#### CHAPTER 5: STUDENT SERVICES ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE NO. 5520

#### COLLEGE OF THE SISKIYOUS

# **Procedure Manual**

**Title:** Student Discipline Procedures

Revision Date: 11/09; April 10, 2014; September 23, 2014;

November 10, 2015; November 8, 2016; October 2020

Responsible Area: Vice President, Student Services

Responsible Office: Student Life

Policy Reference: BP 5035, 5500; Education Code Section 66017, 66300, 72122,

76030, and 76030 et seq.; California Penal Code 626.4

The purpose of this procedure is to provide a prompt and equitable means to address violations of the Standards of Student Code of Conduct which guarantees to the student or students involved the due process rights guaranteed them by state and federal constitutional protections. This procedure will be used in a fair and equitable manner, and not for purposes of retaliation. It is not intended to substitute for criminal or civil proceedings that may be initiated by other agencies.

These Administrative Procedures are specifically not intended to infringe in any way on the rights of students to engage in free expression as protected by the state and federal constitutions, and by Education Code Section 76120, and will not be used to punish expression that is protected.

For discipline resulting from a sexual harassment complaint under Title IX, the procedure in AP 3434 Responding to Harassment Based on Sex under Title IX, must be used.

## Section included in this procedure use these headings:

I. Definitions

II. Authority For Student Code

III. Expected Conduct

IV. Sanctions

V. Discipline Overview

VI. Discipline Process

VII. Appeals

VIII. Presidential Review/Decision

IX. Expulsion And Degree/Certificate Revocation

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X. Discipline Involving Student Groups

XI. Interpretation And Revision

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#### **L.**—DEFINITIONS

1. The term "College" or "District" - means The College of the Siskiyous.

2. The term "student" includes Student - Any person currently enrolled as a student at any college or in any program offered by the District who was already enrolled at the time of the alleged violation of the Standards of Student Conduct, all persons taking courses at the College, either full time or part time, including persons taking part in community services (feebased) offerings. Persons who withdraw after allegedly violating the Student Code, are considered "students." Theis Standards of Student Condeuct does applies y at all locations of the College, including the campus in Yreka, California, online courses and College sponsored events.

3. The term "faculty member Instructor - " means any Any academic employee of the District in whose class a student subject to discipline is enrolled, or counselor who is providing or has provided services to the student, or other academic employee who has responsibility for the student's educational program.

<u>Student Conduct Administrator</u> – College official authorized on a case-by-case basis by the <u>Designated Administrator or designee</u>. This individual may impose sanctions upon any student(s) found to have violated the Standards of Student Conduct.

<u>Short-term Suspension</u> – Exclusion of the student by the President for good cause from one or more classes for a period of up to ten consecutive days of instruction.

<u>Long-term Suspension</u> – Exclusion of the student by the President for good cause from one or more classes for the remainder of the school term, or from all classes and activities of the college for one or more terms.

<u>Expulsion</u> – Exclusion of the student by the Board of Trustees from all colleges in the District for one or more terms.

Removal from class – Exclusion of the student by an instructor for the day of the removal and the next class meeting.

Written or verbal reprimand – An admonition to the student to cease and desist from conduct determined to violate the Standards of Student Conduct. Written reprimands may become part of a student's permanent record at the college. A record of the fact that a verbal reprimand has been given may become part of a student's record at the college for a period of up to one year.

<u>Withdrawal of Consent to Remain on Campus – Withdrawal of consent by the Student Conduct Administrator for any person to remain on campus in accordance with California Penal Code Section 626.4 where the Student Conduct Administrator has reasonable cause to believe that such person has willfully disrupted the orderly operation of the campus.</u>

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<u>Day – Days during which the District is in session and regular classes are held, excluding</u> Saturdays and Sundays.

Short-term Suspensions, Long-term Suspensions, and Expulsions: Before any disciplinary action to suspend, or expel is taken against a student, the following procedures will apply:

- Notice The Student Conduct Administrator will provide the student with written notice of the conduct warranting the discipline. The written notice will include the following:
  - the specific section of the Standards of Student Conduct that the student is accused of violating.
  - o a short statement of the facts supporting the accusation.
  - o the right of the student to meet with the Student Conduct Administrator or designee to discuss the accusation, or to respond in writing.
  - o the nature of the discipline that is being considered.
- Time limits The notice must be provided to the student within [number of days] of the date on which the conduct took place; in the case of continuous, repeated, or ongoing conduct, the notice must be provided within [number of days] of the date on which conduct occurred which led to the decision to take disciplinary action.
- Meeting If the student chooses to meet with the Student Conduct Administrator, the meeting must occur no sooner than [number of days] after the notice is provided. At the meeting, the student must again be told the facts leading to the accusation, and must be given an opportunity to respond verbally or in writing to the accusation.

