

Commission on Student Affairs Minutes

October 8, 2020

3:30 PM

Zoom

Present: Victoria Dashevsky, Amanda Coleman, Anisha Hari, Ariana Guevara, Awad Abdelhalim, Cam Roberts, Camellia Pastore, Conrad Briles, Danielle Panico, Frank Shushok, Grant Bommer, Heather Wagoner, Izu Elfaki, Jack Leff, James Bridgeforth, Jen Pike, Jes Davis, Kase Poling, Kayla Alward, Kenlee Andreu, Lauren Surface, Maruf Hoque, Nathaniel Soss, Reena, Sabrina Sturgeon, Sammy Bales, Steve Matuszak, Susanna Rinehart, Tara Frank

Absent: Adil Sageer, Ariana Labat, Chapman Pendery, Jessica Nguyen, Katherine Franz, Kimberly Smith, Spencer Hamilton, Tahreem Alam, Tim Lin

Guests: Dale Robinson, Ennis McCreery, Harrison Blythe, Tamara Cherry-Clarke

1. **Adoption of Agenda** - Victoria Dashevsky

Meeting was called to order at 3:32pm. A motion was made and seconded to adopt the agenda. The motion carried.

2. **Introductions** - Victoria Dashevsky

- a. James Bridgeforth, Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs and Experience VT
- b. Brief Introductions of CSA Members

3. **University Council and Commission Updates**

- a. University Council - Victoria Dashevsky
University Council met Monday, October 5th. Professor Bob Hicok presented the resolution for the first reading on the revisions for the Faculty Handbook. Full minutes and presentations can be found at: www.governance.vt.edu.
- b. Commission on Equal Opportunity and Diversity – Nathaniel Soss
No update.
- c. Academic Support Committee – Victoria Dashevsky
No update.

4. **Old Business**

None

5. **New Business**

- a. Policy 1025 Presentation – Harrison Blythe, Director of Compliance and Conflict Resolution
Harrison Blythe, Director of Compliance and Conflict Resolution gave a presentation on Opportunities for Community Input on Policy 1025: Virginia Tech's Anti-Discrimination Policy (attached). Copy of Policy 1025 (also attached).
- b. Conversation about lockdown browser and other test monitoring
There was not sufficient time left for this discussion, and therefore it will be added to the agenda for the next meeting on October 22.
- c. Editing UCSO Constitutions
Victoria shared that increase the effectiveness of UCSO constitutions that new procedures were put into place. First, a copy of the constitution should be made into a Google Doc. Second, the Google Doc should then be emailed to Victoria. Lastly, Victoria will then push out the constitution to all members for review.

If there are large, important edits, then it will come to CSA for a first, and second reading. If the edits are not grammatical, then it doesn't have to go through CSA, and CSA can have a single vote on it.

6. Adjournment - Victoria Dashevsky

There being no further business, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 5:00pm.

Next meeting is Thursday, October 22 @ 3:30pm.



Opportunities for Community Input on Policy 1025: Virginia Tech's Anti- Discrimination Policy

Office for Equity and Accessibility

equityandaccess@vt.edu



Office for Equity & Accessibility

Dr. Kelly Oaks

Assistant Vice President
Equity & Accessibility
2300 North End Center (0318)
300 Turner St, NE



We hold responsibility for the University's anti-discrimination policies.

- ADA & Accessibility
- Affirmative Action
- Civil Rights Compliance and Investigations
- Title IX Compliance (investigations & prevention)
- Education, Outreach & Conflict Resolution

Why do we have Policy 1025?

- Compliance with state and federal laws, regulations, and executive orders.
- Create consistency across the University in addressing **conduct that runs contrary to institutional values.**
 - Fair notice and agreement on rules.
 - Empowering some University official(s), office(s) or department(s) to respond to allegations that agreed upon rules were broken.

Roadmap: Review of Policy 1025

1. Review

- Values: What should Policy 1025 prohibit and require (beyond compliance obligations)?
- Clarity: How do we make rules and process more clear?

