

UCF-5.012 Organizational Rules of Conduct

Student organizations are expected to abide by these Organizational Rules of Conduct, and administrators and faculty are expected to enforce them. These rules should be read broadly and are not intended to define prohibited conduct in exhaustive terms. These rules may be revised during the year; announcements will be made on adoption of changes or additions. The right of all students to seek knowledge, debate ideas, form opinions, and freely express their ideas is fully recognized by the University of Central Florida, including when students come together as student organizations. The Organizational Rules of Conduct, set out below, apply to student organization conduct and will not be used to impose discipline for the lawful expression of ideas. The following is a non-exhaustive list of prohibited conduct for which disciplinary action may be taken at the University of Central Florida. The following offenses, or the aiding, assisting, condoning, or attempting to commit these offenses, constitute violations of the Organizational Rules of Conduct.

(1) Theft, Disregard for Property

- (a) Malicious or unwarranted damage or destruction of another's property;
- (b) Taking, attempting to take, or keeping in its possession property or services not belonging to the student organization.
- (c) Misuse or mishandling of organizational funds by any officer, member, or other individual.

(2) Possessing and/or Providing False and Misleading Information and/or Falsification of University Records

- (a) Withholding related information, or furnishing false, misleading, incomplete, or incorrect information (oral or written) to University officials, non-university law enforcement officers, faculty or staff.
- (b) Possession, use or attempted use of any form of fraudulent identification.
- (c) Forgery, alteration or misuse of any University document, material, file, record or instrument of identification.
- (d) Deliberately and purposefully providing false or misleading verbal or written information about another person.
- (e) Falsification, distortion, or misrepresentation of information during an investigation, the student conduct review process, including knowingly initiating a false complaint

(3) Disruptive Conduct

- (a) An act that impairs, interferes with, or obstructs the orderly conduct, processes, and functions of the University or any part thereof or the rights of one or more individuals.
- (b) Obstructing the free movement of other students around the campus, interfering with the use of University facilities, preventing the normal operation of the University; or conducting any event that interferes with the normal progress of academic events on campus.
- (c) Engaging in obscene or indecent conduct.
- (d) Failure to comply with the administrative policies as enacted by the University.
- (e) Failure to comply with the directions of University officials or authorized agents acting in the performance of their duties. Student organization officers and members shall comply with all directions or requests of University officials, University police officers or authorized agents in a timely manner.
- (f) Hindering or interfering with the Organizational Conduct Review Process by failing to obey the notice from a university official to appear for a student conduct meeting or hearing and/or attempting to discourage an individual's proper participating in, or use of, the Organizational Conduct Review Process.
- (g) Failure to comply with the student organization's constitution.
- (h) Participating in any event with a student organization that is currently on disciplinary probation (with restrictive conditions), has been suspended, or has had their UCF registration revoked.

(4) Harmful Behavior

- (a) Physical violence towards another person or group.
- (b) Harassment: Defined as conduct (including written or electronic communication) based on a protected category (such as race, color, religion, national origin, et al.) which, due to the severity and pervasiveness of the conduct and its targeted nature on the basis of a protected category, (i) has the purpose or effect of creating an objectively intimidating, hostile or offensive educational or work environment; and (ii) has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's

schooling or employment with the University. Harassment under this provision is conduct (verbal or physical behavior) that would constitute harassment under federal or state civil rights laws or under University Regulation UCF-3.001.

- (c) Bullying: Defined as behavior of any sort (including communicative behavior) directed at another, that is severe, pervasive, or persistent, and is of a nature that would cause a reasonable person in the target's position substantial emotional distress and undermine his or her ability to work, study, or participate in University life or regular activities, or which would place a reasonable person in fear of injury or death.
- (d) Verbal or written abuse, threats, intimidation, coercion and/or other conduct that endangers the health, safety or well-being of another person or group, or which would place a reasonable person in fear of bodily injury or death. This definition, however, shall not be interpreted to abridge the rights of the University community to freedom of expression protected by the First Amendment of the United States Constitution and any other applicable law.
- (e) Failure to respect the privacy of other individuals.
- (f) Retaliation against or harassment of Complainant(s), other person(s) alleging misconduct, or anyone who participates in an investigation of harassment.
- (g) Condoning or encouraging acts of harmful behavior as defined above or failing to stop an act of harmful behavior while it is occurring.

(5) Sexual Misconduct and/or Interpersonal Violence

- (a) Nonconsensual Sexual Conduct - Any nonconsensual sexual contact which occurs on or off the UCF campus.
 - 1. Sexual Contact – includes but is not limited to the following behaviors:
 - a. Touching, kissing, fondling (whether over or under clothing) of an individual for the purpose of sexual gratification; and/or
 - b. contact, however slight, between the mouth, anus or sex organ of one individual with either the anus or sex organ of another individual; and/or
 - c. contact, however slight, between the anus or sex organ of one individual and any other object.

