supportive measures regardless of whether a complaint is filed and/or any resolution is initiated;
- The options for resolution (no action, prevention, agreement, investigation) and how to initiate such resolution processes;
- The right to notify law enforcement as well as the right not to notify law enforcement;
- The importance of preserving evidence and, in the case of potential criminal misconduct, how to get assistance from campus safety or local law enforcement in preserving evidence;
- The right to an advisor of choice, if applicable, during University proceedings under this policy including the initial meeting with the Title IX Coordinator;
- A statement that retaliation for filing a complaint, or participating in the complaint process is prohibited; and
- Information on how to initiate an Investigation or Informal Resolution Process.

If you are experiencing an emergency, please dial 9-1-1 for immediate assistance.

1. **A report to a Non-Confidential Employee at Pace University:** Although all non-confidential employees have the responsibility to report sex-based misconduct to the Title IX Coordinator, the University strongly encourages reaching out to the following offices directly to report sex-based misconduct:
  - Pace University's Title IX Coordinator
  - The Office of Safety and Security
  - Human Resources
  - The Vice President for Student Affairs and/or Dean for Students

| New York City Campus                                                                                                     | Pleasantville Campus                                                                                   | Haub Law Campus                                                                                       |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>University Safety and Security</b><br>161 William Street, 1st floor<br>(212) 346-1800<br>Available 24/7               | <b>University Safety and Security</b><br>Alumni Hall<br>(914) 773-3400 Available 24/7                  | <b>University Safety and Security</b><br>Preston Hall<br>(914) 422-4300 Available 24/7                |
| <b>Office of the AVP/Dean for Students, Student Affairs</b><br>41 Park Row, 9 <sup>th</sup> Floor, Rm 907 (212) 346-1306 | <b>Office of the AVP/Dean for Students, Student Affairs</b><br>Kessel Student Center<br>(914) 773-3351 | <b>Dean for Students</b><br>Aloysia Hall (914) 422-4146                                               |
| <b>Office of Institutional Equity and Title IX Compliance</b><br>41 Park Row, 14 <sup>th</sup> Floor<br>(212) 346-1310   | <b>Office of Institutional Equity and Title IX Compliance</b><br>Elm Hall, Room 133<br>(212) 346-1310  | <b>Office of Institutional Equity and Title IX Compliance</b><br>Elm Hall, Room 133<br>(212) 346-1310 |
| <b>Residential Life and Housing</b><br>15 Beekman Street 14th Floor<br>(212) 346-1295 Available 24/7                     | <b>Residential Life and Housing</b><br>Elm Hall, Suite 132<br>(914) 597-8777 Available 24/7            | <b>Residential Life and Housing</b><br>Dannat Hall<br>(914) 422-4107 Available 24/7                   |
| <b>Human Resources</b><br>161 William St, 16th Floor<br>(914) 923-2730                                                   | <b>Human Resources</b><br>Goldstein Academic, 1st Floor<br>(914) 923-2730                              | <b>Human Resources</b><br>Goldstein Academic, 1st Floor<br>(914) 923-2730                             |

2. **A Report to a Confidential Employee:** A confidential resource does not reveal the information shared with them without the disclosing person's consent or as otherwise permitted/required by law. The following **Confidential Resources** are available to members of the University Community on and off campus in each of our locations. The University's on-campus health, and counseling services noted below are available to students free of charge.

## On Campus Confidential Resources

| New York City Campus                                                                                    | Pleasantville and Haub Law Campus                                                                  |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Pace University Counseling Center 161 William Street, 7th Floor</b><br>(212) 346-1526 Available 24/7 | <b>Pace University Counseling Center</b><br>Administrative Center<br>(914) 773-3710 Available 24/7 |
| <b>Office of Sexual and Interpersonal Wellness</b><br>(212) 346-1931                                    | <b>Office of Sexual and Interpersonal Wellness</b><br>(914) 773-8783                               |
| <b>University Health Care</b><br>161 William Street, Room 212. Tel: (212) 346-1600                      | <b>University Health Care</b><br>Paton House, Ground Floor. Tel: (914) 773-3760                    |
|                                                                                                         | <b>Pace Women's Justice Center,</b><br>78 North Broadway. Helpline: (914) 287-0739                 |

## Off-Campus Resources (Confidential and Non-Confidential)

| NEW YORK CITY CAMPUS                                                                                                                                                                                        | PLEASANTVILLE AND HAUB LAW CAMPUSES                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <a href="#"><u>Anti-Violence Project (AVP) Resource for LGBTQ+ Survivors</u></a> . Tel: (212) 714-1141.                                                                                                     | <a href="#"><u>Anti-Violence Project (AVP) Resource for LGBTQ+ Survivors</u></a> . Tel: (212) 714-1141.                                                                                                                |
| <b>New York City Police Department – Sex Crimes Report Line</b> (Available 24/7). Tel: (212) 267-7273.                                                                                                      | <b>Mental Health Association of Westchester – Rape Hotline</b> (Available 24/7). Tel: (914) 345-9111.                                                                                                                  |
| <a href="#"><u>NYS Coalition Against Sexual Assault</u></a> (Available 24/7). Tel: 1-800-942-6906.                                                                                                          | <a href="#"><u>NYS Coalition Against Sexual Assault</u></a> (Available 24/7). Tel: 1-800-942-6906.                                                                                                                     |
| <a href="#"><u>NYC Alliance Against Sexual Assault</u></a> . 32 Broadway, Suite 1101, New York, NY 10004. Tel: (212) 229-0345 Email: <a href="mailto:contactus@svfreenyc.org">contactus@svfreenyc.org</a> . | <b>New York State Police Hotline</b> . Tel: (844) 845-7269.                                                                                                                                                            |
| <a href="#"><u>RAINN – Rape, Abuse &amp; Incest National Network</u></a> (Available 24/7). Tel: 1-800-656-HOPE (4673).                                                                                      | <a href="#"><u>Putnam/Northern Westchester Women's Resource Center</u></a> . Email: <a href="mailto:info@pnwwrc.org">info@pnwwrc.org</a> .<br>Main Office Tel: (845) 628-9284.<br>24-Hour Crisis Line: (845) 628-2166. |
| <a href="#"><u>Safe Horizon</u></a> Tel: 1-800-621-4673 (HOPE)                                                                                                                                              | <a href="#"><u>RAINN – Rape, Abuse &amp; Incest National Network</u></a> (Available 24/7). Tel: 1-800-656-HOPE (4673).                                                                                                 |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                             | <a href="#"><u>Westchester County District Attorney's Office</u></a> .<br>Special Prosecutions Division –Tel: (914) 995-3000.                                                                                          |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                             | <a href="#"><u>Victims Assistance Services – Westchester Community Opportunity Program</u></a> .<br>2269 Saw Mill River Road, Building #3, Elmsford, NY.                                                               |

|                                                         |
|---------------------------------------------------------|
| Office Tel: (914) 345-3113.<br>Hotline: 1-800-726-4041. |
|---------------------------------------------------------|

3. **Guardian: Pace University's Online Reporting form:** Pace University community members are encouraged, but not required, to use the University's online reporting system to make a report of sex-based misconduct. Once the report is submitted, it will be routed to the Title IX Office. The reporting form can be found here: [Online Reporting System](#).