2. Address

- Led by the Office for Equity and Accessibility
- Working Group with stakeholders
- Goal: Revise as appropriate and necessary

3. Propose

- Propose revised version of Policy 1025 to commissions.
- Collect Feedback
- Finalize (University Council; BOV)

Policy 1025 Feedback

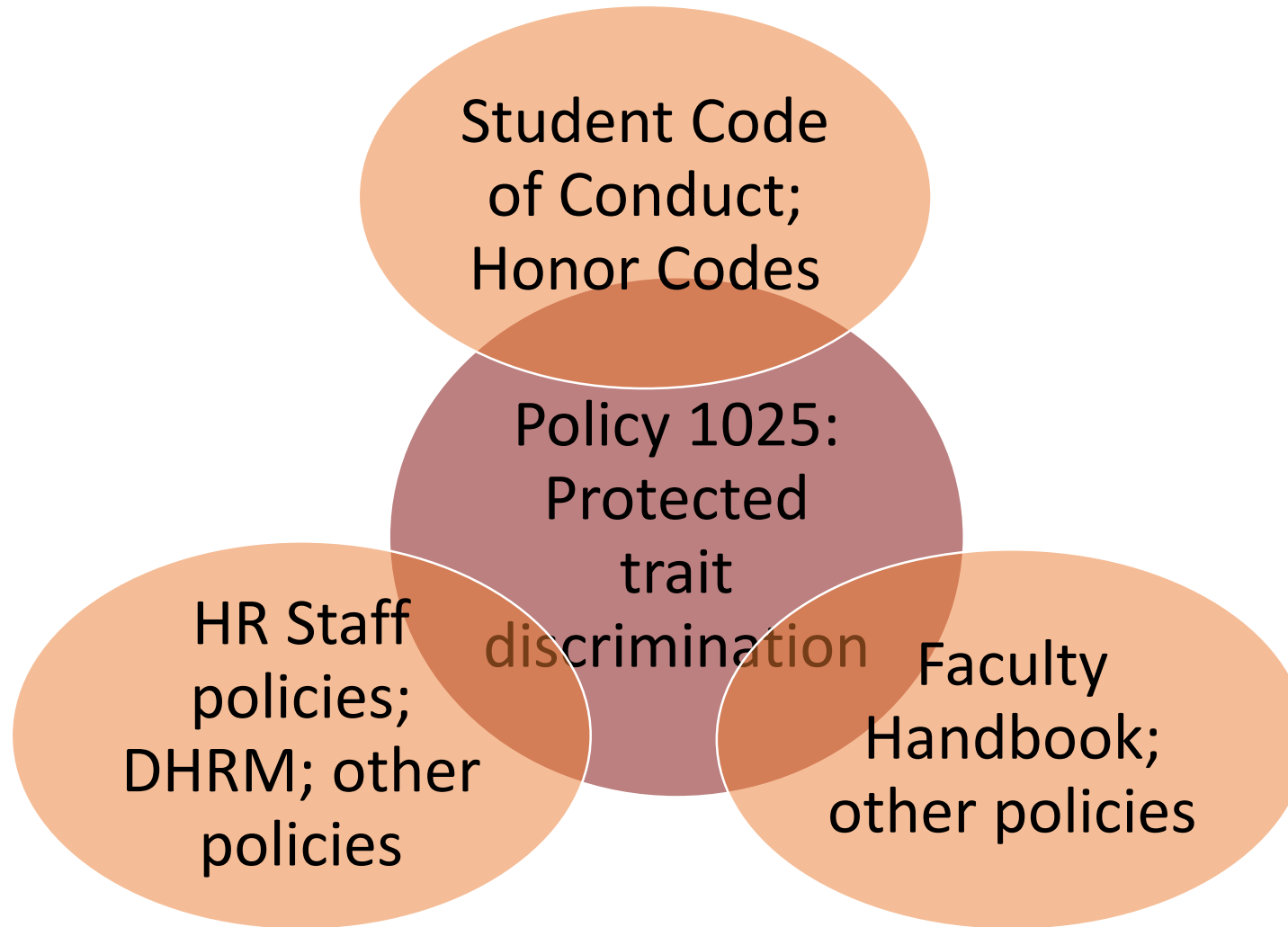
Substance: Are the rules clear?