Short-term Suspension – Within [number of days] after the meeting described above, the President shall, pursuant to a recommendation from the Student Conduct Administrator, decide whether to impose a short-term suspension, whether to impose some lesser disciplinary action, or whether to end the matter. Written notice of the President's decision shall be provided to the student. The notice will include the length of time of the suspension, or the nature of the lesser disciplinary action. The President's decision on a short-term suspension shall be final.

Long-term Suspension – Within [number of days] after the meeting described above, the President shall, pursuant to a recommendation from the Student Conduct Administrator, decide whether to impose a long-term suspension. Written notice of the President decision shall be provided to the student. The notice will include the right of the student to request a formal hearing before a long-term suspension is imposed, and a copy of AP 5520 Student Discipline Procedures describing the procedures for a hearing.

Expulsion – Within [ number of days ] days after the meeting described above, the President shall, pursuant to a recommendation from the Student Conduct Administrator, decide whether to recommend expulsion to the Board of Trustees. Written notice of the President's decision shall be provided to the student. The notice will include the right of the student to request a formal hearing before expulsion is imposed, and a copy of AP 5520 Student Discipline Procedures

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describing the procedures for a hearing.

**Hearing Procedures** – Request for Hearing.

Within 10 days after receipt of the President's decision regarding a long-term suspension or expulsion, the student may request a formal hearing. The request must be made in writing to the President or designee.

<u>Schedule of Hearing</u> – The formal hearing shall be held within 10 calendar days after a formal request for hearing is received.

Student Conduct Board Hearing Panel—The Student Conduct Board hearing panel for any disciplinary action shall be composed of one faculty member, one staff member, and one student.

The President, the president of the Academic Senate, and the Associated Students president shall each, at the beginning of the academic year, establish a list of at least five persons who will serve on sStudent Conduct Boards disciplinary hearing panels. The President shall appoint the hearing panelStudent Conduct Board from the names on these lists. However, no administrator, faculty member, or student who has any personal involvement in the matter to be decided, who is a necessary witness, or who could not otherwise act in a neutral manner shall serve on a hearing panelStudent Conduct Board.

Hearing PanelStudent Conduct Board Chair – The President shall appoint one member of the panel to serve as the chair. The decision of the hearing panelStudent Conduct Board chair shall be final on all matters relating to the conduct of the hearing unless there is a vote by both other members of the panel to the contrary.

#### **Conduct of the Hearing**

The members of the hearing panelStudent Conduct Board shall be provided with a copy of the accusation against the student and any written response provided by the student before the hearing begins.

The facts supporting the accusation shall be presented by a college representative who shall be the Student Conduct Administrator.

The college representative and the student may call witnesses and introduce oral and written testimony relevant to the issues of the matter.

Formal rules of evidence shall not apply. Any relevant evidence shall be admitted.

Unless the hearing panelStudent Conduct Board determines to proceed otherwise, the college representative and the student shall each be permitted to make an opening statement. Thereafter, the college representative shall make the first presentation, followed by the student. The college representative may present rebuttal evidence after the student completes his/her/their evidence.

**Commented [YZC1]:** Timelines may be determined by the CCD. Five days is usual

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The burden shall be on the college representative to prove by the preponderance of the evidence that the facts alleged are true.

The student may represent himself/herself/themself, and may also have the right to be represented by a person of his/her/their choice, except that the student shall not be represented by an attorney unless, in the judgment of the hearing panelStudent Conduct Board, complex legal issues are involved. If the student wishes to be represented by an attorney, a request must be presented not less than five days prior to the date of the hearing. If the student is permitted to be represented by an attorney, the college representative may request legal assistance. The hearing panelStudent Conduct Board may also request legal assistance; any legal advisor provided to the panel may sit with it in an advisory capacity to provide legal counsel but shall not be a member of the panel nor vote with it.

Hearings shall be closed and confidential unless the student requests that it be open to the public. Any such request must be made no less than [number of days] prior to the date of the hearing.

<u>In a closed hearing, witnesses shall not be present at the hearing when not testifying, unless all parties and the panel agree to the contrary.</u>

The hearing shall be recorded by the District either by tape recording or stenographic recording. The official recording shall be the only recording made. No witness who refuses to be recorded may be permitted to give testimony. In the event the recording is by tape recording, the hearing panelStudent Conduct Board chair shall, at the beginning of the hearing, ask each person present to identify themselves by name, and thereafter shall ask witnesses to identify themselves by name. Tape recording shall remain in the custody of the District at all times, unless released to a professional transcribing service. The student may request a copy of the tape recording.