## A. Supportive Measures

Once a report is made to a non-confidential employee (e.g. resident assistant or academic advisor) under this Policy, the complainant will be contacted by the Title IX Coordinator and offered individualized support as more fully described below. A report that triggers supportive measures does not have to be a formal complaint or reported to campus police or local law enforcement, and may be made by a third-party (i.e., someone other than the Complainant). The University will keep supportive measures confidential unless disclosure is necessary to provide the service. If the Respondent is informed of a report, or when the Respondent is informed of a formal complaint, the Respondent will be contacted by the Title IX Coordinator and offered individualized support as more fully described below.

Supportive measures are intended to restore or preserve, to the extent practicable, equal access to the University's educational programs and activities and protect the safety of all parties without unreasonably burdening the other party or parties. As required by federal regulation, these supportive measures must be non-disciplinary and non-punitive to the parties.

Supportive measures could include, but are not limited to:

- Changes or adjustment in academics such as the extension of deadlines or other course-related adjustments or allowing a withdrawal from a course without penalty;
- Changes to housing, transportation and campus working situations if those changes are requested by a party and reasonably available;
- Mutual "No Contact" orders and, possibly, in rare cases, such as when legal restraining orders or orders of protection have been issued, one-way no contact orders. A no contact order, whether mutual or one-way, is non-disciplinary in nature, and the imposition of such an order is not and will not be viewed as an indication of the merits of the allegations;
- Access to campus escorts or other reasonable security or monitoring measures;
- Counseling services; and
- Interim removal of a student from the University will only be done pursuant to the Emergency Removal protocol, discussed below.

The Title IX Coordinator is responsible for coordinating the implementation of supportive measures, including coordinating with the various University departments and offices that may be involved. Supportive measures will be offered free of charge.

If a party's request for a supportive measure is denied, the party will be afforded an opportunity to have the denial promptly reviewed to assess whether the supportive measure is reasonable under the circumstances. Information about how to request a review will be included in a written communication that will outline the supportive measures offered and any that were requested by the party but denied.

## **B. Emergency Removal**

In some cases, the University may undertake an emergency removal of a Respondent in order to protect the safety of the University community, which may include contacting local law enforcement to address imminent safety concerns.

Emergency removal is not a substitute for reaching a determination as to a Respondent's responsibility for the sexual harassment allegations; rather, the emergency removal is for the purpose of addressing imminent threats posed to any person's physical health or safety, which arise out of the sexual harassment allegations.

Prior to removing a Respondent through the emergency removal process, the University will undertake an individualized safety and risk analysis. If the individualized safety and risk analysis determines that an immediate threat to the physical health or safety of anyone, including a student, the Respondent, or other individual exists arising from the allegations of sexual harassment, then a Respondent may be removed.<sup>7</sup> This is the case regardless of the severity of the allegations and regardless of whether a formal complaint was filed.

After determining that a student Respondent is an immediate threat to the physical health or safety of an individual, the Title IX Coordinator will provide written notice of the emergency removal to both the Complainant and Respondent. This notice will contain: (1) the date the removal is set to begin, (2) the reason for the emergency removal, (3) the consequences of non-compliance, and (4) how to appeal the decision.

If a student Respondent disagrees with the decision to be removed from campus, the Respondent may appeal the decision. The Respondent must provide written notice of the intent to appeal, which shall include the substance of the appeal, to the Dean for Students of the Respondent's home campus within 10 calendar days of receiving the notice of removal. The decision concerning the appeal will be made by the Dean for Students of the Respondent's home campus in consultation with the Title IX Coordinator. The burden of proof is on the student Respondent to show that the removal decision was incorrect.

## **C. Administrative Leave**

Employee Respondents may be placed on administrative leave pursuant to University policies and/or collective bargaining agreements during the pendency of a sex-based misconduct grievance process. Administrative leave can only begin after a formal complaint has been filed against the Respondent and is meant for non-emergency

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<sup>7</sup> If the Respondent's actions pose an immediate threat, but do not "arise from allegations of sexual harassment," the University may respond under its code of conduct or in accordance with applicable policies and laws.

situations.

## **D. Grievance Procedure**

This section defines a formal complaint and discusses the steps that take place after a formal complaint has been filed and the options that are available to a Complainant.

### **1. Filing a Formal Complaint**

A formal complaint is necessary to initiate the University's grievance process, meaning an investigation and adjudication process. A formal complaint must be in written form and must be signed by the Complainant. A third-party or anyone other than the victim of the misconduct may not file a formal complaint. However, a formal complaint may be filed by a parent or guardian of a minor person.

A formal complaint is a document filed by a Complainant or signed by the University's Title IX Coordinator alleging sexual harassment against a Respondent and requesting that the University investigate the allegation. The Respondent may be either a student or an employee or a visitor, independent contractor, intern, or volunteer of the University. A formal complaint may be filed with the Title IX Coordinator in person, by mail, electronic mail, or by using the University's [online reporting system](#). The University's Title IX Coordinator is ***Bernard Dufresne, Assistant Vice President, Office of Institutional Equity and Title IX Compliance 41 Park Row 14<sup>th</sup> floor, (212) 346-1310.***

In order to qualify as a formal complaint, the document must contain the Complainant's physical or electronic signature or otherwise indicate that the Complainant is the person filing the formal complaint.

If a Complainant declines to sign a formal complaint or does not wish to participate in the complaint and adjudication process, or the Complainant's identity is unknown, and the Title IX Coordinator determines there is sufficient cause to file a formal complaint, the Title IX Coordinator may file a formal complaint. In such cases, the Title IX Coordinator is not considered to be a Complainant or other party under this Policy.

The Title IX Coordinator will consider the wishes of the Complainant not to proceed with the investigation and adjudication process. However, the Title IX Coordinator may file a formal complaint if the Title IX Coordinator determines that the allegations are such that it would be unreasonable not to proceed despite the wishes of the Complainant.

In making this determination, the Title IX Coordinator will consider, among other factors, the risk that the alleged perpetrator will commit additional acts of sex-based misconduct or other violence, which may be assessed by evaluating:

- whether there have been other complaints about the same alleged perpetrator;
- whether the alleged perpetrator has a history of arrests or records from a prior school indicating a history of violence;
- whether the alleged perpetrator threatened further sexual violence or other violence against the victim or others;

- whether the sexual violence was committed by multiple perpetrators
- whether the sexual violence was perpetrated with a weapon;
- whether the victim is a minor;
- whether the University possesses other means to obtain relevant evidence of the prohibited conduct (e.g., security cameras or personnel, physical evidence); and
- whether the victim's report reveals a pattern of perpetration (e.g., via illicit use of drugs or alcohol) at a given location or by a particular group.