- Is it clear what constitutes discrimination?
- Is it clear what constitutes harassment?

Process: Is the Policy clear on where to report concerns?

- Would you know from this Policy where to report concerns?
- Would you know which office or department would respond to those concerns?

Where do VT's rules about conduct come from?



What are the rules?

Policy Owner:
President Sands

Policy Author: *(Contact Person)*
Kelly Oaks
Kim O'Rourke

Affected Parties:
Undergraduate
Graduate
Faculty
Staff

1.0 Purpose
2.0 Policy
3.0 Scope

2.0 Policy

2.1 University Statement on Non-Discrimination

Virginia Tech does not discriminate against employees, students, or applicants on the basis of age, color, disability, sex (including pregnancy), gender, gender identity, gender expression, genetic information, national origin, political affiliation, race, religion, sexual orientation, or veteran status, or otherwise discriminate against employees or applicants who inquire about, discuss, or disclose their compensation or the compensation of other employees or applicants, or on any other basis protected by law.

2.2 Applicability of Non-Discrimination Statement

The prohibition against discrimination and harassment applies to all levels and areas of university operations and programs, to undergraduate and graduate students, administrators, faculty, staff, volunteers, vendors and contractors. Such behavior is inconsistent with the university's commitment to excellence and to a community in which mutual respect is a core value as articulated in the Virginia Tech Principles of Community.

What are the rules?

Current Definitions of Discrimination, Harassment, etc.

Discrimination and/or Harassment means conduct that conditions any element of a person's employment, enrollment as a student, receipt of student financial aid, or participation in university activities on that person's age, color, disability, sex (including pregnancy), gender, gender identity, gender expression, genetic information, national origin, political affiliation, race, religion, sexual orientation, or veteran status, unless otherwise permitted or required by applicable law. Virginia Tech does not otherwise discriminate against employees or applicants who inquire about, discuss, or disclose their compensation or the compensation of other employees or applicants nor on any other basis protected by law. Discrimination on the basis of sex in education programs and activities receiving federal financial funding as set forth in Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, as amended, is included in this definition of prohibited discrimination;

Conduct of any type (oral, written, graphic, electronic or physical) that is based upon a person's age, color, disability, sex (including pregnancy), gender, gender identity, gender expression, national origin, political affiliation, race, religion, sexual orientation, or veteran status and unreasonably interferes with the person's work or academic performance or participation in university activities, or creates a working or learning environment that a reasonable person would find hostile, threatening or intimidating; **and/or**

Conduct consisting of unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, or other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature when submission to such conduct is made, explicitly or implicitly, a term or condition of an individual's employment or education, or submission to or rejection of such conduct is used as a basis for employment or educational decisions affecting an individual.

What are the rules?

Mandatory Reporting . . .

4.1 Responsibilities of Administrators and Supervisors

University administrators, supervisors, and those performing instructional or academic advising duties have a responsibility to create and maintain a work and learning environment free of discrimination/harassment.

If an administrator, supervisor or individual with instructional responsibility becomes aware of an incident that might reasonably be construed as constituting discrimination/harassment, he or she must promptly contact the Office for Equity and Accessibility and coordinate with that office to take immediate steps to address the matter.

Administrators, supervisors and those with instructional responsibility should contact the Office for Equity and Accessibility whenever they learn—either directly or indirectly—about discrimination/ harassment. This obligation exists even if the complainant requests that no action be taken.

Administrators, supervisors and those with instructional responsibility (for their respective teaching obligation) have the legal responsibility to protect a complainant from continued discrimination, harassment or retaliation, including implementing interim measures necessary to protect the complainant. They must also protect persons accused of discrimination/ harassment from potential damage by false allegations. Administrators and supervisors will be held accountable for dealing with and taking necessary steps to prevent discrimination/harassment. It is not the responsibility of the complainant to correct the situation.

Employees are responsible for informing employees and students under their supervision of this policy and the name and contact information of the person responsible for addressing discrimination complaints covered under this policy.

What are the rules?