All testimony shall be taken under oath; the oath shall be administered by the hearing panelStudent Conduct Board chair. Written statements of witnesses under penalty of perjury shall not be used unless the witness is unavailable to testify. A witness who refuses to be tape recorded is not unavailable.

Within [ number ] days following the close of the hearing, the hearing panelStudent Conduct Board shall prepare and send to the President a written decision. The decision shall include specific factual findings regarding the accusation, and shall include specific conclusions regarding whether any specific section of the Standards of Student Conduct were violated. The decision shall also include a specific recommendation regarding the disciplinary action to be imposed, if any. The decision shall be based only on the record of the hearing, and not on matter outside of that record. The record consists of the original accusation, the written response, if any, of the student, and the oral and written evidence produced at the hearing.

#### President's Decision:

<u>Long-term suspension</u> — Within [ <u>number of days</u> ] following receipt of the <u>hearing</u> <u>panelStudent Conduct Board</u>'s recommended decision, the President shall render a final written

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decision. The President may accept, modify, or reject the findings, decisions and recommendations of the hearing panelStudent Conduct Board. If the President modifies, or rejects the hearing panelStudent Conduct Board's decision, the President shall review the record of the hearing, and shall prepare a new written decision which contains specific factual findings and conclusions. The decision of the President shall be final.

Expulsion — Within [ number of days ] following receipt of the hearing panelStudent Conduct Board's recommended decision, the President shall render a written recommended decision to the Board of Trustees. The President may accept, modify, or reject the findings, decisions and recommendations of the hearing panelStudent Conduct Board. If the President modifies, or rejects the hearing panelStudent Conduct Board's decision, he/she/they shall review the record of the hearing, and shall prepare a new written decision which contains specific factual findings and conclusions. The President's decision shall be forwarded to the Board of Trustees.

**Board of Trustees Decision:** The Board of Trustees shall consider any recommendation from the President for expulsion at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board after receipt of the recommended decision.

The Board shall consider an expulsion recommendation in closed session, unless the student has requested that the matter be considered in a public meeting in accordance with these procedures. (Education Code Section 72122.)

The student shall be notified in writing, by registered or certified mail to the address last on file with the District, or by personal service, at least three days prior to the meeting, of the date, time, and place of the Board's meeting.

The student may, within 48 hours after receipt of the notice, request that the hearing be held as a public meeting.

Even if a student has requested that the Board consider an expulsion recommendation in a public meeting, the Board will hold any discussion that might be in conflict with the right to privacy of any student other than the student requesting the public meeting in closed session.

The Board may accept, modify, or reject the findings, decisions and recommendations of the President or the hearing panelStudent Conduct Board. If the Board modifies or rejects the decision, the Board shall review the record of the hearing, and shall prepare a new written decision which contains specific factual findings and conclusions. The decision of the Board shall be final.

The final action of the Board on the expulsion shall be taken at a public meeting, and the result of the action shall be a public record of the District.

Immediate Interim Suspension (Education Code Section 66017): The President may order immediate suspension of a student where he/she/they concludes that immediate suspension is required to protect lives or property and to ensure the maintenance of order. In cases where an

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interim suspension has been ordered, the time limits contained in these procedures shall not apply, and all hearing rights, including the right to a formal hearing where a long-term suspension or expulsion is recommended, will be afforded to the student within ten (10) days.

Removal from Class (Education Code Section 76032): Any instructor may order a student removed from his/her/their class for the day of the removal and the next class meeting. The instructor shall immediately report the removal to the President and the Student Conduct Administrator. The Student Conduct Administrator shall arrange for a conference between the student and the instructor regarding the removal. If the instructor or the student requests, the Student Conduct Administrator shall attend the conference. The student shall not be returned to the class during the period of the removal without the concurrence of the instructor. Nothing herein will prevent the Student Conduct Administrator from recommending further disciplinary procedures in accordance with these procedures based on the facts which led to the removal.

Withdrawal of Consent to Remain on Campus: The Student Conduct Administrator may notify any person for whom there is a reasonable belief that the person has willfully disrupted the orderly operation of the campus that consent to remain on campus has been withdrawn. If the person is on campus at the time, he/she/they must promptly leave or be escorted off campus. If consent is withdrawn by the Student Conduct Administrator a written report must be promptly made to the President.

The person from whom consent has been withdrawn may submit a written request for a hearing on the withdrawal within the period of the withdrawal. The request shall be granted not later than seven days from the date of receipt of the request. The hearing will be conducted in accordance with the provisions of this procedure relating to interim suspensions.