A Complainant or Respondent with a disability who requires accommodation in the complaint, investigation, hearing or any other phase of the process is responsible for disclosing the need for accommodation to the Title IX Coordinator. The Title IX Coordinator may consult with Student Accessibility Services in deciding whether to grant a disability accommodation request.

## **2. Early Dismissal**

The Title IX Coordinator will review a formal complaint filed by a Complainant. In order to comply with Title IX regulations, the Title IX Coordinator must “dismiss” the Title IX Category violation(s) if it is apparent that the allegations are not within the scope of Title IX, including that the conduct alleged:

- would not constitute a Title IX violation, even if proved,
- did not occur in the University's education program or activity, or
- did not occur against a person in the United States.

Even if a Title IX Category violation is subject to dismissal, the University may continue to process the allegations as University Category violations, assuming that the allegations, if true, would constitute University Category violations.

Additionally, the Title IX Coordinator may dismiss a formal complaint if they determine that:

- the conduct alleged would not constitute a University Category violation even if proved or that there is otherwise no merit to the allegation(s), or
- the Respondent is not enrolled at the University and is not employed by the University.<sup>8</sup>

Notice of dismissal will be in writing and issued simultaneously to both the Complainant and Respondent. The Title IX Coordinator may determine at any point in the process that facts have emerged that require the dismissal of a Title IX Category or University Category violation. A decision to dismiss a Title IX Category or University Category violation is immediately appealable by the Complainant and Respondent, by filing an appeal with the Title IX Coordinator, which will be decided by the Appeal Officer(s) as designated in the Appeal section of this Policy.

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<sup>8</sup> Instead, the University will take the steps it deems appropriate under the circumstances.

### 3. Informal Resolution

Pace University offers a voluntary informal resolution process that allows for a less time-consuming and more flexible approach to resolving a complaint. The Informal Resolution may be offered to the parties **after** a formal complaint is filed by the Complainant and is available at any time prior to a determination. The University reserves the right not to offer Informal Resolution in cases where the University determines Informal Resolution to be inappropriate based on the allegations or other circumstances (including but not limited to a situation where an employee is alleged to have committed sex-based misconduct against a student).

- Both parties must voluntarily agree in writing to participate in the informal process, and the process can be ended at any time by either party prior to a determination. If that occurs, the Complainant will be contacted to discuss proceeding with the formal investigation and adjudication process set forth below. The Title IX Coordinator may decide to end an Informal Resolution process, including if new facts come to light, rendering an Informal Resolution inappropriate.
- No one can be forced to participate in informal resolution and declining to participate in the informal resolution process does not affect enrollment, employment, or other rights.
- If both parties consent to participate in the Informal Resolution process, the University will assign a facilitator who will act in an independent, impartial manner to facilitate a resolution between the parties. The facilitator will be free from conflicts of interest and bias.
- If the informal resolution process is initiated, any formal grievance process is paused during the informal resolution and resumes if the process is not completed within approximately three weeks.
- While the informal process is ongoing, supportive measures will continue or be provided as needed.

An Informal Resolution leads either to an agreement between the parties or no agreement. If no agreement is reached, the Complainant is contacted to discuss the next steps in the formal investigation and adjudication process. The University reserves the right to disallow an Informal Resolution that the University finds unacceptable or inappropriate. An Informal Resolution may include disciplinary sanctions agreed to by the parties. An Informal Resolution, if achieved, will be agreed to by the parties in writing and is considered final.

## IX. Assigned Investigator, Hearing Officer/Decision-Maker/Appeal Officers

The following Complaint Procedure Diagram identifies the Investigator, Hearing Officer/Decision Maker and Appeal Officer(s) who will be involved in deciding the complaint. The identity of the persons appointed to a particular case varies depending upon whether the Respondent is a student, faculty member, other employee or a third party. All Investigators/Hearing Officers/Decision Makers and Appeal Officers shall receive annual training on the requirements of this Policy and on issues relating to sex-

based misconduct, including sexual harassment, sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, stalking and retaliation. A determination as to whether a violation of this Policy has been established is determined based on a preponderance of evidence standard. A preponderance of the evidence means to prove that something is more likely so than not so and does not require proof to an absolute certainty or beyond a reasonable doubt.

## Complaint Procedure Diagram<sup>9</sup>

| <b>Respondent</b>                                          | <b>Investigator</b>                                                    | <b>Decision Maker/<br/>Hearing Officer</b>                                                                               | <b>Appeal Officer(s)</b>                                                                                               |
|------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Faculty Member                                             | Title IX Coordinator or<br>Another Investigator<br>From a Trained Pool | Provost (with prior<br>opportunity for<br>comment/recommendation<br>from the Faculty Review<br>Committee)                | President, or their<br>designee.                                                                                       |
| Student                                                    | Title IX Coordinator or<br>Another Investigator<br>From a Trained Pool | Vice President for Student<br>Affairs or campus Dean for<br>Students                                                     | Provost or their designee<br>and two (2) trained<br>University officials to be<br>appointed by Title IX<br>Coordinator |
| Staff                                                      | Title IX Coordinator or<br>Another Investigator<br>From a Trained Pool | Vice President for Human<br>Resources                                                                                    | Vice President<br>Finance/Controller                                                                                   |
| Third Party                                                | Title IX Coordinator or<br>Another Investigator<br>From a Trained Pool | Vice President<br>Finance/Controller                                                                                     | Chief Financial Officer                                                                                                |
| President or<br>Senior Executives<br>who Report to<br>them | Title IX Coordinator or<br>Another Investigator From<br>a Trained Pool | Executive Committee of Board<br>of Trustees (with the recusal of<br>the President and Chair of the<br>Board of Trustees) | Chair of the Board<br>of Trustees                                                                                      |

## **X. Objections to the Investigator, Hearing Officer/Decision-Maker/Appeal Officer(s)**

The Complainant or Respondent may object to the participation of the particular Investigator, a member of the Faculty Review Committee, a Decision Maker/Hearing Officer or Appeal Officer based on a conflict of interest, bias or other facts suggesting that that the Investigator, Faculty Review Committee member, Decision Maker/Hearing Officer or Appeal Officer is unable to fulfill his or her responsibilities in an impartial manner. Such objection must be made in writing to the Title IX Coordinator prior to any recommendation or decision being issued by the person and in no event, later than two (2) calendar days after the Respondent or Complainant, if any, learns the identity of the person or persons who will be serving in these roles. In all cases except when the objection is to a member of the Faculty Review Committee, the Title IX Coordinator will refer the objection to the Chief Diversity Officer, who will evaluate the objection and, in consultation with the Title IX Coordinator and University Counsel, decide

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<sup>9</sup> In any given case, the University reserves the right to appoint an external party to serve as the Investigator, Decision Maker or Hearing Officer.

whether to uphold or deny the objection. If the objection is upheld, appropriate replacement or replacements will be selected by the Chief Diversity Officer in consultation with the Title IX Coordinator and University Counsel.<sup>10</sup> If the objection is to a member of the Faculty Review Committee, the Title IX Coordinator will refer the objection to the appropriate Location Faculty Grievance Committee. The Location Faculty Grievance Committee, in consultation with the Title IX Coordinator and University Counsel, shall determine whether to uphold or deny the objection, and if the objection is upheld, select an appropriate alternate Faculty Review Committee member. The Chief Diversity Officer and the Location Faculty Grievance Committee shall set forth the reasons for their objection determinations in writing, which they shall transmit to the Complainant, the Respondent and the Title IX Coordinator.

