STUDENT CONDUCT BOARD

TRAINING

Office of Institutional Equity | Student Conduct & Community Standards



WHO'S HERE TODAY

BRIEF INTRODUCTIONS

Dr. Nicole Ferguson Director of Compliance/Title IX Coordinator

Emily McElwain Assistant Dean of Student Life







WHILE WE ARE STAND ALONE OFFICES ...

Assume all we discuss today applies to BOTH processes and procedures unless specifically noted.

OFFICE OF INSTITUTIONAL EQUITY (&TITLE IX)





Statement of Ethical Standards

Members of the Student Conduct Board for CSU Pueblo understand that their purpose is to serve the campus community by working to uphold the Student Code of Conduct and campus policies with educational redirection of behavior and protecting the rights of students throughout the conduct process.

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Members provide a fair conduct process by upholding the values of respect for students involved in the process, ethical behavior throughout the process, and protecting privacy to the extent required by Federal law.



OUR PHILOSPHY ON STUDENT CONDUCT CONDUCT IS CONSIDERED STUDENT BEHAVIOR, WHETHER SPECIFIC TO TITLE IX OR ALL OTHER CONDUCT.

PURPOSE OF THE PROCESS IS TO PROVIDE:



A FAIR AND JUST RESOLUTION PROCESS

DUE PROCESS FOR THE STUDENT

OPPORTUNITY TO REFLECT ON BEHAVIOR

INFORMATION FOR RESPONSIBLE DECISION-MAKING AND CHOICES

A STUDENT WITH A LEARNING EXPERIENCE

THOUGHTS ON YOUR ROLE IN STUDENT CONDUCT

HOLD STUDENTS ACCOUNTABLE







GUIDING PRINCIPLES



RESPECT FOR THE RIGHTS OF THE INDIVIDUAL



THE TEACHABLE MOMENT



STUDENT - ORIENTED







A WIN-WIN ATTITUDE

APPROPRIATE SANCTIONS





PERSONAL VALUES

ACTIVITY ONE



Criminal Law	Student Conduct Process
Process is punitive in its nature	Process is designed to be educational
Most severe penalties can include the loss of liberty or life (loss of rights)	Most severe sanction is removal from the academic community (loss of privilege)
Federal rules of evidence apply to information being considered	All reasonable information is considered
Guilt must be established "beyond a reasonable doubt" (must be proven by the prosecution's evidence)	Responsibility established by "preponderance of evidence" (meaning more likely than not)
Lawyers represent clients in the process	Lawyers (or a chosen party) can advise the students, not represent them

Criminal Law	Student Conduct Process
Crime	Alleged Violations of Community Standards
Laws	Code of Conduct, Rules and Regulations, University Policy
Evidence	Information
Trial	Conduct Meeting or Formal Meeting
Judge	University Administrator or Conduct Board
Defendant	Alleged Student, Respondent, Referred Student
Guilty	Responsible or Not Responsible
Verdict	Decision or Outcome





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Difference between conduct & criminal law

The process and terminology are different between Criminal Law and Student Conduct.

When serving on the SCB, focus on using language consistent with the mission of Student Conduct.

REMEMBER THESE





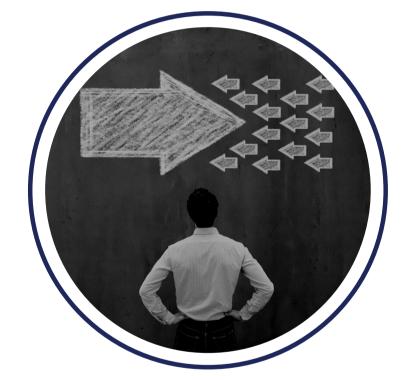
DUE PROCESS

FERPA

CONFIDENTIALITY







CONFLICT OF INTEREST





The Student Code of Conduct



Prepare for your role by understanding the Policies

Policy Violation

ACTIVITY TWO

STUDENT CONDUCT BOARD PROCESS

INTERIM ACTIONS

The University may take whatever immediate measures it deems necessary in order to protect the safety, security, of a student, the University, and/or any member(s) of the community and the integrity of the investigation.

