Student Code of Conduct

COMMUNITY FEEDBACK SESSION:
EXPECTATIONS

WAKE FOREST
U N I V E R S I T Y

WAKE FOREST
U N I V E R S I T Y

Overview

- **What is the Code of Conduct?**
- **Scope and Purpose**
- **Process Review**
- **Overview of Changes**
- **Community Feedback**
- **Q & A**

WAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY — What is the Code of Conduct

- **Foundational document within the student experience**
- **Values-oriented**
- **Code of conduct outlines:**
    - Minimum expectations for students inside and outside the classroom
    - Procedures followed when a violation may have occurred
    - Range of outcomes that can happen if a student is responsible for a violation.

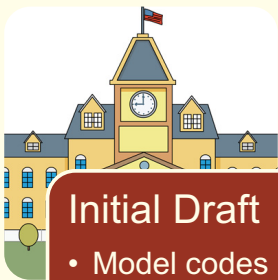## WAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY — Scope and Purpose of Review

Purpose

- **Clarity**
- **Consistency**
- **Support student safety**
- **Align code with best practices**
- **Long-term goal of creating a comprehensive student handbook**

Scope

- **Undergraduate Code of Conduct**
    - Introduction
    - Expectations
    - Sanctions
    - Procedures
- **Policies outside scope**
    - Honor code
    - Appeals
    - Medical amnesty
    - Alcohol policy

WAKE FOREST
U N I V E R S I T Y

What should we minimally expect of undergraduate students?