The Title IX Coordinator may determine that cases where the allegations arise out the same set of facts should be consolidated for purposes of the investigation and/or adjudication. Instances where consolidation of complaints may occur include but are not limited to cross-complaints filed by the parties against each other, multiple complaints by a single Complainant against a Respondent, or multiple complaints by a single Complainant against multiple Respondents.

## **XI. Investigation Procedure**

In the absence of an Informal Resolution, a Formal Complaint will result in an investigation.

### **A. Notice of Investigation**

The Complainant and Respondent shall receive a notice of investigation referencing the violation(s) of this policy alleged to have been committed and the range of possible disciplinary sanctions and remedies following any determination of responsibility. The notice of investigation will include, to the extent known:

- the identities of the parties involved;
- the date, time, location and factual allegations concerning the alleged violation;
- the policy provisions allegedly violated;
- a description of the investigation and adjudication process;
- potential sanctions;
- the right to an Advisor of their choice, who may be, but is not required to be, an attorney;
- their right to inspect and review evidence in accordance with this policy;
- notice that knowingly making false statements or knowingly submitting false information is prohibited under the University's "Guiding Principles of Conduct"; and
- that the Respondent is presumed not responsible for the alleged conduct and that a determination regarding responsibility is made at the conclusion of the process and will be provided with a copy of this Policy and will be given an opportunity to meet with the Title IX Coordinator to ask any

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<sup>10</sup> In the event that the Chief Diversity Officer has a conflict of interest, another appropriate University Administrator will determine the objection and select an appropriate replacement or replacements, in consultation with the Title IX Coordinator and University Counsel.

questions they may have about the Policy before the investigation begins.

If, in the course of the investigation, the University decides to investigate allegations that are not included in the notice initially provided to the parties, the Title IX Coordinator will provide notice of the additional allegations to the parties.

## **B. Selection of Investigator**

In the ordinary course, the Investigator will be the Associate Director of the Title IX Office or a Deputy Title IX Investigator. However, if they are unavailable or have a conflict of interest, or the University determines due to the circumstances that another Investigator should investigate the complaint or report, then the Investigator will be selected from a pool of individuals from the University who have been trained annually in the requirements of this Policy, on issues relating to dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking and on how to conduct an investigation that protects the safety of victims and promotes accountability. Similarly trained individuals from outside the University, who may be attorneys, may also be selected to be the Investigator. Selection of an Investigator will be by the Chief Diversity Officer in consultation with the Title IX Coordinator and University Counsel when appropriate.<sup>11</sup>

## **C. Investigation Procedure**

The Investigator will conduct a prompt and thorough investigation. During the investigation, the appointed Investigator will:

- give the Complainant and Respondent proper notice of the complaint and investigation and provide them with an opportunity to provide information;
- interview the Complainant, the Respondent and any material Witnesses;
- gather all relevant documentary and/or physical evidence;
- complete the investigation in a timely manner; and
- maintain communication with the Complainant and the Respondent on the status of the investigation and overall process.

During the course of the investigation, the Complainant and the Respondent shall each be afforded an opportunity to present their version of the event(s) to the Investigator(s) as well as the names of Witnesses and any other evidence. However, at all times, the burden of gathering evidence remains with the University. The Investigator will have sole discretion to determine which Witnesses to interview. Neither the Complainant nor the Respondent will have the right to question any Witnesses or to be present during such questioning during the investigation stage. The Investigator may decline to interview any Witness or to gather information the Investigator finds to be not relevant or otherwise excludable (e.g., sexual history of the Complainant with a person other than the Respondent, materials subject to a recognized privilege, medical records in the absence of a release by the subject of the records, etc.). The

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<sup>11</sup> In the event that the Chief Diversity Officer has a conflict of interest, another appropriate University Administrator will select the Investigator, in consultation with the Title IX Coordinator and University Counsel.

Investigator will determine the order and method of investigation. If either party offers information relating to the parties' sexual history with one another, the other will have the right to respond.

Efforts will be made to maintain privacy; only people who have a need to know about the incident will be informed, and information will be shared only as necessary with Investigators, the Complainant, Witnesses and the Respondent.

All members of the University community are encouraged to participate in the investigation process. However, Complainants and Respondents may elect not to participate in the investigation process at all or may choose not to be interviewed and only to identify other Witnesses and relevant documents. The University will not draw an adverse inference against either party for failing to participate in the investigation process, but the Investigator and Hearing Officer can only draw conclusions from the information available. So, the failure of one party to present their version of events will likely have a substantial impact on the outcome of the investigation.

The time needed to complete an investigation will vary based upon several factors, including the complexity, severity and extent of the allegations, as well as factors that may affect availability, such as periods when the University is not in session. It is expected most investigations will be completed within sixty (60) calendar days.<sup>12</sup> At the conclusion of the investigation, the Investigator will prepare a written Investigation Report.

#### **D. Evidence Review**

The Complainant and Respondent will be provided an equal opportunity to inspect and review any evidence obtained in the investigation directly related to the allegations gathered in the investigation and regardless of whether the information will be relied on in reaching a determination. They will be provided with at least ten (10) calendar days to review the evidence and submit a written response to the evidence, which the Investigator will consider prior to completion of the Investigation Report. The evidence will be made available through an electronic file sharing platform, subject to redaction permitted and/or required by law.<sup>13</sup> Prior to completion of the Investigation Report, the Investigator will determine if additional investigation is necessary and, if so, will complete any additional investigative steps.

Parties and their Advisors are expected and urged to maintain the privacy of Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)-protected and/or sensitive information gathered or learned in the Investigation. Sharing of such information in a manner that constitutes Retaliation or other Prohibited Conduct under the Policy may subject an individual to disciplinary sanctions, where appropriate.

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<sup>12</sup> For Title IX Category cases which require a live hearing, it is expected that most live hearings will be completed within thirty (30) calendar days following the conclusion of the investigation.

<sup>13</sup> The Investigator may require the parties to submit any evidence they would like the Investigator to consider prior to when the parties' time to inspect and review the Investigation Report ends.