INFORMATION

The Reporting Party/Complainant(s) and the Responding Party(s) may provide information to the conduct administrator(s) for consideration, including witness statements, emails, photographs, etc. THIS IS A SUMMARY OF THE STUDENT CONDUCT PROCESS. FOR MORE DETAILS REVIEW THE CURRENT CODE OF CONDUCT.

CONDUCT ADMINISTRATOR IS NOTIFIED

The Conduct Administrator receives a report and upon review determines the potential violations and sends charge letter(s).

PRE-MEETING(S)

Students will have the opportunity prior to this meeting to see all of the information related to their alleged violation of the Code.

WITNESSES

There is no limit to how many witness statements can be submitted, but the impact of witness statements on the conclusion of a case is at the discretion of the conduct administrator.

CONDUCT MEETING

This meeting will be held to determine whether any of the standards of conduct outlined in this Code may have been violated, and, if so, what sanctions are to be imposed to remedy the situation or prevent a reoccurrence.

STANDARD OF PROOF

Determinations shall be made on the basis of a preponderance of the evidence, i.e. whether it is more likely than not that the Responding Party(s) committed the alleged violation(s).

SANCTIONS

If a policy violation is found, appropriate sanctions will be determined.

DECISION LETTER

Decisions made as a result of any meeting shall be provided in writing to the Responding Party(s) and sent via their student email account

APPEAL

A student may request an appeal of a decision made by any conduct administrator but must meet one of the four prongs.



••• The Conduct Process

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GOALS OF THE STUDENT CONDUCT PROCESS



ADDRESS THE ROOT CAUSE OF THE BEHAVIOR

PREVENT RECURRENT NEGATIVE BEHAVIOR



HELP THE STUDENT LEARN AND BECOME A POSITIVE CONTRIBUTOR TO THE COMMUNITY

Being a Chair

- promote a space where all considerations are made
- make a majority decision
- if you disagree , explain why and process those reasons
- find a good compromise between members
- remember, the policy/law says what a "reasonable person" would do





AS THE CHAIR OF A COMMITTEE, YOUR JOB IS TO HANDLE ORGANIZATION AND THE FLOW OF THE CASE.





Standard of proof is known as the "preponderance of evidence" meaning it is more likely to have happened than not.

Preponderance of the Evidence





When determining responsibility, board members may not consider:

- Whether or not a student knew that they were violating a policy.

To establish that a violation of the Code has taken place, board must consider:

- Whether or not there is enough evidence to find a student responsible.
- The impact of the student's behavior on the community.



• If a student makes a claim of diminished capacity due to alcohol or other drugs.



CREDIBILITY OF INFORMATION

INFORMATION CONSIDERED USEFUL





ABILITY

THREATS, EXPRESSIONS, ETC. IMPLYING **OR DENOTING INTENT**



OTHER BEHAVIORS













TYPES OF INFORMATION/EVIDENCE

DIRECT

CIRCUMSTANTIAL

DOCUMENTARY

SECONDHAND/HEARSAY



- In how much detail can the witness recall the incident?
- Is this witness' recollection of the details consistent with the recollections of other witnesses?
- Are there circumstances, which may call the reliability of the witness into question?
- Is there any reason why a witness may not be providing complete and accurate testimony?

Witnesses

- How relevant is the information this witness provided concerning the case?
- How much does this person know about the incident in question?
- How did this per oncome to know this
 - information? Which of the witnesses had the
 - best opportunity to observe the incident?