Comparators

- [Virginia Tech](#): Non-discrimination statement + “This prohibition against discrimination and harassment applies to all levels. . .”
- [Duke](#): This Policy prohibits all of the following conduct, collectively defined as “Prohibited Conduct”: Discrimination (defined term); Harassment (Defined Term, includes Hostile Environment Harassment (defined term) Sexual or Gender-Based Misconduct (defined term) Sexual Exploitation (defined term) and Stalking Based on a Protected Characteristic (defined term)); Title IX Sexual Harassment (defined term); Violation of Supportive or Remedial Measures (defined term); and Retaliation (defined term).
- [Penn State](#): Conduct Prohibited By This Policy (“Prohibited Conduct”): Acts of Bias (defined term); Discrimination (defined term); Gender-based harassment (defined term); Harassment (defined term); Retaliation (defined term); and Sex-based harassment (defined term);

What are the rules?

Some possibilities . . .

- Discrimination (i.e. different treatment)
- Harassment (i.e. Hostile environment harassment based on a protected trait or characteristic)
- Failure to report discrimination or harassment
- Sexual Harassment
- Failure to Accommodate (currently disability discrimination)
- Certain Consensual Relationships (currently in FHB but not in Policy 1025)
- Bad Faith Reporting (Intentionally or Recklessly Made False Reports)
- Mandatory Compliance Training
- Others?

Where to report?

Current procedures section . . .

3.1 Contact Information

Questions and complaints of discrimination or discriminatory harassment involving faculty, staff, or students should be filed with:

The Assistant Vice President for Equity and Accessibility
Office for Equity and Accessibility
Virginia Tech
North End Center
300 Turner St.
Blacksburg, VA 24061
Phone: (540) 231-2010
equityandaccess@vt.edu

4.0 Procedures

The procedures referenced below provide for prompt and equitable response to reports of prohibited conduct. The procedures also provide for thorough and impartial investigations that afford all parties notice and an opportunity to present witnesses and evidence and to view the information that will be used in determining whether a policy violation has occurred. The university applies the preponderance of the evidence standard when determining whether this policy has been violated. "Preponderance of the evidence" means that it is more likely than not that a policy violation occurred.

The appropriate university avenue for resolving a complaint covered under this policy is determined by the status of the person accused.

All **undergraduate, graduate, and professional students** at the university are subject to the university's student code of conduct as outlined in the Student Code of Conduct, accessible at <https://www.hokiehandbook.vt.edu/>.

Faculty members at the university are subject to the rules included in the Faculty Handbook, accessible at https://www.provost.vt.edu/faculty_affairs/faculty_handbook.html. Staff members are subject to the rules included in university policies (<https://www.hr.vt.edu/resources/current-employees/policies-handbooks.html>) and the Virginia Department of Human Resource Management Policies (<http://www.dhrm.virginia.gov/hrpolicy/policy.html#probper>), with minor exceptions for University Staff. Procedures for addressing staff and faculty violations of this policy are available from Human Resources.

Where to report discrimination? Some possibilities . . .

- Penn State has a chart:

Reporting all other forms of potential discrimination

For Conduct Committed by	Report To	Contact Information
Students or Student Organizations	Office of Student Conduct	(814) 863-0342 kxf6@psu.edu
Employees or third parties	Affirmative Action Office Office of Human Resources, Employee Relations Division Office of Ethics and Compliance	(814) 863-0471, aao@psu.edu (814) 865-1412 (814) 867-5088, psaec@psu.edu
Students, employees, or third parties affiliated with the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics	Robert Boland, Athletics Integrity Officer	(814) 865-0722 rab473@psu.edu
Students, employees, or third-parties at the Penn State College of Medicine	Kim Lantz Yoder, Equity Officer and Deputy Title IX Coordinator	(717) 531-0003, ext. 283353 kyoder1@psu.edu

Current name and statement of purpose

Policy on Harassment, Discrimination, and Sexual Assault

No. 1025

Policy Effective Date:
3/4/1991

Last Revision Date:
8/13/2020

Policy Owner:

1.0 Purpose

The university is subject to Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Sections 503 and 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, as amended, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act, the Equal Pay Act, the Vietnam Era Veterans' Readjustment Assistance Act of 1974, Federal Executive Order 11246, Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008 (GINA), Virginia Executive Order(s), and all other rules and regulations that are applicable.