## **E. Investigator's Report**

Following the completion of the investigation, the Investigator will prepare a written report of the investigation ("Investigation Report") that fairly summarizes the relevant evidence and contains the following, except as prohibited by law:

- a copy of the written complaint;
- copies of any documents relevant to the investigation;
- to the extent known by the Investigator, the name(s) of the Complainant and Respondent and the names of every person interviewed by the Investigator in connection with the investigation, the name of any persons presented by the parties as Witnesses and a summary of any evidence provided;
- the name of each individual the Investigator attempted to interview but did not interview in connection with the investigation, the attempts that the Investigator made to interview such individual(s) and the reason(s) why such individual(s) was not interviewed; and
- a summary of each interview conducted by the Investigator in connection with the investigation.

Additionally, in cases involving only University Category violations (Category B Cases), the Investigation Report additionally will contain the following:

- a list of the relevant facts that the Investigator found during the investigation;
- a recommendation based on the evidence obtained by and available to the Investigator as to whether or not the complaint alleging a violation of the Policy is substantiated or unsubstantiated using a preponderance of the evidence standard;
- a description of any prior substantiated complaints made against the Respondent, the resolution of any prior complaints, whether any information from the previous complaints was relied upon by the Investigator in making any findings of fact or recommendations in the report;
- a recommendation as to what, if any, remedial measure(s) (e.g., harassment training, etc.) should be taken in light of the complaint and/or factual determination; and
- a recommendation as to what, if any, sanction(s), including suspension, expulsion or termination, should be taken against the Respondent.

The Investigator need not include information in the Investigation Report that the Investigator determines not relevant or otherwise excludable. In a Title IX Category case (Category A Case), the final Investigation Report, subject to any redaction permitted and/or required by law, will be provided to the Complainant, Respondent and their Advisors (if any) at least ten (10) calendar days prior to a hearing (where a hearing is provided for by this Policy).

If the Respondent is a faculty member, then the Investigator, at least five (5) calendar days prior to submitting the Investigation Report to the Hearing Officer/Decision-Maker, shall submit the final report to a Faculty Review Committee. The Faculty Review Committee will consist of three faculty members selected from and by the appropriate Location Faculty Council Grievance Committee. The Faculty Review

Committee shall have five (5) calendar days to submit their written comments/recommendation, if any, regarding the Investigation Report to the Decision-Maker/Hearing Officer.

## **XII. Adjudication Processes**

In cases involving only University Category violation(s) (Category B Cases), no hearing is held and, instead, the Decision Maker will make a decision as to whether the Respondent is responsible for the violation and, if responsible, sanctions(s) based on the Decision Maker's review and consideration of the Investigation Report, together with the evidence and the parties' responses to the evidence submitted to the Investigator. The Decision Maker will use "preponderance of the evidence" as the standard of proof to determine whether each alleged violation of the Policy occurred. "Preponderance of the evidence" means that the Decision Maker must determine whether, based on the evidence presented, it is more likely than not that the Respondent engaged in the conduct charged.

In situations where a case includes a Title IX Category violation, a hearing will be held pursuant to the Hearing Procedures below.

### **Hearing Procedures for Category A Cases**

These hearing procedures apply to the adjudication of any case involving a Title IX Category violation.

#### **A. General**

At least ten (10) calendar days prior to a hearing to determine whether there is responsibility for the allegations, the Complainant and Respondent, and each party's Advisor if any, will be provided a copy of the Investigation Report (which may be sent in hard copy or electronic format or made available through an electronic file sharing platform), subject to redaction permitted and/or required by law. The parties may provide a written response to the Investigation Report. If a party disagrees with the Investigator's determinations about relevance, the party can make that argument in the party's written response to the Investigation report and to the Hearing Officer/Decision-Maker at any hearing held. The hearing officer/decision-maker makes the final determinations as to the relevance of evidence. The parties' written responses to the evidence and responses to the Investigation Report (if any) will be appended to the Investigation Report and made available to the Hearing Officer/Decision-Maker.

A hearing before a Hearing Officer will be held not less than ten (10) calendar days after the parties have been provided access to the final Investigation Report, for the purpose of determining whether the Respondent is responsible or not responsible for the charge(s).

The Hearing Officer may be a member of the campus community or may be external to the University, as determined by the Title IX Coordinator.

The Title IX Coordinator will notify the parties in writing of the date, time, and location of the hearing, and the name of the Hearing Officer.

In order to promote a fair and expeditious hearing, the parties and their Advisors will be invited to attend a pre-hearing conference with the Hearing Officer. The pre-hearing conference assures that the parties and their Advisors understand the hearing process and allows for significant issues to be addressed in advance of the hearing.

Participants in the hearing will include the Hearing Officer, the Complainant and the Respondent, their respective Advisors, as well as the Investigator(s) who conducted the investigation (where requested), and Witnesses (solely during their own testimony). Hearings are private. Observers or additional support personnel, other than the parties' Advisors, are not allowed unless deemed necessary by the Title IX Coordinator for purposes such as accommodation of a disability. Cell phones and recording devices may not be used by the parties or their Advisors in the hearing room(s).

The hearing may be conducted with all parties physically present in the same location or, at the Hearing Officer's discretion, any or all parties, Witnesses, and other participants may appear at the live hearing virtually, with technology enabling the Hearing Officer and the parties to simultaneously see and hear any party or Witness providing information or answering questions. If either party so requests, the hearing will be conducted with the parties located in separate rooms using technology as described in the preceding sentence.

The Title IX Coordinator and/or Hearing Officer may postpone the hearing for good cause as determined by the Title IX Coordinator or Hearing Officer. Good cause may include, without limitation, unavailability of one or more participants due to unanticipated events or circumstances, the timing of academic breaks or holidays, or other extenuating circumstances.

## **B. Procedural Matters**

The Hearing Officer is in charge of organizing the presentation of information to be considered at the hearing. Generally, the hearing will proceed in the following order:

1. Opening Statements by the Complainant and Respondent
2. Questions for the Investigator(s) by the Hearing Officer and, if desired, on behalf of Complainant and the Respondent (as described below) via their Advisors
3. Questions for the Complainant by the Hearing Officer and, if desired, on behalf of the Respondent (as described below)
4. Questions for the Respondent by the Hearing Officer and, if desired, on behalf of the Complainant (as described below)
5. Questions for each Witness by the Hearing Officer and, if desired, on behalf of Complainant and the Respondent (as described below)
6. Closing Statement by the Respondent and Complainant

Formal rules of evidence will not apply. Except as otherwise expressly prohibited by this Policy, any information that the Hearing Officer determines is relevant may be considered, including hearsay, history and information indicating a pattern of behavior, and character evidence. All evidence previously made available to the parties for inspection and review prior to completion of the Investigation Report as described in the Investigation Procedures section will be made available at the hearing to give each party equal opportunity to refer to such evidence during the hearing, including for purposes of questioning. A party may not request to introduce at the hearing any evidence not previously offered or introduced in the investigation pursuant to the Investigation Procedure section unless the evidence was unavailable to the party seeking to introduce it and the party could not have discovered or obtained the evidence during the investigation process (including at time of the party's response to the Investigation Report) with reasonable diligence.