PREPONDERANCE

ACTIVITY THREE



FOR EFFECTIVE MEETINGS

- LISTEN
- NON-VERBAL CUES
- CLARIFICATION
- BE THOROUGH
- KEEP IT FLOWING
- SHOW RESPECT
- STAY ENGAGED
- MAINTAIN COMPOSURE
- BE PREPARED
- BE MINDFUL OF THE GREATER COMMUNITY







Using Questions & Active Listening

- Active Listening
- Verbal and Nonverbal Cues
- Asking Questions
- Types of Questions

Weighing Information & Decision Making

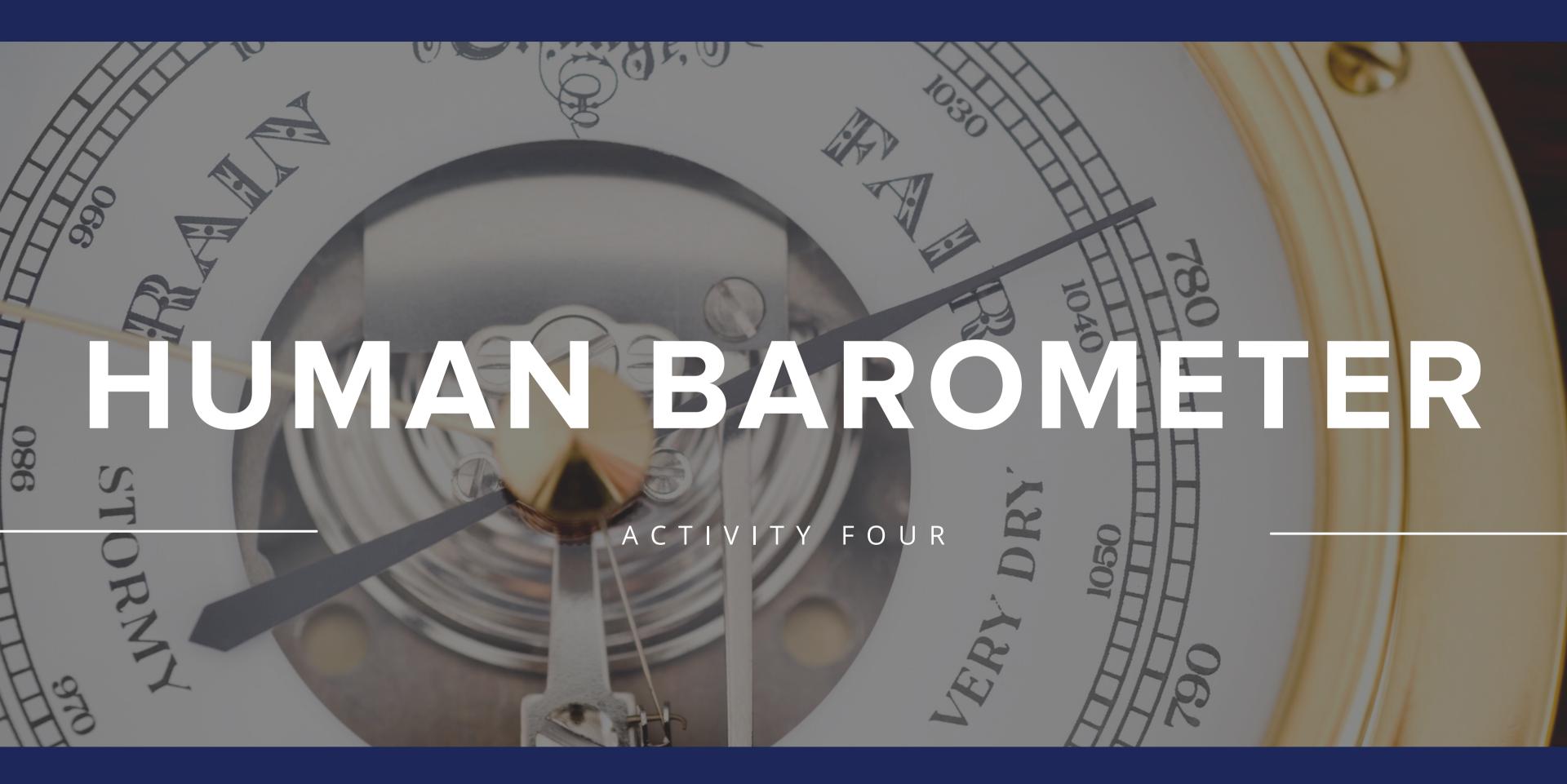
As a Student Conduct Board Member, it is a very important to actively participate in the deliberation for each case.