Alternative names

- **Virginia Tech: Policy on Harassment, Discrimination, and Sexual Assault**
- Princeton: Policy on Harassment and/or Discrimination.
- Penn State: [Policy on] Discrimination and Harassment and Related Inappropriate Conduct
- U. of Oklahoma: Non-Discrimination Policy
- UVA: Preventing and Addressing Discrimination and Harassment
- Duke: Policy on Prohibited Discrimination, Harassment, and Related Misconduct

Comparators Statements of purpose

- Virginia Tech: Cites some applicable laws and regulations.
- Ohio State: The Ohio State University is committed to building and maintaining a community to reflect human diversity and to improve opportunities for all.
- [UVA](#): The University is committed to providing a workplace and educational environment, programs, and activities free of discrimination and harassment.
- Duke: Duke University and Duke University Health System (“Duke”) are committed to encouraging and sustaining a learning and work community free from discrimination, harassment, and related misconduct. Duke is committed to an inclusive community that respects and values all of its members . . .
- [Princeton](#): Princeton University is committed to creating and maintaining an educational, working, and living environment free from discrimination and harassment as described in this policy.

Let us know what you think!

Harrison Blythe
Director of Compliance &
Conflict Resolution
(540) 231-0448
hblythe@vt.edu



Policy on Harassment, Discrimination, and Sexual Assault

No. 1025

Policy Effective Date:
3/4/1991

Last Revision Date:
8/13/2020

Policy Owner:
President Sands

Policy Author: *(Contact Person)*
Kelly Oaks
Kim O'Rourke

Affected Parties:
Undergraduate
Graduate
Faculty
Staff

1.0 Purpose

2.0 Policy

3.0 Scope

4.0 Procedures

5.0 Definitions

6.0 References

7.0 Approval and Revisions

1.0 Purpose

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2.3 Reference to Policy on Title IX Sexual Harassment

Effective August 14, 2020, sexual misconduct that falls under Title IX Sexual Harassment, as defined by federal law, shall be governed by the university's Policy on Title IX Sexual Harassment and Responsible Employee Reporting (Policy No. 1026). If both this policy and Policy No. 1026 apply, the procedures as outlined in Policy No. 1026 shall be utilized. For clarification on what sexual misconduct falls under Title IX Sexual Harassment, please see Policy No. 1026.

3.0 Scope

The university's jurisdiction includes on-campus incidents and off-campus incidents that cause continuing effects on campus and includes complaints filed by students or employees, or others on their behalf, alleging discrimination or discriminatory harassment



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(including sexual harassment and sexual violence) carried out by faculty, staff, other students, or third parties.

Virginia Tech is also committed to the free and vigorous discussion of ideas and issues. This policy does not allow curtailment or censorship of constitutionally protected expression, nor does it attempt to address behaviors that do not constitute discrimination or harassment. Offensive behavior that does not violate this policy should be addressed by the appropriate supervisor or administrator.

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If an administrator, supervisor or individual with instructional responsibility becomes aware of an incident that might reasonably be construed as constituting discrimination/harassment, he or she must promptly contact the Office for Equity and Accessibility and coordinate with that office to take immediate steps to address the matter.



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Administrators, supervisors and those with instructional responsibility should contact the Office for Equity and Accessibility whenever they learn—either directly or indirectly—about discrimination/ harassment. This obligation exists even if the complainant requests that no action be taken.

Administrators, supervisors and those with instructional responsibility (for their respective teaching obligation) have the legal responsibility to protect a complainant from continued discrimination, harassment or retaliation, including implementing interim measures necessary to protect the complainant. They must also protect persons accused of discrimination/ harassment from potential damage by false allegations. Administrators and supervisors will be held accountable for dealing with and taking necessary steps to prevent discrimination/harassment. It is not the responsibility of the complainant to correct the situation.

Employees are responsible for informing employees and students under their supervision of this policy and the name and contact information of the person responsible for addressing discrimination complaints covered under this policy.