2. Consent is an affirmative act or statement by an individual that is informed, freely given and mutually understood. Consent cannot be obtained by force, threat, coercion, manipulation, reasonable fear of injury, intimidation, use of position of influence, or through the use of one's mental or physical helplessness or incapacity. Lack of protest or resistance is not consent. Silence is not consent.
 - a. Responsibilities - It is the responsibility of each person involved in any sexual activity to ensure the consent of the other, or others, to engage in the sexual activity.
 - b. Standard - A determination of whether consent exists will be based on the information the initiator of the sexual act knew or should have known as a sober, reasonable person. Being intoxicated does not relieve an initiator of a sexual act from obtaining consent.
 - c. Incapacitation - If a person is mentally or physically incapacitated so that the person cannot understand the fact, nature, or extent of the sexual situation, there is no consent.
 - i. Incapacitation is a temporary or permanent state in which a person cannot make informed, rational judgments because the person lacks the physical or mental capacity to understand the nature or consequences of their words and/or conduct, and/or the person is unable to physically or verbally communicate consent.
 - ii. This includes but is not limited to conditions due to age, alcohol or drug consumption, being unconscious or asleep, or because of an intellectual or other disability that prevents the person from having the capacity to give consent.
 - d. Duration of Consent - Consent must be ongoing throughout sexual activity, for each sexual act, and can be withdrawn at any time.
 - i. Within each sexual encounter, there may be separate individual sexual acts involved. Consent to one act by itself

does not constitute to another act. If verbal consent is not given, ongoing active participation is required for consent.

- ii. The existence of a dating or sexual relationship between the persons involved, or the fact of past sexual relations is not indicator of consent for any current or future sexual encounter.
 - e. Scope of Consent - Consent to engage in sexual activity with one person does not imply consent to engage in sexual activity with another.
- (b) Sex Harassment: Conduct that would constitute sexual harassment under federal or state civil rights laws or under University Regulation UCF-3.001; including but not limited to unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, or other harassment based on sex which, due to the severity and pervasiveness of the conduct and the targeted nature of the conduct on the basis of sex (including but not limited to sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression and pregnancy), objectively prevents or impairs another person's full enjoyment of the educational benefits, employment, atmosphere, or opportunities provided as part of the University.
 - (c) Obscene or Indecent Behavior - Exposure of one's body in such a manner that another party reasonably could be offended or to display sexual behavior which another person reasonably finds offensive.
 - (d) Voyeurism - Trespass, spying, or eavesdropping for the purpose of sexual gratification.
 - (e) Solicitation of a Minor – soliciting sexual acts from a minor by oral, written, or electronic means.
 - (f) Child Pornography – possessing, producing or the dissemination of child pornography
 - (g) Stalking (sex-based): Repeated, unwanted conduct toward or contact with another person because of sex that creates fear for the person's safety or the safety of others, or causes an individual to suffer emotional distress. Such conduct is direct, indirect, or through a third party, using any type of action, method, or means. Cyber stalking is also included in this definition.

- (h) Condoning or encouraging acts of sexual misconduct and/or interpersonal violence defined above or failing to stop an act of sexual misconduct and/or interpersonal violence while it is occurring are also violations of this policy.
- (i) Any attempted of the acts defined above are also violations of this policy.

(6) Alcohol Related Misconduct

- (a) Use and/or possession of alcoholic beverages, except as expressly permitted by law and University regulations/policies.
- (b) Sale and/or distribution of alcoholic beverages, except as expressly permitted by the law and University regulations/policies.
- (c) Furnishing or causing to be furnished any alcoholic beverage to any person under the legal drinking age.
- (d) Behavior under the influence of alcohol.
- (e) Furnishing or causing to be furnished any alcoholic beverage to any person in a state of noticeable intoxication.
- (f) Failure of a student organization to take all necessary steps to see that no person under the legal drinking age possesses alcoholic beverages at functions it sponsors or within any property or transportation it owns, operates, and/or rents.
- (g) Alcohol Emergencies- University Expectations for Student Organizations. Student organizations may be eligible for exemptions from disciplinary action when a representative of an organization at a student organizational event calls for emergency assistance on behalf of a person experiencing an alcohol related emergency. Student organizations that seek medical assistance for alcohol emergencies may receive exemption for violations of the Organizational Rules of Conduct Section 6 subsections a through f; however, exemption for other Organizational Rule of Conduct violations may not be granted. Student organizations may be eligible for this exemption on a case by case basis at the discretion of the Director of the Office of Student Conduct. Additional information regarding alcohol emergencies can be found at the Office of Student Conduct website.