The deliberation process has two steps:

- Responsibility
- Sanctions



All information presented at a Meeting is not equivalent in value. Some may have a certain degree of bias or tend to lead the listener toward a single interpretation of a fact or situation.

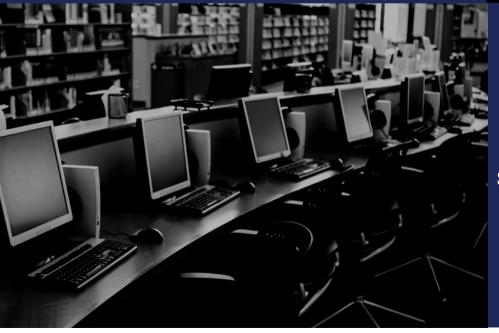


EDUCATIONAL OUTCOMES

SANCTIONS

Educational sanctions are assigned to further the students' learning, thought, or reflection related to the incident





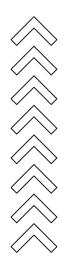
COMMON SANCTIONS

While each situation and each student may be different, there are a number of sanctions commonly used to help students learn at CSU Pueblo

LEARNING

The maximum benefit for both the individual and the community will be obtained





CASESIUDY MOCK HEARING





What is covered by the Title IX, Sexual Harassment, and Gender Discrimination Policy?



Sexual harassment and misconduct are reportable offenses under Title IX and includes all forms of harassment and violence that are sexual in nature.

This includes (but is not limited to) sex- and gender-based discrimination, sexual assault, sexual harassment, sexual exploitation, stalking, dating violence, and domestic violence.



SOME DEFINITIONS

















RESPONDENT

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JURISDICTION



EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITY OR PROGRAM/JURISDICTION

Which of these might be considered an educational program or activity within our jurisdiction?

A hotel at an away basketball game

A party at Wolf Village

A social gathering at Thunderzone A science lab in the Chemistry building **Students discussing a class in a** car parked in the OSC parking lot

A class at Todos Santos

A group project at **Starbucks downtown**

A Greek organized event

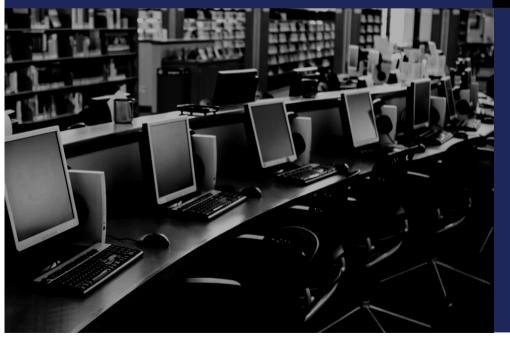


DISMISSAL

WILL DISMISS

If conduct alleged would not constitute Sexual Harassment; or it did not occur within the jurisdiction of the policy.



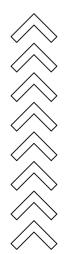


DISMISSAL DOES NOT PRECLUDE CSU PUEBLO FROM CONDUCTING AN INVESTIGATION UNDER OTHER APPLICABLE POLICIES.

MAY DISMISS

If Complainant withdraws the Formal Complaint; Respondent no longer member of CSU Pueblo; or other specific circumstances.