In no case shall consent be withdrawn for longer than [number of days, no more than 14 days] from the date upon which consent was initially withdrawn.

Any person as to whom consent to remain on campus has been withdrawn who knowingly reenters the campus during the period in which consent has been withdrawn, except to come for a meeting or hearing, is subject to arrest (Penal Code Section 626.4).

**Time Limits**: Any times specified in these procedures may be shortened or lengthened if there is mutual concurrence by all parties.

- person serving in an academic position which is not designated as supervisory or management, and includes instructors, consultants, librarians, counselors, health service professionals, and disabled student programs and services professionals.
- The term "College official" includes any person employed by the College, performing assigned administrative or professional responsibilities.
- 5. The term "member of the College community" includes any person who is a student,

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- faculty member, College official or any other person employed by the College. A person's status in a particular situation shall be determined by Designated Administrator.
- The term "College Friend" is any member of the College community. This individual serves to provide support and cannot provide input at the hearing.
- 7. The term "College premises" includes all land, buildings, facilities, and other property in the possession of or owned, used, or controlled by the College.
- 8. The term "student organization" means any number of students who have complied with the formal requirements for College recognition/registration as a student organization.
- 9. The term "Student Conduct Board" means any persons authorized by the Designated Administrator to determine whether a student has violated the Student Code and to recommend sanctions that may be imposed when a rules violation has been committed. The Student Conduct Board shall be composed of one faculty member, one staff member and one student. Each member of a Student Conduct Board shall verify to the Designated Administrator that he/she has had no personal involvement in the matter to be decided and that he/she is prepared to provide an unbiased consideration of the matter. A procedural officer will also be present to assist with the procedural process.
- 10. The term "College Hearing Officer" means a College administrator (may not be the Student Conduct Administrator) authorized by the Designated Administrator to determine whether a student has violated the Student Code and to recommend sanctions that may be imposed when a rules violation has been committed. The College Hearing Officer shall verify to the Designated Administrator that he/she has had no personal involvement in the matter to be decided and that he/she is prepared to provide an unbiased consideration of the matter.
- 11. The term "Student Conduct Administrator" means a College official authorized on a case by case basis by the Designated Administrator or his/her designee. This individual may impose sanctions upon any student(s) found to have violated the Student Code subject to applicable appeal processes.
- 12. The term "Appeals Body" means any person or persons authorized by the Designated Administrator to consider an appeal as described in section VII.
- 13. The term "shall" is used in the imperative sense.
- 14. The term "may" is used in the permissive sense.
- The Designated Administrator is that person designated by the College President to be responsible for the administration of the Student Code of Conduct.
- 16. The term "policy" means the written Board policies and administrative regulations of the

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College as found in, but not limited to, the Student Code, Lodge Handbook, the College web page and computer use policy, and Catalogs.

- 17. The term "Complainant" means any person who submits a charge alleging that a student violated the College's Student Code. When a student believes that s/he has been a victim of another student's misconduct, the student who believes s/he has been a victim will have the same rights under this Student Code of Conduct as are provided to the Complainant, even if another member of the College community submitted the complaint.
- 18. The term "Accused Student" means any student accused of violating the College's Student Code of Conduct.
- The term "Day" means day during which the College is in session and regular classes are held, excluding Saturdays and Sundays.

#### H. AUTHORITY FOR STUDENT CONDUCT

- A. The Student Conduct Administrator shall determine the composition of Student Conduct
  Boards and determine which Student Conduct Board or College Hearing Officer, and
  Student Conduct Administrator shall be authorized to hear each matter. The Designated
  Administrator shall determine the composition of the Appeals Body.
- B. The Designated Administrator shall develop protocols for the administration of the student conduct system and procedural rules for the conduct of Student Conduct Board or College Hearing Officer Hearings as appropriate to supplement this procedure.

## HI. EXPECTED CONDUCT

A. Jurisdiction of the Student Code of Conduct

The Student Code of Conduct shall apply to conduct that relates to College activity or College attendance, including conduct that occurs on College premises and at College sponsored activities. Each student shall be responsible for his/her conduct while on campus or at a College sponsored activity, even though conduct may occur before classes begin or after classes end, as well as during the academic year and during periods between terms of actual enrollment, The Student Code of Conduct shall apply to a student's conduct even if the student withdraws from school while a disciplinary matter is pending.