4.2 Supplemental/Alternative Avenues for Formal Complaints

In addition to, or in lieu of, the procedures set forth above, individuals may pursue those remedies that are available to them, as appropriate, through the following agencies:

Students and applicants for admission may file formal complaints with the Office for Civil Rights of the U.S. Department of Education.

Faculty members or applicants for employment may file a charge with the federal Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and/or the Virginia Council on Human Rights within 300 days of the incident.

The following options are available to **staff members or applicants for employment**:

- a) Non-probationary staff may file a grievance within 30 calendar days of the offense as outlined in the Grievance Procedure for State Employees, or
- b) Salaried and wage staff may file a complaint using the Discrimination Complaint Procedure administered by the Office of Equal Employment Services in the state's Department of Human Resource Management.
- c) Salaried and wage staff may file a complaint with the federal Equal Employment Opportunity Commission or the Virginia Council on Human Rights within 300 days of the alleged discrimination/harassment.

Additional information regarding this policy may be obtained from the Department of Human Resources.

Additional assistance and support may be obtained from the Women's Center, the Office of the Provost (faculty), the Department of Human Resources (staff and AP faculty), the Graduate School (graduate students), the Dean of Students Office, Cook Counseling Center, or Student Conduct (students).

We encourage victims of sexual violence, including rape, sexual assault, stalking, and dating and domestic violence, to exercise their right to file a complaint with the Virginia Tech Police Department if the crime occurs on Virginia Tech's property, regardless of the status of the victim. For crimes occurring away from Virginia Tech's property, victims may contact the local law enforcement in the appropriate jurisdiction.

5.0 Definitions

Consent means knowing, voluntary, and clear permission by word or action, to engage in mutually agreed upon sexual activity. The existence of consent is based on the totality of circumstances, including the context in which the alleged consent occurred. Silence does not necessarily constitute consent and coercion, force, or threat of either party invalidates consent.



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- Consent cannot be given where a person is incapacitated due to drugs or alcohol; or where a person has a disability; or is not of legal age to consent as defined by law.
- Consent to any one form of sexual activity cannot automatically imply consent to any other forms of sexual activity. Consent can be withdrawn at any time.
- Previous relationships or prior consent cannot imply consent to future sexual acts.

Discrimination and/or Harassment means conduct that conditions any element of a person's employment, enrollment as a student, receipt of student financial aid, or participation in university activities on that person's age, color, disability, sex (including pregnancy), gender, gender identity, gender expression, genetic information, national origin, political affiliation, race, religion, sexual orientation, or veteran status, unless otherwise permitted or required by applicable law. Virginia Tech does not otherwise discriminate against employees or applicants who inquire about, discuss, or disclose their compensation or the compensation of other employees or applicants nor on any other basis protected by law. Discrimination on the basis of sex in education programs and activities receiving federal financial funding as set forth in Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, as amended, is included in this definition of prohibited discrimination;

Conduct of any type (oral, written, graphic, electronic or physical) that is based upon a person's age, color, disability, sex (including pregnancy), gender, gender identity, gender expression, national origin, political affiliation, race, religion, sexual orientation, or veteran status and unreasonably interferes with the person's work or academic performance or participation in university activities, or creates a working or learning environment that a reasonable person would find hostile, threatening or intimidating; **and/or**

Conduct consisting of unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, or other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature when submission to such conduct is made, explicitly or implicitly, a term or condition of an individual's employment or education, or submission to or rejection of such conduct is used as a basis for employment or educational decisions affecting an individual.

Retaliation means any adverse action taken against a person for making a good faith report of conduct prohibited under this policy or participating in any proceeding under this policy. Retaliation includes threatening, intimidating, harassing, coercing or any other conduct that would discourage a reasonable person from engaging in activity protected under this policy. The definition of retaliation does not preclude an individual from engaging in good faith actions, lawfully pursued, in response to a report of conduct prohibited under this policy.

Sexual Harassment means conduct any type (oral, written, graphic, electronic or physical) that is based upon a person's sex (including pregnancy), and unreasonably interferes with the person's work or academic performance or limits participation in university activities, or creates a working or learning environment that a reasonable person would find hostile, threatening or intimidating.