TITLE IX PROCESS

THIS IS A SUMMARY OF THE TITLE IX PROCESS. FOR MORE DETAILED INFORMATION, PLEASE SEE THE POLICY POLICY ON TITLE IX, SEXUAL HARASSMENT AND GENDER DISCRIMINATION AND ITS PROCEDURES.

TITLE IX COORDINATOR IS NOTIFIED

The Title IX Coordinator may be notified by a Complainant, a Mandatory Reporter, a Witness, or a Concerned Individual.

SUPPORTIVE MEASURES

The Title IX Coordinator will provide resources to the Complainant. Supportive measures do not require a Formal Complaint.

FORMAL COMPLAINT

Unless there is a risk to campus, the decision to file a formal complaint rests with the Complainant.

INFORMAL RESOLUTION

Under most circumstances, the parties may request an informal resolution.

If an informal resolution is not reached, the formal process will resume.

INVESTIGATION

An investigator will be assigned to the case. The investigator will gather evidence and conduct interviews.

PRE-HEARING CONFERENCE

Upon conclusion of the investigation, a hearing will be scheduled. Prior to the hearing, there will be a conference.

HEARING

Judicial Arbitration and Mediation Services (JAMS) will act as the Hearing Officer . JAMS will conduct the hearing and issue a written determination.

SANCTIONS

If a policy violation is found, the Sanctioning Authority at the University will determine the appropriate sanctions.

APPEAL

Only dismissals and determination regarding responsibility may be appealed.

RETALIATION

Retaliation is strictly prohibited.



All actions must be simultaneous!

The Title IX Process

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KEEP IN MIND

- Was there consent between the complainant and the respondent?
- Was the complainant incapacitated to the degree of being unable to give consent?
- Focus on the alleged policy violation not whether the complainant was irresponsible.
- Focus on information gathered at the meeting not on what you do not know.
- Is there enough evidence to determine a decision of responsible?
- The standard of proof is still based on preponderance of the evidence.
- Check your own biases & recuse yourself if necessary.
- There are possible neurobiological reasons for gaps in memory & other responses to trauma.



Confidential

- ACOVA

Non-Confidential Resources

- Student Conduct and Community Standards
- OIE and Title IX Coordinator
- Residence Life & Housing
- Disability Resource & Support Center
- Human Resources
- Pueblo County Sheriff's Office
- Parkview Medical Center





 Wolfpack Wellness Center • Pueblo Rape Crisis Center





TITLE IX SPECIFIC ITEMS



RULES OF DECORUM

RULES APPLY TO...

The Complainant, the Complainant's Advisor, the Respondent, the Respondent's Advisor, and witnesses for the case at hand.



All participants, including Parties and Advisors, are to conduct themselves respectfully and nonabusively during the Hearing. Hearing Officer may require the Party to select a different Advisor, if Advisor does not comply.



hearing.



Breaks can be requested by either Party, or their Advisor. The Hearing Officer, may grant or deny the request. The Hearing Officer, may call a break. Breaks can be up to 15 minutes, unless there are extenuating circumstances.

A Party and their Advisor may confer during the hearing, so long as they do not disrupt the