The Hearing Officer will address any concerns regarding the consideration of information prior to and/or during the hearing and may exclude irrelevant information. Subject to the terms of this Policy, the Hearing Officer will have discretionary authority to determine all questions of procedure, to determine whether particular questions, evidence or information will be accepted or considered, to call breaks or temporary adjournments of the hearing, to alter the order of the proceedings from that described above, and/or to recall parties or Witnesses for additional questions as the Hearing Officer deems necessary or appropriate. The Hearing Officer may impose additional ground rules as the Hearing Officer may deem necessary or appropriate for the orderly and efficient conduct of the hearing, which will apply equally to both parties.

### **C. Advisors**

The Complainant and the Respondent may each have present with them during the hearing an Advisor of their choice (at the party's expense, if the Advisor is a paid advisor). Additionally, if the party is not accompanied by an advisor at the hearing, the University will appoint an Institution Advisor.

Except with respect to questioning as described below, an Advisor's role is limited to consulting with their advisee, and the Advisor may not present evidence, address the Hearing Officer during the hearing, object to any aspect of the proceeding, or disrupt the hearing in any way, and any consultation with the advisee while the hearing is in progress must be done in a quiet non-disruptive manner or in writing. The advisor may consult with the advisee verbally outside the hearing during breaks, when such breaks are granted by the Hearing Officer. An Advisor's questioning of the other party and any Witnesses must be conducted in a respectful, non-intimidating and non-abusive manner. If the Hearing Officer determines that an Advisor of choice is not adhering to these or other ground rules, the Advisor may be required to leave the hearing, and the hearing will proceed without an opportunity for the party to obtain a replacement advisor; provided, however, that the University will assign an Advisor of the University's choosing, without charge, for the purpose of conducting questioning on behalf of the party as provided below.

Witnesses are not permitted to bring an Advisor or other person to the hearing, absent an approved

disability accommodation.

The Hearing Officer may be advised by and/or consult with the University's legal counsel as the Hearing Officer deems necessary or appropriate. The Hearing Officer may be accompanied by an assistant who will not participate in the hearing or decision in any way but may provide administrative or clerical assistance to the Hearing Officer (i.e., making copies, contacting the next Witness, etc.) during the hearing.

#### **D. Questioning Procedures**

The Hearing Officer will permit each party's Advisor to ask the other party and any Witnesses all relevant questions and follow-up questions, including those challenging credibility; provided that questions that seek disclosure of information protected under a legally recognized privilege will not be permitted unless the person or entity holding the privilege has waived the privilege in writing. Questioning must be conducted by the party's Advisor in a respectful, non-intimidating and non-abusive manner, and never by a party personally. If a party does not have an Advisor present at the hearing, the Title IX Coordinator will arrange for the University to provide without fee or charge to that party, an Advisor of the University's choice (referred to as an Institution Advisor) to conduct cross-examination on behalf of that party. An Institution Advisor does not represent a party in any legal sense, and the party is responsible for formulating the cross-examination questions that the Institution Advisor will pose during the hearing.

Only relevant questions may be asked by a party's Advisor to a party or Witness. Before the party or Witness answers a question posed by an Advisor, the Hearing Officer will first determine whether the question is relevant and explain any decision to exclude a question as not relevant. The Advisor posing the question may request that the Hearing Officer reconsider any decision to exclude a question and the Hearing Officer, after soliciting the other party's Advisor's opinion, will render a final determination. Such decisions by the Hearing Officer are final and not subject to further objection or reconsideration during the hearing.

Questions and evidence about the Complainant's and Respondent's sexual predisposition or prior sexual behavior are not relevant, other than questions and evidence about the Complainant's/Respondent's prior sexual behavior that (a) are offered to prove that someone other than the Respondent committed the alleged misconduct, or (b) concern specific incidents of the Complainant's prior sexual behavior with respect to the Respondent and are offered to prove consent.

Parties and Witnesses are encouraged to participate in a hearing and submit to cross-examination to facilitate full exploration of the evidence. In the event that a party or Witness does not participate in a hearing and/or submit to cross-examination, the Hearing Officer may take this, among any other factor, into consideration when deciding the weight to afford any statement made or information provided by such person. However, the Hearing Officer will not draw an inference as to responsibility based solely on a party's or Witness's absence from the hearing or refusal to answer questions, including cross-examination questions.

## **E. Hearing Determinations**

Following conclusion of the hearing, the Hearing Officer will render as to whether the Respondent is responsible or not responsible for the alleged violation(s). The Hearing Officer will use “preponderance of the evidence” as the standard of proof to determine whether each alleged violation of the Policy occurred. “Preponderance of the evidence” means that the Hearing Officer must determine whether, based on the evidence presented, it is more likely than not that the Respondent engaged in the conduct charged.

## **XIII. Notification of Decision**

The Hearing Officer or Decision Maker shall issue written notification simultaneously to the Complainant and Respondent of the determination as to whether the Respondent violated this policy. If the case involves a Title IX Category violation, the Hearing Officer will issue this written determination within seven (7) calendar days of the conclusion of the hearing. If the case involves only University Category violations, the Decision Maker will issue this written determination within seven (7) calendar days of receipt of the Investigation Report. This time may be extended, based on the complexity of the situation under consideration.

If the Hearing Officer or Decision Maker concludes that the Respondent is responsible for violation of this policy, then the Complainant and Respondent will be notified as such and will be permitted to submit a written impact statement to the Decision Maker for purposes of the determination of appropriate sanctions. The parties will have two (2) calendar days to submit their impact statement to the Decision Maker. The Decision Maker may consult with other University officials to determine any appropriate sanctions. The Decision Maker shall issue a written decision outlining the relevant factual findings supporting the determination, the decision and the appropriate sanctions, if any, as well as the rationale for the decision and sanctions. In most cases, this written decision will be issued within three (3) calendar days after the expiration of the time for the parties to submit impact statements, but this time may be extended if necessary. The written decision will also include information about the parties’ appeal rights.

