

# Proposed R&P Changes related to the University Committee on Discipline and the Disciplinary Appeals Committee

Relevant Documents outside of R&P: <http://www.lehigh.edu/go/codeofconduct>

## (1) Proposed New Text

**1.3.5.1 (Delete Current Text)**

**1.3.3.3 (Delete Current Text)**

### **1.3.5.1 (Replacement text) University Student Conduct Committee**

The University Student Conduct Committee shall be composed of 2 Faculty members from each college and 4 elected from the faculty at large. The committee shall also have 10-15 undergraduate students (chosen by the Dean of Students Office in consultation with the current student members of the University Committee on Discipline and the faculty chairperson of the University Committee on Discipline), and 3-5 graduate students (chosen by the Dean of Students Office in consultation with the Graduate Student Senate and the faculty chairperson of the University Committee on Discipline), and 10-12 administrators appointed by the Vice Provost for Student Affairs from the Student Affairs professional staff). This committee will be trained on all aspects of the University's Student Conduct Process and members will serve on hearing panels and appeals committee panels, (for cases that they did not hear as UCOD panel members).

## (2) PROPOSED NEW TEXT WITH MARKUP

Text in 1.3.3.3 and 1.3.5.1 will be deleted

## (3) ORIGINAL TEXT

### **Current text of 1.3.3.3 (to be deleted)**

1.3.3.3 University Disciplinary Appeals Committee (See the Lehigh University Student Code of Conduct, Article XI, Section III, Subsection A.)

A. Composition. The Disciplinary Appeals Committee shall consist of ten university faculty members, four undergraduate students, and two graduate students. Undergraduate student Committee members shall be chosen by the Dean of Students Office, and Graduate Student Committee members by the Dean of Students Office in consultation with the Graduate Student Senate. Graduate or Undergraduate students can be used to hear an appeal by any student regardless of standing. Faculty shall be elected, 20 two members from each of the five colleges. Faculty shall serve staggered three-year terms, and students shall be appointed for one-year terms. At the discretion of the Conduct Officer additional student members who are approved by the Dean of Students Office and, in the case of graduate students, by the Dean of Students Office and the Graduate Student Senate, may be selected to serve as alternates.

### **Current text of 1.3.5.1 (to be deleted)**

1.3.5.1 University Committee on Discipline (See the Lehigh University Student Code of Conduct, Article X, Section I, Subsection E.) 2.

Composition. The committee shall be composed of fifteen undergraduate students, (chosen by the Dean of Students Office in consultation with the current student members of the University Committee on Discipline and the faculty chairperson of the University Committee on Discipline), three graduate students (chosen by the Dean of Students Office in consultation with the Graduate Student Senate and the faculty chairperson of the University Committee on Discipline), twelve members of the university faculty (two elected by the University faculty at large and two from each of the college faculties), and seven administrators (appointed by the Vice Provost for Student Affairs from the Student Affairs professional staff). Faculty shall be elected for three-year staggered terms. Students shall be selected for one-year renewable terms. Administrators shall be appointed for three year renewable terms. The Conduct Officer shall have the authority to appoint alternate members for student and administrative representatives to ensure the committee's ability to function.

#### **(4) EXPLANATION FOR NEEDED CHANGE**

- 1) This decreases the number of faculty members who are needed for these committees to the number actually needed by the Office of Student Conduct
- 2) Having appeals heard by community members who serve on hearing panels makes the system more fair and provides for better context for appeals.
- 3) It allows the faculty members who are elected to serve on the University Conduct Committee to actually get to serve. Currently there are so many faculty members that some people never get to actually utilize their training.

#### **(5) EXPLANATION FOR WHY CHANGE ADDRESSES ISSUE**

Currently the two committees related to student conduct (UCOD and the Disciplinary Appeals Committee) are large and not everyone involved is able to actively participate. These changes make faculty involvement in student conduct matters more efficient.

#### **(6) PROPOSAL HISTORY**

- Introduction to Faculty Senate Executive Committee on September 13, 2024

#### **(7) PROPOSED IMPLEMENTATION DATE**

July 1, 2025, to meet approval deadlines of the Faculty Senate and the BOT and align with July 1 publishing of the Student Handbook.

#### **(8) IMPACTS ON OTHER PARTS OF R&P**

There should be no impact on other portions of R&P.

NOTE: Currently, we have 21 faculty members on the University Committee on Discipline and the Disciplinary appeals committee. Only 2 of them are up for replacement at the end of the 2024-2025 academic year. We propose that we maintain the membership of the University Committee on Discipline as is, direct the RCEAS to elect the vacant position from their college, and ask one member of the appeals committee to serve as the vacant at-large position.

## Other Changes to the Code of Conduct that do not impact R&P

### Article III, Section I

#### Part A. 1:

##### Current:

The use of any unauthorized assistance in taking quizzes, tests, examinations, or any other assignment used for academic evaluation.

##### 2025-2026

The use of any unauthorized assistance in taking quizzes, tests, examinations, or any other assignment used for academic evaluation. This includes the use of technology such as generative AI beyond what is allowed by the instructor.

#### Part B:

##### Current:

The direct use or paraphrase, of the work, themes or ideas, of another person without full and clear acknowledgment.

Submitting the work of another as one's own in any assignment (including papers, tests, labs, homework, computer assignments, or any other work that is evaluated by the instructor).

##### 2025-2026

The direct use or paraphrase, of the work, themes or ideas, of another person without full and clear acknowledgment. *Note in this context, "person" can refer to generative AI depending on what is allowed by the instructor.*

Submitting the work of another as one's own in any assignment (including papers, tests, labs, homework, computer assignments, or any other work that is evaluated by the instructor). *Note: In this context, "another" can refer to generative AI depending on what is allowed by the instructor.*

#### Rationale for this change:

We have had an increase in the number of cases related to the use of generative AI outside what is permitted by the instructor in a course. This language is meant to tighten up the Code of Conduct to ensure that it is clear to students that the use of AI can be considered academic dishonesty.

## Article VII, Section IV

### Part D.

#### Current:

**Disciplinary Termination.** Termination is the permanent loss of University recognition. Termination includes the loss of privilege to use the University's name or represent it in any capacity. The group or organization also loses all privileges to use University equipment or facilities. The hearing/adjudication body shall make a recommendation for termination to the Vice Provost for Student Affairs, who will normally implement the recommendation. If the Vice Provost for Student Affairs decides not to terminate the group or organization, the organization shall be dissolved for 10 years.

#### 2025-2026

**Disciplinary Termination.** Termination is the permanent loss of University recognition. Termination includes the loss of privilege to use the University's name or represent it in any capacity. The group or organization also loses all privileges to use University equipment or facilities. If the student organization chooses not to submit an appeal, the University Conduct Committee will review this sanction to ensure that it is not unduly harsh. If the University Conduct Committee finds that the sanction is unduly harsh, a 10 year dissolution will be imposed.

#### Rationale for this change:

This brings the process inline with what we do for expulsions of individual students and takes an individual decision maker out of the process.