Sexual Harassment includes conduct of a sexual nature, including conduct consisting of unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, or other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature when submission to such conduct is made, explicitly or implicitly, a term or condition of an individual's employment or education, or submission to or rejection of such conduct is used as a basis for employment or educational decisions affecting an individual. This policy includes sexual violence, gender-based harassment, domestic violence, dating violence and stalking as forms of sexual harassment.

Sexual Exploitation means an act or acts committed through non-consensual abuse or exploitation of another person's sexuality for the purpose of sexual gratification, financial gain, personal benefit or advantage, or any



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other non- legitimate purpose. The act or acts of sexual exploitation are prohibited even though the behavior does not constitute one of the other sexual misconduct offenses.

Sexual Violence means physical sexual acts perpetrated against a person's will or where a person is incapable of giving consent due to the victim's use of drugs or alcohol, or is unable to give consent due to an intellectual or other disability. Sexual violence includes rape, sexual assault, sexual battery, and sexual coercion.

- **Rape** means penetration, no matter how slight, of the vagina or anus of a person with any body part or object, or oral penetration by a sex organ of another person, without the consent of the victim.
- **Fondling** means the touching of the private body parts of another person for the purpose of sexual gratification, without the consent of the victim, including instances where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of age or temporary or mental incapacity.
- **Incest** means sexual intercourse between persons who are related to each other within degrees wherein marriage is prohibited by law.
- **Statutory Rape** means sexual intercourse with a person who is under the statutory age of consent.
- **Sexual Assault** means actual or attempted sexual contact with another person without that person's consent.
- **Sexual Coercion** means using physical or verbal aggression or pressure to force or attempt to force a person to touch another person's intimate parts without that person's consent.

Dating violence means violence committed by a person: (a) who is or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the victim; and (b) where the existence of such a relationship shall be determined based on a consideration of the following factors: (1) the length of the relationship; (2) the type of relationship; and (3) the frequency of interaction between the persons involved in the relationship.

Domestic Violence means felony or misdemeanor crimes of violence committed by: (a) a current or former spouse or intimate partner of the victim; (b) a person with whom the victim shares a child in common; (c) a person who is cohabitating with or has cohabitated with the victim as a spouse or intimate partner; (d) a person similarly situated to a spouse of the victim under the domestic or family violence laws of Virginia; or any other person against an adult or youth victim who is protected from that person's acts under the domestic or family violence laws of Virginia.

Stalking means engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to: (a) fear for the person's individual safety or the safety of others; or (b) suffer substantial emotional distress.

6.0 References

Presidential Policy Memorandum No. 112, University Non-Discrimination Statement

<https://policies.vt.edu/assets/112-non-discrimination-statement.pdf>

University Policy 1026, Policy on Title IX Sexual Harassment and Responsible Employee Reporting

<http://www.policies.vt.edu/1026.pdf>

University Policy 4075, Policy for University Accommodation of Persons with Disabilities

<http://www.policies.vt.edu/4075.pdf>



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Virginia Department of Human Resources Management, Policy 1.60 Standards of Conduct

http://www.dhrm.virginia.gov/docs/default-source/hrpolicy/pol1_60.pdf?sfvrsn=2

Virginia Department of Human Resource Management, Policy 2.05, Equal Employment Opportunity

http://www.dhrm.virginia.gov/docs/default-source/hrpolicy/pol2_05eeo.pdf?sfvrsn=2

Virginia Department of Human Resource Management, Policy 2.30 Workplace Harassment

http://www.dhrm.virginia.gov/docs/default-source/hrpolicy/pol2_30wkplaceharrass.pdf?sfvrsn=2

Virginia Department of Human Resource Management - Employment Dispute Resolution - Grievance Procedure Manual

<http://www.dhrm.virginia.gov/employmentdisputeresolution>, <http://www.dhrm.virginia.gov/docs/default-source/edrdocuments/GPM-2017.pdf?sfvrsn=8>

Virginia Tech, Classified and University Staff Policies and Handbook

<https://www.hr.vt.edu/resources/current-employees/policies-handbooks.html>

Virginia Tech, Expectations for Graduate Education

https://graduateschool.vt.edu/content/dam/graduateschool_vt_edu/expectations-pdfs/expectations-for-graduate-education-may-2017.pdf