BREAKS

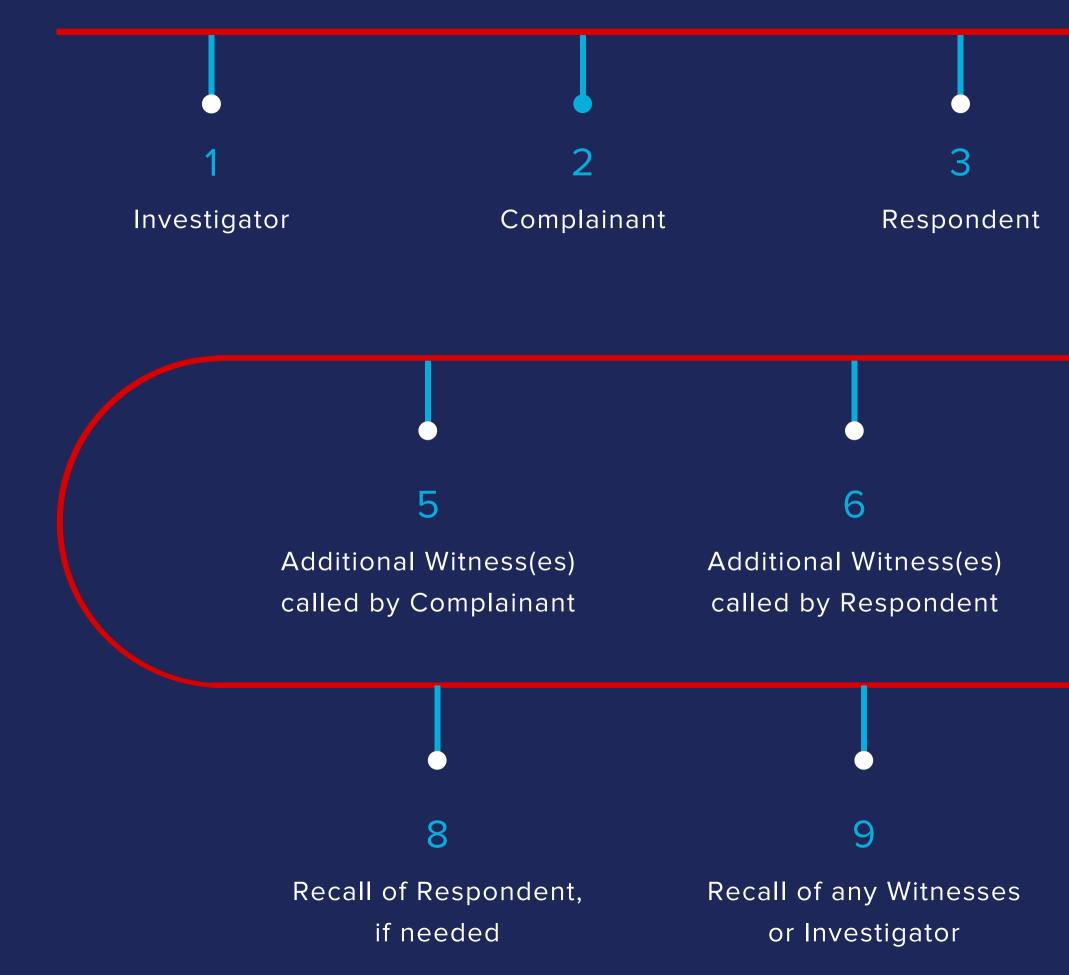


- Questions about past sexual history
- Questions about the number of sexual partners
- Questions that could be considered "victim blaming", what were you wearing?
- Questions that are not trauma centered, what did you do to make them think you were interested?

Do ask:

- Questions about the relationship between the parties in the hearing
- Questions about consensual acts that may have occurred
- Questions that are trauma centered, try to remember how you got there if you can, were there any smells or sounds you remember?