The persons to whom the written decision shall be issued simultaneously are: the Investigator, the Respondent, the Complainant, if any, and the Faculty Review Committee if the Respondent is a faculty member. The Hearing Officer or Decision Maker shall also forward copies of the parties’ written impact statements, if any, to the Investigator and the Faculty Review Committee if the Respondent is a faculty member. In addition, the Hearing Officer or Decision Maker shall forward the decision to any University officials the Hearing Officer or Decision Maker believes should be made aware of the decision.<sup>14</sup>

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<sup>14</sup> If the Complainant or Respondent is a faculty member, the Hearing Officer or Decision Maker shall not issue a decision until after the earlier of his or her receipt of the Faculty Review Committee’s comments/recommendations or the expiration of the five (5) calendar day Faculty Review Committee Investigation Report comment period. If the Hearing Officer or Decision Maker or Appeals Officer remands such investigation to the Investigator or another Investigator for further action, upon completion of the revised Investigation Report, the Investigator shall deliver the revised Investigation Report to the Faculty Review Committee, which shall have a new five (5) calendar day period within which to provide their

## Sanctions for Violating this Policy<sup>15</sup>

Those found to have violated this Policy will be subject to disciplinary action. The University may impose any of the following sanctions:

- Warning
- Probation
- Restriction(s) to address impact of incident (e.g., to avoid contact with individual or to avoid certain location(s), to provide that other party may have priority in selecting courses or housing, etc.)
- Community service
- Restriction of access to University facilities
- Loss of privileges and access to University activities (including participation in athletics and other student organizations)
- Removal from student housing
- Suspension from school (for one or more semesters)
- Expulsion
- Revocation of honors or awards
- Revocation of degree
- Suspension from University employment
- Termination of University employment<sup>16</sup>

In determining the appropriate sanction, the Decision Maker will consider a variety of factors including: the specific misconduct at issue, the circumstances surrounding the lack of consent (e.g. whether force, threat, coercion or intentional incapacitation were involved), the Respondent's state of mind (e.g. knowing, reckless, intentional, etc.), the impact of the misconduct on the Complainant, the Respondent's prior disciplinary history, the risk that the Respondent will engage in Sex-Based Misconduct again and the Respondent's conduct during the pendency of the investigation, and any information provided in the parties' impact statements.

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comments/recommendations with respect to such revised Investigation Report to the Hearing Officer or Decision Maker.

<sup>15</sup> If this Policy's process results in a sanction of termination of University employment of a tenured faculty member, the termination decision is subject to further process and review in accordance with the Faculty Handbook's Academic Dismissal Procedure.

<sup>16</sup> Pursuant to the Faculty Handbook, procedures governing sex-based misconduct complaints brought against faculty members by individuals who are not faculty members are set forth in this document with the exception that should the sex-based misconduct process involve a hearing, the hearing body shall be the appropriate Faculty Council Grievance Committee.

For those crimes of violence that Pace University is required by federal law to include in its Annual Security Report, the transcripts of students found responsible after a hearing and appeal, if any, shall include the following notation:

- Suspended after a finding of responsibility for a code of conduct violation;
- Expelled after a finding of responsibility for a code of conduct violation; or
- Withdrew with conduct charges pending.

Transcript notations for suspensions may be removed at the discretion of the University, but no earlier than one (1) year after the conclusion of the suspension. Information about contacting the Registrar's Office is available at this link: [Contact the Registrar Office](#). Transcript notations for expulsion will not be removed.

## **XIV. Appeals**

Within five (5) calendar days of the date of receipt of the Decision, the Complainant or the Respondent may file a written appeal to the Title IX Coordinator, which appeal will be decided by the appropriate Appeal Officer(s) listed in the Complaint Procedure Diagram. The appeal must include a detailed statement setting forth the ground(s) upon which the appeal is based. The sole grounds upon which a party may base an appeal are as follows:

- Procedural irregularity that affected the determination regarding responsibility or dismissal of the matter;
- New evidence that was not reasonably available at the time the determination regarding responsibility or dismissal was made that could affect the determination regarding responsibility or dismissal of the matter;
- The Investigator, Hearing Officer/Decision Maker was biased or had a conflict of interest that may have affected the investigation or decision;
- The finding of responsibility or no responsibility was not consistent with the preponderance of the evidence standard; and/or
- The sanction is disproportionate to the violation.

Within three (3) calendar days of receiving a timely appeal, the Title IX Coordinator shall forward the appealing party's submission to the other party who shall have five (5) calendar days to submit a written response. Thereafter, the Title IX Coordinator will forward to the Appeal Officer(s) the case-related material, including: (i) the Investigation Report, (ii) copies of the parties' written impact statements, if any, (iii) the decision made by the Hearing Officer/Decision Maker; and (iv) the Hearing Officer's/Decision Maker's written communications to the Complainant and Respondent informing each of the outcome of the investigation. Within seven (7) days of receiving the case material, the Appeal Officer(s) shall decide the appeal and issue a written appeal decision, with the burden on the appealing party to prove one or more of the limited grounds for appeal by a preponderance of the evidence. The Appeal Officer(s) shall issue the written appeal decision simultaneously to the Investigator, the Hearing Officer/Decision Maker, the Complainant and the Respondent. The time in which the Appeal Officer(s) will issue this written

appeal decision may be extended, based on the complexity of the situation under review. The Appeal Officer(s) may affirm the decision in whole or in part, modify the decision, reverse the decision or send it back to the Investigator or Hearing Officer/Decision Maker for further investigation and/or consideration. In addition, the Appeal Officer(s) shall forward the appeal decision to any University officials the Appeal Officer(s) believes should be made aware of the appeal decision. Unless the Appeal Officer(s) sends the decision back for further investigation, the appeal decision is final. When a decision is sent back to the Investigator for further investigation, the Investigator shall issue a revised Investigation Report, which the Complainant and Respondent shall have an opportunity to review (Title IX cases only), and the Hearing Officer/Decision Maker will consider the new information and render a new decision. The parties will then have an opportunity to appeal that decision in accordance with the procedure set forth above.<sup>17</sup>

## **XV. Application to Faculty and Staff**

One or more of the University's personnel policies or faculty and staff handbook policies may overlap with this policy in a particular situation. The University will apply this policy to any sex-based misconduct situation, including one involving faculty and staff, where the University determines that Title IX requires the application of this policy.

## **XVI. Miscellaneous Provisions**

- All time periods may be extended by the University for good cause shown.
- The University reserves the right to use this policy to adjudicate other allegations of misconduct as defined by policies outside of the scope of this policy in instances when the conduct arises out of the same incidents and/or allegations. The Title IX Coordinator will address these consolidated reports in collaboration and coordination with other appropriate offices, including Student Affairs and Human Resources.
- The Title IX Coordinator will serve as the centralized record keeper of records concerning complaints and investigations. Additional records concerning complaints and investigations may also be maintained by the Vice President for Human Resources and University Counsel.

## **XVII. Policy for Alcohol and/or Drug Use Amnesty**

The health and safety of every student at Pace is of utmost importance. The University realizes that students who have been drinking and/or using drugs (whether such use is voluntary or involuntary) at the time that violence, including but not limited to domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, or sexual assault occurs may be hesitant to report such incidents due to fear of potential consequences for their

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<sup>17</sup> For matters related to dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking, the University will notify the parties once the results become final. Upon request, the university will disclose the results of any disciplinary proceeding conducted by the institution against a student who is the alleged perpetrator of any crime of violence or a non-forcible sex offense to the alleged victim and next of kin if the victim is deceased.

own conduct. Pace strongly encourages students to report domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, or sexual assault to University officials. A student bystander or student incident participant acting in good faith, who reports or discloses any incident of domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, or sexual assault to Pace University officials or law enforcement will not be subject to the University's code of conduct action for violations of alcohol and/or drug use policies occurring at or near the time of the commission of the domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, or sexual assault, in accordance with the University's [Drug and Alcohol Use Amnesty Policy \(PDF\)](#).