WAKE FOREST
U N I V E R S I T Y

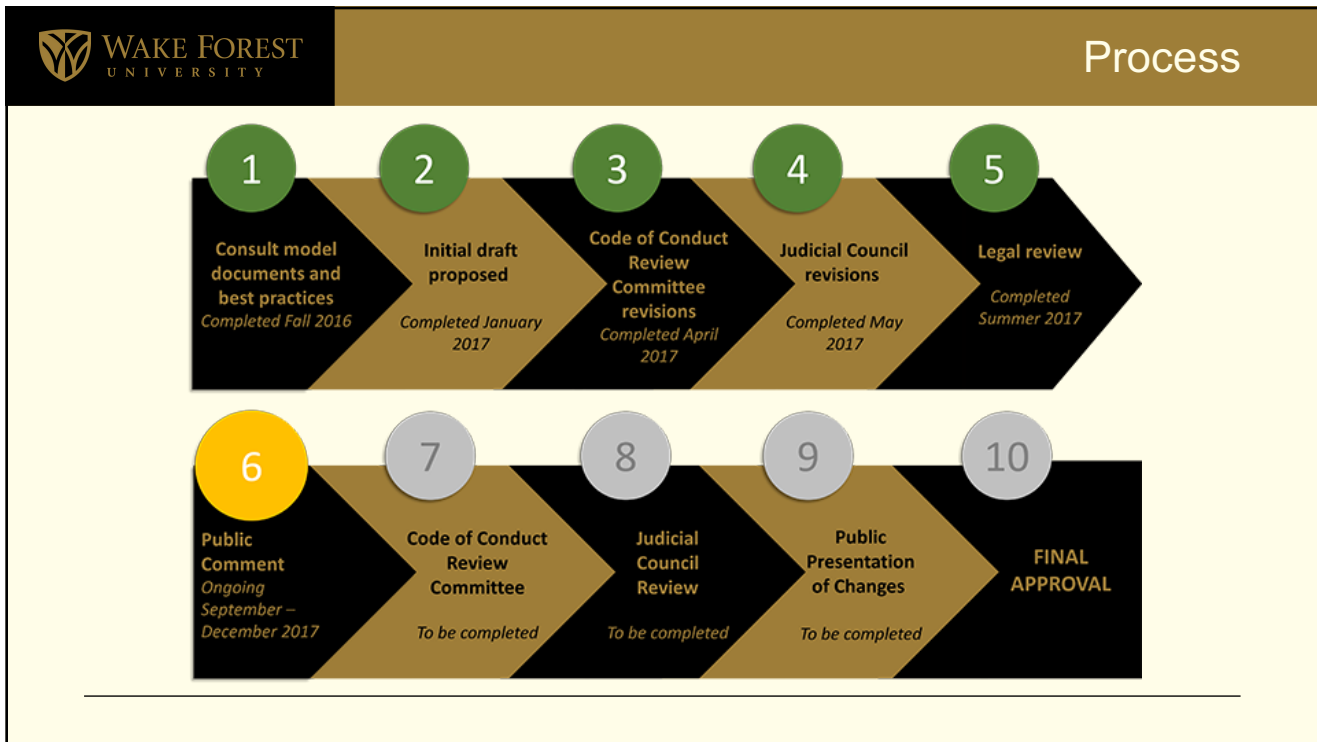## Process Review

Initial Draft
- Model codes
- Institutional comparison

Committee
- Broad-based review group
- Refined code

Legal Review
- Expertise from within and outside WFU
- Model code

Process

1	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**
Consult model documents and best practices *Completed Fall 2016*	**Initial draft proposed** *Completed January 2017*	**Code of Conduct Review Committee revisions** *Completed April 2017*	**Judicial Council revisions** *Completed May 2017*	**Legal review** *Completed Summer 2017*
6	**7**	**8**	**9**	**10**
Public Comment *Ongoing September – December 2017*	**Code of Conduct Review Committee** *To be completed*	**Judicial Council Review** *To be completed*	**Public Presentation of Changes** *To be completed*	**FINAL APPROVAL**

Unchanged Policies

- Honor Code
- Computing
- Contempt of the Conduct Process
- Copyright Violations
- Failure to Comply
- Fire Safety

- Unauthorized Access
- Unregistered Party
- Discrimination
- Violation of a Policy by a Guest
- Weapons

Removed Policies

- Gambling
- General Resident Student Policy
- Library Policies
- Misuse of Online Resources

New Policies

Complicity – Helping or encouraging another person to engage in violations of University policy.

Abuse of the Conduct Process – Deliberately abusing, misusing, or misleading the procedural aspects of the conduct process. Examples of this behavior include:

(a.) Destroying or concealing information during an investigation of an alleged policy violation;

(b.) Initiation of a student conduct code proceeding in bad faith.

(c.) Attempting to discourage an individual's proper participation in, or use of, the student conduct system.

(d.) Attempting to influence the impartiality of a member of any hearing board outside of the hearing process.

New Policies

Other University Policies – Violating other published University policies or rules, including all Residence Life and Housing policies published in the Guide to Community Living.

Violations of Law – Violating any federal, state, or local law or ordinances, as determined by the adjudication of the appropriate jurisdictional authority.

Lack of Organizational Oversight – Student organizations are required to ensure that the students involved in their organization are following the required practices and procedures, not only of the organization itself, but of the University as a whole.

Modified Policies - Bullying

Current

Although definitions of bullying vary, most agree that bullying involves:
• Imbalance of Power: people who bully use their power to control or harm and the people being bullied may have a hard time defending themselves
• Intent to Cause Harm: actions done by accident are not bullying; the person bullying has a goal to cause harm
• Repetition: incidents of bullying happen to the same person over and over by the same person or group

Types of Bullying
Bullying can take many forms. Examples include:
• Verbal: name-calling, teasing
• Social: spreading rumors, leaving people out on purpose, breaking up friendships
• Physical: hitting, punching, shoving
• Cyberbullying: using the Internet, mobile phones or other digital technologies to harm others

Revised

Repeated and/or severe aggressive actions that intimidate or intentionally harm or control another person physically or emotionally.

Examples of bullying and cyberbullying include:

1. Sending mean or inappropriate text messages and emails.
2. Posting embarrassing pictures of someone else online for others to see.
3. Starting or perpetuating degrading rumors about another person.

WAKE FOREST — Modified Policies – Threatening Behavior

Current

Communicating Threats

Any threat of violence that is issued and communicated via any medium (including electronic communication) which the University interprets as posing a danger to Wake Forest property, people, or the community.

Revised

Threatening Behavior

Written or verbal *conduct* that causes a reasonable expectation of physical, emotional, or psychological harm to the health or safety of any person or damage to any property.

WAKE FOREST — Modified Policies – Destruction of Property

Current

Any activity which destroys or defaces property or grounds, at the University or elsewhere, is prohibited.