B. Student Code of Conduct Rules and Regulations

Refer to Board Policy 5500

C. Violation of Law and College Discipline

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- Proceedings under this Student Code may be carried out prior to, simultaneously with, or
  following civil or criminal proceedings off campus at the discretion of Designated
  Administrator. Determinations made or sanctions imposed under this Student Code shall
  not be subject to change because criminal charges arising out of the same facts giving rise
  to violation of College rules were dismissed, reduced, or resolved in favor of or against
  the criminal law defendant.
- 2. When a student is charged by federal, state, or local authorities with a violation of law, the College will not request or agree to special consideration for that individual because of his or her status as a student. If the alleged offense is also being processed under the Student Code, the College may advise off campus authorities of the existence of the Student Code and of how such matters are typically handled within the College community. The College will cooperate with law enforcement and other agencies in the enforcement of criminal law on campus and in the conditions imposed by criminal courts for the rehabilitation of student violators (provided that the conditions do not conflict with campus rules or sanctions).

#### IV. SANCTIONS

- A. The following sanctions may be imposed upon any student found to have violated the Student Code:
- Warning A verbal notice to the student that the student is violating or has violated the College's conduct code and that a continuation or repetition of the conduct may lead to further disciplinary action. This warning should be documented by the individual providing the notice.
- Written Reprimand A written statement notifying the student that he/she has violated the College's conduct code.
- Disciplinary Probation —A written reprimand for violation of a specified provision of the College's conduct code that invokes probation for a designated period of time and includes the probability of more severe disciplinary sanctions if the student violates any provision of the College's conduct code during the probationary period.
- Loss of Privileges Denial of specified privileges that do not involve restrictions on class attendance for a designated period of time.
- Fines Previously established and published fines may be imposed.
- Restitution Compensation for loss, damage, or injury to College property or to instructional materials or instructional equipment if the loss or damage to instructional

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materials/equipment results from the misconduct of a student. This may take the form of appropriate service and/or monetary or material replacement. Pursuant to Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations, section 59410 and BP 5035, students who fail to provide the required restitution will have their grades, transcripts, diplomas, and registration privileges withheld until the financial obligation to the College is satisfied.

- Discretionary Sanctions Work assignments, essays, service to the College, or other related discretionary assignments that are appropriate to remedy a violation of the College's Conduct Code or serve as an educational lesson in response to such a violation.
- Removal from Class or Instruction Related Activity An instructor or a faculty member who is assigned to supervise a class related activity may remove a student from his/her class or instructional activity for the day of the removal and the next class or activity meeting. The removal shall be reported immediately to the Student Conduct Administrator. The student shall not be permitted to return to the class or the instructional activity during the period of removal without the concurrence of the instructor or the instructional supervisor. Removals shall be considered excused absences provided the student can make up the required course work while subject to removal.
- Withdrawal of Consent to Remain on Campus Withdrawal of consent by the Designated Administrator for any person to remain on campus in accordance with California Penal Code 626.4 where the Designated Administrator has reasonable cause to believe that such person has willfully disrupted the orderly operation of campus.
- Lodge Suspension Separation of the student from the Lodges for a definite period of time for violation of the terms of the student's lodge agreement or for violation of the College's conduct rules that impact continued presence in the Lodges, after which the student is eligible to return. Conditions for readmission may be specified.
- Lodge Expulsion Permanent separation of the student from the Lodges for continued or serious violations of the student's lodge agreement or for violation of the College's conduct rules.
- Summary or Interim Suspension Immediate suspension, pending an opportunity for a hearing within 10 days, where immediate suspension is required to protect lives or property and to ensure the maintenance of order.
- In certain circumstances, the Designated Administrator, or a designee, may impose a College or lodge suspension prior to the Student Conduct Hearing.
- a. Interim suspension may be imposed only: 1) to ensure the safety and well-being of members of the College community or preservation of College property; 2) to ensure the student's own physical or emotional safety and well-being; or 3) if the student poses an ongoing threat of disruption of, or interference with, the normal operations of the

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#### College.

- b. During the interim suspension, a student shall be denied access to the lodges and/or to the campus (including classes) and/or all other College activities or privileges for which the student might otherwise be eligible, as the Designated Administrator or the Student Conduct Administrator may determine to be appropriate.
- e. The interim suspension does not replace the regular process, which shall proceed on the normal schedule, up to and through a Student Conduct Hearing, if requested. However, the student and Superintendent/President should be notified in writing of this action and the reasons for the suspension. The notice should include the time, date, and place of a subsequent hearing at which the student may show cause why his or her continued presence on the campus does not constitute a threat.
- 13. College Suspension Separation of the student from the College and/or activities of the College for a definite period of time, after which the student is eligible to return. One or more of the following may apply:
- a. From one or more classes for a period of up to 10 days of instruction.
- b. From one or more classes for the remainder of the school term.
- e. From all classes and activities of the community college for one or more terms.
- 14. College Expulsion Permanent separation of the student from the College.
- 15. Revocation of Degree or Certificate A degree or certificate awarded from the College may be revoked for fraud, misrepresentation, or other violation of College standards in obtaining the degree or certificate.
- 46. Withholding Degree or Certificate The College may withhold awarding a degree or certificate otherwise earned until the completion of the process set forth in this Student Conduct Code, including the completion of all sanctions imposed, if any, if allegations of misconduct concern or affect the student's entitlement to the degree or certificate.
- B. More than one of the sanctions listed above may be imposed for any single violation.
- C. Student Opportunity to Respond. Prior to the issuance of a warning, reprimand, notice of disciplinary probation, or 2-day removal or to any sanction that does not remove the student from College classes or activities, the person issuing the sanction shall determine that the alleged conduct at issue is prohibited by the Conduct Code and provide the student with the opportunity to respond regarding the alleged conduct.