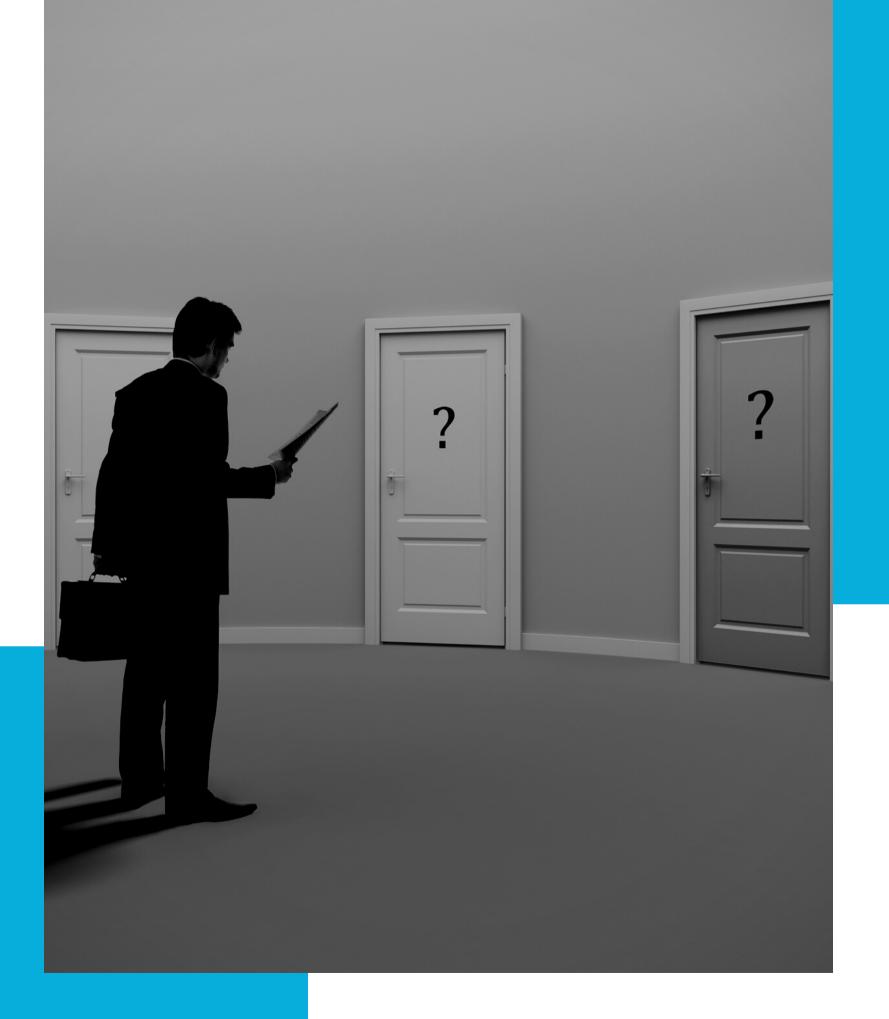
LIVE HEARING PROCESS





CASESIUDY MOCK HEARING





Students may appeal decisions from Conduct or Title IX.

For Conduct, students may only appeal if they are the Respondent.

For Title IX, either party may appeal.







CONDUCT APPEALS







PROCEDURAL ERROR

INSUFFICIENT ESTABLISHMENT OF PREPONDERANCE

SUBSTANTIALLY DISPROPORTIONATE SANCTIONS





NEW AND SIGNIFICANT INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE

TITLE IX APPEALS







PROCEDURAL ERROR

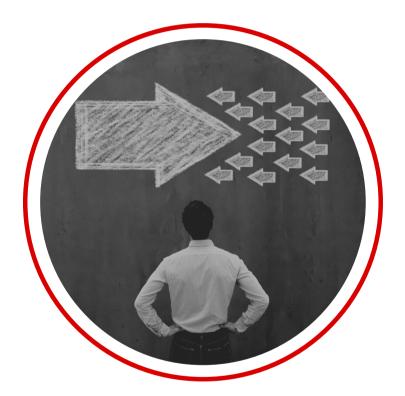
NEW AND SIGNIFICANT INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE

SUBSTANTIALLY SANCTIONS





A CONFLICT OF INTEREST AROSE





CONSIDERATIONS FOR AN APPEAL

- Consider only the pieces the party selected for you to review.
- Review the policy and procedures to ensure accuracy.
- Address all claims in the appeal.
- Ensure there was no bias or conflict.
- The next step after an appeal is often litigation.
- Be consistent.
- It is okay to agree with an appeal. You are not judging us, you are judging the process.
- If you experience a conflict, let us know ASAP so we can replace your position on the committee.

CASE STUDY

