Identifying & Responding to Student Misconduct

Portions of information taken/adapted from "Managing Student Incivility and Misconduct in the Learning Environment" coauthored by Karen M. Whitney, PhD and Susan Luparell, PhD, ANCS-BC. CNE

Misconduct in the learning environment may take on any number of variations from those perceived to be annoying up to criminal in nature. Information below identifies possible types of behaviors, examples, and possible solutions. Please feel free to contact the Office of Judicial & Mediation Services at any time if you have questions related to behaviors impacting the learning environment or Clarion University Police for direct criminal activity.

Three Basic Types of Student Misconduct in the Learning Environment

- 1. Annoying Acts
- 2. Administrative Violations
- 3. Criminal Conduct (Also could be an Administrative Violation

Examples under each category

1. Annoying Acts

- a. Sleeping in class
- b. Talking in class with others
- c. Discourteous
- d. Uncooperative
- e. Late to class
- f. Early exits from class
- g. Poor hygiene
- h. Eating or drinking
- Use of cell phones & other electronic devices for non academic pursuits

2. Administrative Violations

a. Academic Integrity based violations including plagiarism, falsification of data, cheating, collusion, etc.

- b. Other Dishonesty including making false accusations, forgery, alterations or misuse of any university document, alteration of records, misuse of identification
- c. Disorderly conduct including loud outbursts, altercations which may be physical, obscene language, or creating a situation hazardous to others
- d. Actions disrupting the academic process
- e. Failure to comply with directions for authorized university officials

3. Criminal Conduct

- a. Threats of Violence against self or others
- b. Actions that endanger oneself or others in the university community
- c. Physical or verbal abuse
- d. Possession of a firearm
- e. Conduct that is lewd indecent, or obscene
- f. Intimidation, harassment (sexual or otherwise), stalking behaviors
- g. Alcohol or drug possession or sale
- h. Visibly intoxicated or under the influence of controlled substances
- i. Theft

Addressing Misconduct

1. Annoying Acts

- a. These behaviors are best addressed directly with the student by a Faculty Member or Staff member. It is advisable to address these concerns privately with the student.
- b. Many students may not be aware of the disruptive nature of these behaviors, or, had been permitted to exhibit these behaviors prior to coming to college and are under the assumption that they are acceptable in the learning environment.
- c. It is likely no action beyond directly addressing these issues would be required.

2. Administrative Violations

- a. These behaviors by be addressed directly by the Faculty Member or Staff member but likely require additional notification.
- b. It would appropriate to notify the Department Chair and the Office of Judicial & Mediation Services related to these behaviors. The Dean

- of that College may also require notification related to Academic Integrity based concerns.
- c. Concerns related to the wellbeing of a student or members of the community should be submitted to the Behavioral Assessment Referral Team (BART) at www.clarion.edu/bart.

3. Criminal Conduct

- a. Conduct which may be criminal should be addressed by Clarion University Police by contacting them at (814) 393-2111 or to 911 directly.
- b. Notifications should be conveyed to your supervisor and to the Office of Judicial and Mediation Services.
- c. Timely notifications may be key related to criminal conduct.

For more information please go to the following:

- 1. Visit www.clarion.edu/bart for more information related to the Behavioral Assessment Referral Team or to submit a referral for review.
- 2. Visit www.clarion.edu/440 for information related to Clarion University Police, safety on campus, and reporting of criminal activity. There is also an anonymous crime reporting link on that page. Specific statists and information related to criminal activity may be found at www.clarion.edu/crimestats.
- 3. Visit www.clarion.edu/studentrights for comprehensive listings of the Student Code of Conduct and Compliance manual which includes information related to the sexual harassment policy, controlled substances and alcohol, sexual assault, and specific university and local resources for students, faculty, and staff.

***A cheat sheet is provided related to identifying and reporting criminal activity ***

What to do if criminal activity is reported to you.

The following information details the reporting of disclosed criminal activity including but not limited to sexual assault, rape, child abuse, domestic partner abuse, molestation, and/or stalking to officials, including University Police, by staff and faculty members at Clarion University of Pennsylvania.

Reports to Faculty and Staff are generally provided verbally by an eyewitness or a survivor of an event, witnessed by a Faculty or Staff member, or by way of a written disclosure in an e-mail or during an assigned writing.

Faculty or Staff should:

- 1. Faculty or Staff should ask "Do you feel safe right now?" if a student reports being abused. Faculty or Staff should contact Clarion University Police at 814-393-2111 or 911 if they do not feel safe.
- 2. Faculty or Staff should determine if this disclosure of criminal activity occurred in the past, is occurring currently, or is an ongoing series of criminal activities.
- 3. Faculty or Staff should call University Police at 814-393-2111 or 911 if the person is in immediate or eminent danger related to current criminal activity or ongoing activity.
- 4. Faculty or Staff should contact Counseling Services at 814-393-2255 if the reported activity is not an immediate threat including past events which continue to adversely affect their ability to be a student.
- 5. Call University Police at 814-393-2111 or 911 if you are not sure.