Students who are subject to disciplinary action notice and an opportunity to respond as detailed in Section VII of this procedure.

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D. Whenever a student's record includes information concerning disciplinary action taken by the College, the student shall be allowed to include in his/her student record a written statement or response concerning the disciplinary action.

#### V. DISCIPLINE OVERVIEW

- A. Warnings or written reprimands may be issued by faculty or by administrative personnel.

  Where alleged misconduct is more serious or recurring and significant discipline is at issue, such as suspensions, the administration will implement disciplinary processes.
- B. If the conduct is deemed serious or recurring the Student Conduct Administrator is authorized to investigate, or provide for the investigation of allegations, of serious or recurring misconduct and to provide an accused student with the first level of hearing to give the student an opportunity to respond to allegations. The Student Conduct Administrator may impose discipline that shall be final unless the student makes a timely request for a Student Conduct Hearing. The Student Conduct Administrator will arrange for a Student Conduct Hearing with either a Student Conduct Board or a College Hearing Officer. The Student Conduct Hearing provides the student with an opportunity to address the allegations. The hearing body will make findings of fact and recommendations for actions.
- C. If the hearing body finds that the student violated the College's conduct rules and recommends discipline, the Student Conduct Administrator will review the matter. The Student Conduct Administrator can accept the findings and recommendations of the hearing body or review the hearing record and make his/her own findings and a decision regarding discipline.
- D. Recommendations of expulsion, withholding or revocation of a degree or certificate, resulting from a hearing body will be referred for Board of Trustees review, because only the Board can expel a student. (See section IX of this procedure)

# VI. DISCIPLINE PROCESS

Any member of the College community may file charges against a student for violations of the Student Code. A charge shall be prepared in writing and directed to the Student Conduct Administrator. Any charge should be submitted as soon as possible after the person filing charges has knowledge of the alleged misconduct.

B. Removal from a class or program involves the following steps:

The student is informed that he/she is removed from the class or program. If the student refuses to leave, the police may be called.

A report is submitted to the appropriate Dean or Director.

The instructor discusses the situation with the Dean or Director to determine an appropriate action. Action may include removal for up to two class meetings or for the remainder of

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#### the term.

If permanent removal is recommended, a Student Conduct Hearing will be scheduled by the Student Conduct Administrator if requested by the student (see "Student Conduct Procedure"). Until the process is completed:

The student may not attend class

The student may not be dropped from the class or program

- C. The Student Conduct Administrator may conduct an investigation to determine if the charges have merit and/or if they can be disposed of administratively by mutual consent of the parties involved on a basis acceptable to the Student Conduct Administrator. Such disposition shall be final and there shall be no subsequent proceedings. Any resolution reached under this provision shall be in writing and shall be binding on the student involved. If the student admits violating College rules, but sanctions are not agreed to, subsequent process, including a hearing if necessary, shall be limited to determining the appropriate sanction(s).
- D. All charges that are not resolved by mutual consent shall be presented to the accused student in written form. The notice shall include a description of the alleged misconduct, the specific provision(s) of the Student Conduct Code that the student is alleged to have violated, a short statement of the facts supporting the accusation, and the hearing meeting details. The notice shall include an overview of these procedures and reference to access for the full text. Nothing prohibits the College from amending the notice as the College deems appropriate.
- A time shall be set for a Student Conduct Hearing not less than one (1) nor more than ten (10) calendar days after the student has been notified. Maximum time limits for scheduling of Student Conduct Hearings may be extended at the discretion of the Student Conduct Administrator.
- If an accused student, with notice, does not appear for a Student Conduct Hearing, the information in support of the charges shall be presented and considered even if the Accused Student is not present.
- If prior to the scheduled hearing, the student provides the Student Conduct Administrator with a satisfactory explanation for the student's inability to attend a scheduled hearing, the Student Conduct Administrator may reschedule the hearing.
- E. Student Conduct Hearings shall be conducted by a Student Conduct Board or by a College Hearing Officer according to the following guidelines:
- Student Conduct Hearings normally shall be conducted in private. At the beginning of the hearing, the Hearing Chair will administer an oath to all parties who will testify.