## **XVIII. University Duty to Report Crime Statistics**

The University has a duty to report data about various forms of Sex-Based crimes in accordance with *The Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Act* (Clery Act). No personally identifiable information is disclosed, but statistical information is disclosed as part of its daily crime log and as part of the University's Annual Security Report. The information to be shared includes the date, location type (residence hall, public property, off-campus, etc.) and specific crime category.

The University may also be required to issue a timely warning to the University community when it receives a report of certain crimes that pose a serious or continuing threat. Such warning will not include any personally identifying information about the victim.

Because the University is under a continuing obligation to address the issue of Sex-Based Misconduct campus-wide, reports of Sex-Based Misconduct (including non-identifying reports) will also prompt the University to consider broader remedial action—such as increased monitoring, supervision or security at locations where the reported Sex-Based Misconduct occurred; increasing education and prevention efforts, including to targeted population groups; conducting climate assessments/victimization surveys; and/or revisiting its policies and practices.

## **XIX. Records Disclosure**

Disciplinary proceedings conducted by the University are subject to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), a federal law governing the privacy of student information. FERPA generally limits disclosure of student information outside the University without the student's consent, but it does provide for release of student disciplinary information without a student's consent in certain circumstances.

Students should be aware, however, that information collected during the investigation process may be subpoenaed in civil or criminal proceedings. [Additional information about the University's FERPA policies can be found online.](#)

## **XX. Policy Administration**

The Title IX Coordinator is responsible for ensuring the University's compliance with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 and for administering this Policy and Procedure. The Title IX Coordinator is Bernard Dufresne, who can be reached at (212) 346-1310 or [bdufresne@pace.edu](mailto:bdufresne@pace.edu).

The Title IX Coordinator is available to answer any questions that members of the University community may have about this Policy and Procedure and to assist them in gaining access to available resources. Any student with a complaint that the University failed to comply with Title IX may make a complaint to: [US Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights.](#)

## **XXI. Delegation of Authority**

Any University administrator or official empowered by this policy, may delegate his or her authority to any other appropriate University official. Delegation of authority may be necessary to avoid conflicts of interest or where time constraints or other obligations prevent a University official named in this policy from fulfilling his or her designated role.

## **Student's Bill of Rights in Cases Involving Sexual Assault, Domestic/Dating Violence and Stalking**

The following is a list of rights outlined by New York State, and included in Pace University's procedures for students who experience sexual assault, domestic, dating or, intimate partner violence, or stalking. The Office of Institutional Equity and Title IX Compliance is here to assist all parties in understanding their rights related to sex-based misconduct.

All students have the right to:

- Make a report to local law enforcement and/or state Police;
- Have disclosures of domestic violence, dating violence, stalking and sexual assault treated seriously;
- Make a decision about whether or not to disclose a crime or violation and participate in the judicial or conduct process and/or criminal justice process free from pressure by Pace University;
- Participate in a process that is fair, impartial and provides adequate notice and a meaningful opportunity to be heard;
- Be treated with dignity and to receive from the University courteous, fair and respectful health care and counseling services, where available;
- Be free from any suggestion by a University official that the reporting individual is at fault when these crimes and violations are committed, or should have acted in a different manner to avoid such crimes or violations;
- Describe the incident to as few institution representatives as practicable and not be required to unnecessarily repeat a description of the incident;
- Be protected from retaliation by Pace, any student, the accused and/or the Respondent and/or their friends, family and acquaintances within the jurisdiction of Pace;
- Access to at least one level of appeal of a determination;
- Be accompanied by an Advisor of choice who may assist and advise a reporting individual, accused or Respondent throughout the judicial or conduct process including during all meetings and hearings related to such process; and
- Exercise civil rights and practice of religion without interference by the investigative, criminal justice or judicial or conduct process of Pace University.

## Statement of Rights in Cases Involving Sexual Assault, Domestic/Dating Violence and Stalking

Anyone reporting an incident of sexual assault, domestic or dating violence or stalking has the right to:

- A. Notify Campus Security, Local Law Enforcement or the New York State Police;
- B. Emergency access to a Title IX Coordinator or other appropriate official trained in interviewing victims of sexual assault who shall be available upon the first instance of disclosure by a reporting individual and who can provide information, including:
  - 1) options to proceed, including the right to make a report to Campus Safety (reports to Campus Safety are reported to the Title IX Coordinator), Local Law Enforcement and/or the New York State Police or choose not to report; to report the incident to the University; to be protected by the University from retaliation for reporting an incident; and to receive assistance and resources from the University, as set out in the Pace University Sex-Based Misconduct Policy and Procedure;
  - 2) where applicable, the importance of preserving evidence and obtaining a sexual assault forensic examination as soon as possible;
  - 3) that the criminal justice process utilizes different standards of proof and evidence than the University's misconduct procedures and that any questions about whether a specific incident violated the penal law should be addressed to law enforcement or to the District Attorney;
  - 4) whether the person they are reporting to is authorized to offer confidentiality or privacy; and
  - 5) any other reporting options;
- C. If they are a student, to contact the University's Health Care Unit and University Counseling Center, where they may be offered confidential resources pursuant to applicable laws and can be assisted in obtaining services for reporting individuals; or to contact non-University confidential resources, including the New York State Office of Victim Services at 1(800) 247-8035 or [visit the Office of Victim Services website](#).
- D. Disclose confidentially the incident and obtain services from the state or local government;
- E. Disclose the incident to the University's Responsible Employees who can offer privacy or, in appropriate cases determined by the Title IX Coordinator, confidentiality, subject to the University's Sex-Based Misconduct Policy and Procedure, and can assist in obtaining resources for reporting individuals;
- F. File a report of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence and/or stalking and consult the Title IX Coordinator and other appropriate University personnel for information and assistance. Reports shall be investigated in accordance with University policy. A reporting individual's identity shall remain private if that is what the reporting individual wishes, however privacy is

not the same as confidentiality and private information can be shared as necessary to implement and fulfill the University's obligations under the law and its policies and procedure

- G. Disclose, if the accused is a University employee, the incident to Human Resources or to request that a confidential or private employee assist in reporting to Human Resources;
- H. Receive assistance from appropriate University representatives if interested in initiating legal proceedings in family court or civil court, such assistance to consist of facilitation in contacting appropriate local agencies who can provide direct assistance with court proceedings; and
- I. Withdraw a complaint or involvement from the University processes at any time, with the understanding that in appropriate cases, the University may nonetheless be required to proceed even if the reporting individual does not wish to do so.

# INTAKE/COMPLAINT OVERVIEW