(7) Drug Related Misconduct

- (a) Use and/or possession of any narcotic or other controlled substances, and possession and/or use of drug paraphernalia, except as expressly permitted by law.
- (b) Sale and/or distribution of any narcotic or other controlled substances, except as expressly permitted by law.
- (c) Cultivation and/or manufacture of any narcotic or other controlled substances, except as expressly permitted by law.
- (d) Attempt to obtain any narcotic or other controlled substances, except as expressly permitted by law.

(8) Unauthorized Entry. Unauthorized entry, attempted entry, or loitering in private or restricted areas that are owned and/or operated by the University.

(9) Gambling

- (a) Play or sponsor of an unlawful game of chance for money or for anything of value on University premises or at any affair sponsored by a student organization.
- (b) Unlawful sale, barter, or disposition of a ticket, order, or any interest in a scheme of chance by whatever name on University premises or at any activity sponsored by a student organization
- (c) Wagering on a University team or organization in a competition, with or without intent to have a direct influence in the success of the competition

(10) Hazing- The University does not condone hazing in any form and defines hazing to include but not limited to:

- (a) Any action or situation which recklessly or intentionally endangers the mental or physical health and/or safety of a student for the purpose of initiation or admission into, or association with, any organization. Hazing may result in felony charges.
- (b) Brutality of a physical nature such as whipping, beating, branding, forced calisthenics, exposure to the elements; forced consumption of any food, liquor, liquid, drug, or other substances; or other forced elements; or other forced activity which could adversely affect the mental or physical health or safety of the individual.
- (c) Any activity that could subject the individual to mental or physical stress such as sleep deprivation, forced exclusion from social contact, forced contact which could

result in embarrassment, or any other activity that could adversely affect the mental or physical health or dignity of the individual.

- (d) Forcing or requiring the violation of University policies, federal, state, or local law.
- (e) Any activity, as described above, upon which the initiation or admission into or association with a student organization may be directly or indirectly conditioned, shall be presumed to be a "forced" activity, the willingness of an individual to participate in such an activity notwithstanding.

(11) Outstanding Debt. Failure to pay on and off campus vendors in a timely manner. Groups shall not knowingly enter into purchase or rental agreements that are beyond the resources of the organization's ability to pay. The University will not cover outstanding debts of student organizations.

(12) Use of Facilities. Failure to comply with University regulations and procedures for campus events and/or use of campus facilities or grounds. Those individuals acting on behalf of an organization that reserve facilities should check with the University department or office responsible for the facility to guarantee that all procedures have been followed.

(13) Fire Safety and Sanitation

- (a) Tampering with or damage to fire safety equipment.
- (b) Causing, condoning, or encouraging the creation of any situation involving incendiary or other chemicals or substances, explosives, or fire that reasonably may result in danger to another's person or property.
- (c) Possession or use of illegal fireworks, incendiary devices, or dangerous explosives.
- (d) Failure to properly maintain a student organization's facilities or property (or surrounding property) such that a potential danger to the health and safety of the occupants or members of the University and surrounding community is created.

(14) Advertising

- (a) Origination or circulation of any advertising media that contains matter that violates federal, state and/or local laws.
- (b) Origination or circulation of any advertising media containing false or misleading information.

(15) Solicitation and Fundraising. Failure to comply with applicable law and University regulations and procedures for solicitation and fundraising activities on campus.

(16) University Wordmark Violations. Unauthorized use of the University's name, abbreviation, trademarks or wordmarks, including the Pegasus, monograms, seal, or other graphic identity symbols. The phrases "UCF" or "University of Central Florida" (or some form thereof) cannot precede the title of the organization. This section refers to but is not limited to, the student organization's: domain name, web address, promotional materials, and uniforms/shirts.

(17) Academic Misconduct

- (a) Unauthorized academic assistance: Using or attempting to use unauthorized materials, information or study aids in any academic exercise unless specifically authorized by the instructor of record.
- (b) The unauthorized possession of examination or course related material.
- (c) Commercial Use of Academic Material: Selling notes, handouts, etc. without authorization or using them for any commercial purpose without the express written permission of the University and the Instructor.
- (d) Knowingly helping any student violate academic behavior standards.

(18) Violation of Local, State, and/or Federal Laws. Violation of any local, state and/or federal law that may result in a felony or misdemeanor.

Authority: BOG Regulations 1.001 and 6.0105. History – New 10-16-09, Amended 7-19-12, 9-3-13, 10-29-15, 7-28-16.