  The Complainant, Accused Student and their College friend, if any, shall be allowed to attend the

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entire portion of the Student Conduct Board Hearing at which information is received (excluding deliberations). The Complainant and/or the Accused Student is responsible for presenting his or her own information, and therefore, the College Friend is not permitted to speak or to participate directly in any Student Conduct Hearing. A student should select a College friend whose schedule allows attendance at the scheduled date and time for the Student Conduct Hearing because delays will not normally be allowed due to the scheduling conflicts of an advisor. Admission of any other person, such as an attorney if complex issues are involved, to the Student Conduct Board Hearing shall be at the discretion of the Student Conduct Board or College Hearing Officer and/or the Student Conduct Administrator.

- In Student Conduct Hearings involving more than one Accused Student, the Student Conduct Administrator, at his or her discretion, may permit the Student Conduct Hearings concerning each student to be conducted either separately or jointly.
- The Complainant, the Accused Student and the Student Conduct Board or College Hearing
  Office may arrange for witnesses to present pertinent information at the Student Conduct
  Hearing. The College will try to arrange the attendance of possible witnesses who are
  members of the College community, if reasonably possible, and who are identified by the
  Complainant and/or Accused Student at least two weekdays prior to the Student Conduct
  Hearing. Witnesses will provide information to and answer questions from the Student
  Conduct Board or College Hearing Officer. Questions may be suggested by the Accused
  Student and/or Complainant to be answered by each other or by other witnesses. This
  will be conducted by the Student Conduct Board or College Hearing Officer with such
  questions directed to the chairperson of the Student Conduct Board or to the College
  Hearing Officer, rather than to the witness directly. This method is used to preserve the
  educational tone of the hearing and to avoid creation of an adversarial environment.
  Questions of whether potential information will be received shall be resolved in the
  discretion of the chairperson of the Student Conduct Board or the College Hearing
  Officer.
- All witnesses will be excluded from the hearing except when they are testifying. No witness who refuses to be recorded may be permitted to testify.
- Relevant records, exhibits, and written statements may be accepted as information for consideration by a Student Conduct Board or the College Hearing Officer at the discretion of the chairperson or the College Hearing Officer.
- All procedural questions are subject to the final decision of the chairperson of the Student Conduct Board or the College Hearing Officer.
- At the conclusion of the Student Conduct Board Hearing, all relevant information has been received; the Student Conduct Board or College Hearing Officer shall determine (by majority vote if the Student Conduct Board is used) whether the Accused Student has violated each section of the Student Code which the student is charged with violating.

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The Student Conduct Board's or College Hearing Officer's determination shall be made on the basis of substantial evidence that it is more likely than not that the Accused Student violated the Student Code. (i.e. there is a preponderance of evidence.)

Formal rules of process, procedure, and/or technical rules of evidence, such as are applied in eriminal or civil court, are not used in Student Conduct proceedings.

- F. There shall be a record, such as a digital recording or notes, of all Student Conduct Hearings (not including deliberations). Deliberations shall not be recorded. The record shall be the property of the College. The official recording shall be the only recording made. Students may have access to the tape recording or notes in the college office only (may not be removed).
- G. The Student Conduct Board or College Hearing Officer may accommodate concerns for the personal safety, well-being, and/or fears of confrontation of the Complainant, Accused Student, and/or other witness during the hearing if direct confrontation of witnesses creates an unreasonable risk of psychological or physical harm. Accommodation of such concerns may be addressed by providing separate facilities, by using a visual screen, and/or by permitting participation by telephone, videophone, closed circuit television, video conferencing, videotape, audio tape, digital recording, written statement, or other means, where and as determined in the sole judgment of Designated Administrator to be appropriate. Any testimony that is not subject to the direct examination of an Accused Student shall only be admitted if the witness signs under penalty of perjury that the testimony is true.
- H. The findings of fact and recommendations for action shall be forwarded to the Student Conduct Administrator who shall assign the final sanctions and provide written notification to the Accused Student, and provide a copy the College President.

#### VII. APPEALS

Findings of fact or a sanction recommended by a Student Conduct Board or College Hearing
Officer may be appealed by the Accused Student(s) to the College President within two
(2) regular work (M-F) days of the delivery of the findings and recommendations to the
student. Such appeals shall be in writing and shall be delivered to the College President
or his or her designee.

