

SUBJECT: STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES AND RIGHTS

I. PURPOSE: To provide a policy that delineates student responsibilities and rights and a process for addressing student violations of the Policy.

II. POLICY:

A. Student Conduct

Students of Southern Utah University share with many others a vital interest in the essential mission of their college. True to its founders and motto, "Learning Lives Forever," Southern Utah University is a center of learning where students prepare in knowledge and self-discipline for the responsibility to make, as free men and women, a worthy contribution to the social, cultural, and economic progress their forefathers thus far advanced. This purpose forges a compelling bond of common interest among all administrators, faculty members, students, alumni, and fellow citizens of the region and state--who share the responsibility for cooperative action and support to fulfill it.

B. On the commitment to this aim by everyone that shares it, rests the future of Southern Utah and the opportunity this institution provides. For this reason, each student is expected to uphold and improve the partnership in his/her University for the sake of those to come, by the conduct that respects the rights and interest of others in common endeavor. This code is designed to provide basic standards for student conduct to ensure the fulfillment of the obligation stated above.

C. As citizens of the larger community in which the University is located, students have all the responsibilities which devolve upon any citizen. While the University is deeply concerned with what happens to students both on and off the campus and is willing to assist students in need of help, the University holds students to be adults responsible for their own actions and subject to local, state, and national laws.

D. Students who violate expected standards of conduct will be subject to disciplinary action. Incidents occurring on the campus, or of primary concern to the University, will usually be handled by appropriate University agencies. Incidents occurring away from the campus will usually be under the jurisdiction of local authorities. Students should be aware, however, that the campus is not a sanctuary and that local law enforcement officials have authority to intervene when circumstances warrant. Moreover, University officials can call on outside peace officers for assistance when, in their judgment, such assistance is needed.

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11. Violation of published University rules and regulations; failure to comply with the directives of a Universit

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- B. Each of these bodies--whose functions are described below--has a dual responsibility: (1) to maintain the safety and integrity of all members of the University community through upholding campus policy and civil law, and (2) to safeguard the rights of all students, including those charged with violations of expected standards of conduct.

- C. In all hearings before University Disciplinary agencies, the principles of fair play and due process are followed. All persons present at the hearings

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- D. In all hearings, it is assumed that a student charged with violation of University regulations is innocent of charges until proven guilty. A finding of innocent or guilty shall be based on a preponderance of the evidence. A preponderance of the evidence is defined as "the greater weight of the credible evidence." A student will not be compelled to testify at his/her own hearing, and failure to do so will not be considered as evidence of his/her guilt or proof of facts detrimental to his/her position. If a student does not appear before the judicial body responsible for hearing his/her case after he/she has been properly notified of the hearing, the case will be heard in his/her absence and action rendered on the basis of evidence available. All hearings are closed to persons not specifically authorized by the board chairperson as a means of protecting the privacy of individuals and the

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