Virginia Tech, Faculty Handbook

https://www.provost.vt.edu/faculty_affairs/faculty_handbook.html

Virginia Tech, Student Code of Conduct

<http://www.hokiehandbook.vt.edu/>

Virginia Tech, Principles of Community

<http://inclusive.vt.edu/Initiatives/vtpoc0.html>

7.0 Approval and Revisions

- Revision 1

Revised by Commission on Faculty Affairs, December 17, 1990, the Faculty Senate, January 8, 1991, and the EO/AA Committee on January 8, 1991, with further revisions, February 12, 1991.

Approved March 4, 1991 by University Council.

- Revision 2

Revised by the EO/AA Committee, March 29, 1994; approved by Commission on Faculty Affairs, May 13, 1994.

Approved October 3, 1994 by University Council.

- Revision 3

Revised by the Commission on Equal Opportunity and Diversity, March 28, 2005. Approved by University Council, May 2, 2005.

Approved by the Board of Visitors, August 29, 2005.



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- **Revision 4**
Revised by the Commission on Equal Opportunity and Diversity, March 29, 2010.
Approved by University Council, April 19, 2010.
Approved by the Board of Visitors, June 7, 2010.
- **Revision 5**
Section 4 – “faculty member” replaced with “individual with instructional responsibility.”
Approved March 16, 2011 by Charles W. Steger, University President.
- **Revision 6**
April 24, 2013: Technical updates to:
 - reflect regulations, particularly those that add genetic information to the list of protected statuses;
 - clarify oversight responsibilities for sexual harassment complaints involving any student who is not acting in the capacity of an employee, volunteer, or contractor;
 - clarify that non-probationary employees have 30 “calendar” days to file a grievance; and
 - update references and hyperlinks.Approved June 3, 2013, by Charles W. Steger, University President, and the Board of Visitors.
- **Revision 7**
Revised to include the addition of terms “gender identity” and “gender expression” in sections 1. Purpose, first paragraph, and 2.1 Prohibited Acts, first and second paragraphs.
Approved September 15, 2014 by University President, Timothy D. Sands, and the Board of Visitors.
- **Revision 8**
Revised to include definitions approved by the Board of Visitors on June 1, 2015, and add contact information for the Title IX Coordinator, and language encouraging victims to file a complaint with the appropriate law enforcement agency.
Approved June 1, 2015 by University President, Timothy D. Sands, and the Board of Visitors.
- **Revision 9**
Revised section 2.1 to include the sentence, “Virginia Tech does not otherwise discriminate against employees or applicants who inquire about, discuss, or disclose their compensation or the compensation of other employees or applicants nor on any other basis protected by law.” This is added to comply with Federal Executive Order 13665, issued by President Obama.
Approved November 9, 2015 by University President, Timothy D. Sands, and the Board of Visitors.
- **Revision 10**
Significant reorganization of information and to update Procedures section to reflect status of the individual(s) involved in the complaint/potential complaint. Policy name was also changed.
Approved June 30, 2016 by University President, Timothy D. Sands.
- **Revision 11**
 - Revised section 2.1 to add “sex” to the non-discrimination statement, in accordance with Governor Northam’s Executive Order Number One.
 - Revised section 3.1 to have all questions and complaints filed with The Assistant Vice President for Equity and Accessibility, who can further redirect the filing, if appropriate.Approved February 12, 2018 by University President, Timothy D. Sands.



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- **Revision 12**
Revised section 4.2 to include the University Ombuds Office (new office) and Graduate School Office of the Ombudsperson as confidential resources.
Approved October 8, 2019 by University President, Timothy D. Sands.
- **Revision 13**
Revisions throughout document to reflect new Title IX regulations promulgated by the United States Department of Education, effective August 14, 2020, which also resulted in the creation of a new University Policy on Title IX Sexual Harassment and Responsible Employee Reporting (No. 1026). Revision effective August 14, 2020.
Approved August 13, 2020, by the Executive Committee of the Board of Visitors.