An accused student may request the Superintendent/President to review findings or a sanction recommended as a result of the Student Conduct Hearing only if the student provides a

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written statement detailing the following:

#### **Due Process:**

Specific instances or conduct that the accused student claims resulted in a Student Conduct Hearing that was not conducted fairly in light of the charges and information presented, and that denied the Accused Student a reasonable opportunity to prepare and to present a response to the allegations. Deviations from the designated procedures will not be a basis for sustaining an appeal unless significant prejudice to the accused student regulate.

#### **New Information:**

New information, sufficient to alter a factual finding or recommendation not brought out in the original hearing, because such information was not known to the accused student at the time of the original Student Conduct Hearing. Information shall not be considered "new information" if the student could have learned of the information by avenues reasonably available to him/her or if the "new information" is mere conjecture, speculation, or conclusory assertions.

If the Superintendent/President determines that the accused student has met the standard of (1) or (2) above, the President shall order the Student Conduct Administrator to remedy the problem identified by the student. If the problem cannot be remedied the President may order a new hearing following the same process as described for the Student Conduct.

If an appeal is not upheld, the president shall proceed with their review and decision (see section VIII of this procedure).

The decision on appeal shall be reached within five (5) days after receipt of the appeal documents. Copies of the Superintendent/President's appeal decision shall be sent to the student and the presiding officer of the Student Conduct Board or to the College Hearing Officer who conducted the Student Conduct Hearing.

#### VIII. PRESIDENT'S REVIEW AND DECISION

The Superintendent/President shall accept, modify or reject the findings and recommendations of the Student Conduct Board or College Hearing Officer. If the President modifies or rejects the findings or recommendations, the President shall review the record of the hearing, and shall prepare a new written decision which contains specific factual findings and conclusions. The President's decision shall be final except as to expulsions or revoking degrees

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#### IX. EXPULSIONS AND DEGREE/CERTIFICATE REVOCATIONS

- Expulsions and Degree/Certificate Revocations. If a recommendation is to expel the student, or revoke or withhold a degree, the matter shall be considered by the Board of Trustees at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board after receipt of the recommended decision.
- When an expulsion has been recommended, the Superintendent/President may suspend the student pending action by the Board. The Board of Trustees shall consider an expulsion recommendation in closed session, in accordance with these procedures. (Education Code Section 72122)
- The student shall be notified in writing, by registered or certified mail or by personal service, at least three (3) days prior to the meeting, of the date, time, and place of The Board of Trustees meeting.
- The student may, within forty-eight hours after receipt of the notice, request that the hearing be held as a public meeting.
- Even if a student has requested that The Board of Trustees consider an expulsion recommendation in a public meeting, The Board of Trustees will hold any discussion that might be in conflict with the right to privacy of any student other than the student requesting the public meeting in closed session.
- The Board of Trustees may accept, modify or reject the findings and recommendations of the Student Conduct Board, College Hearing Officer or the Superintendent/President. If the Board modifies or rejects the findings or recommendations, the Board shall review the record of the hearing, and shall prepare a new written decision which contains specific factual findings and conclusions. The decision of the Board shall be final.
- The final action of The Board of Trustees on the expulsion or revocation or withholding of a degree shall be taken at a public meeting, and the result of the action shall be a public record of the District in accordance with obligations related to student education records.

#### X. DISCIPLINE INVOLVING STUDENT GROUPS

- A. The following sanctions may be imposed upon student groups or organizations:
- 1. Those relevant sanctions listed in section IV of this procedure.
- Loss of selected rights and privileges for a specified period of time.
- Deactivation. Loss of all privileges, including College recognition, for a specified period of time.
- B. Allegations that a student group or organization has collectively violated a rule or student conduct or that a group or organization has violated any terms that authorize the establishment of the group or organization or has violated any conditions of operation shall be initially reviewed by the Student Conduct Administrator who shall have authority to impose sanctions on the group or organization that do not involve penalties lasting longer than the balance of the current term and a subsequent full term. No sanctions shall be imposed until the Student Conduct Administrator has provided the group or

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organization with a written statement of the allegations and given the group or organization an opportunity to respond In cases where the

Student Conduct Administrator recommends sanctions lasting longer than the balance of the current term and a subsequent full term, the Student Conduct Administrator shall establish a neutral body to hear relevant evidence regarding the allegations. The neutral body shall make recommendations to the President who shall have sole authority to take final action.

#### XI. INTERPRETATION AND REVISION

Any question of interpretation or application of the Student Code shall be referred to the Designated Administrator or his or her designee for final determination.

The Student Code shall be reviewed every five (5) years under the direction of the Student Conduct Administrator.