Revised

Attempted or actual damage to or destruction of University property or the personal property of another.

Modified Policies – Disorderly Conduct and Disruption

WAKE FOREST
U N I V E R S I T Y

Current

Disorderly Conduct
Any behavior that disrupts the regular or normal functions of the Wake Forest University community, that occurs on or off campus, including behavior which breaches the peace or violates the rights of others, is prohibited.

Disruption of Univ. Activities
Intentional disruption or obstruction of teaching, study, research, administration, disciplinary procedures, or other University activity, is prohibited.

Revised

Disorderly Conduct
Conduct that is disorderly, lewd, or indecent; breach of peace.

Disruption of Univ. Activities
Substantial disruption or obstruction of any University activity and/or other authorized non-University activities which occur on or off campus.

Modified Policies - Hazing

WAKE FOREST
U N I V E R S I T Y

Current

Wake Forest University prohibits all forms of hazing which may result in physical and psychological harm to a person.

The anti-hazing policy contained here is that of Wake Forest University. Violators are subject to possible criminal action by governmental authorities, in addition to being held account-able through the University's conduct process.

Hazing includes attempting to or recklessly or negligently causing physical or emotional injury. Hazing activities and behaviors include, but are not limited to, the following: the forced consumption of any substance, sleep deprivation, paddling or striking in any manner, performing calisthenics, personal servitude, conducting activities that do not allow time to meet academic commitments, requiring the violation of University policies, or federal, state or local laws, and any activity likely to cause embarrassment or humiliation.

Revised

At Wake Forest University, students should be able to pursue avenues of involvement in campus life and group membership without exposure to harm or the loss of their dignity or worth.

As such, hazing is defined as any action taken or situation created that endangers the mental or physical health or safety of a student, or that destroys or removes public or private property, for the purpose of initiation, admission into, affiliation with, or as a condition for continued membership in a group or organization. Participation or cooperation by the person(s) being hazed does not excuse the violation. Failing to intervene, to prevent, to discourage, and/or to report those acts may also violate this policy.

Examples of hazing include, but are not limited to:
1. Any brutality of a physical nature, such as paddling, whipping, beating, branding, forced calisthenics;
2. Forced consumption of any food, liquor, drug or other substance; or
3. Sleep deprivation.

Modified Policies

Current

Unauthorized Activity
Any unauthorized activity on University property or elsewhere that compromises the University's pursuit of its mission is prohibited. Examples include, but are not limited to: drinking games, beer pong, jumping from windows and balconies, public urination, unregistered vehicles, littering, and misconduct at sporting events.

Use of Physical Force or Threat of Physical Harm
Physical abuse, injury, constraint on another's physical movement, or threat of harm toward another person is prohibited. These acts include, but are not limited to, assault, battery and all forms of personal abuse.

Revised

Hazardous Activity
Creation of health and/or safety hazards, including, but not limited to, dangerous pranks, hanging out of or climbing from/on/in windows/balconies/roofs, and reckless driving.

Harm to Others
Intentionally or recklessly causing physical harm to or endangering the health or safety of any person.

Modified Policies - Harassment

Current

Verbal abuse is the use of obscene, profane, or derogatory language that abuses or defames another person.

Harassment is any action, verbal or nonverbal, that annoys or disturbs another person or that causes another person to be reasonably apprehensive or endangers the health or safety of another person. No student will engage in conduct that limits or restricts the freedom of another person to move about. No student will participate in conduct or nuisance actions that may prevent or distract others from their University studies or the legitimate pursuit of their personal affairs. No student will use a telephone, computer, other electronic media, or third parties to carry out any harassing offences.

Revised

Any unwelcome conduct directed at someone, or against a particular group, because of that person's actual or perceived status including: race, color, age, creed, national or ethnic origin, physical or mental disability, veteran status, pregnancy status, religion, or other protected status not covered by the student sexual misconduct policy. Harassment is a form of discrimination that includes verbal, written, or physical behavior that meets either of the following criteria:

1. Submission or consent to the behavior is reasonably believed to carry consequences for the person

2. The behavior has the purpose or effect of substantially interfering with the individual's work or educational performance by creating an intimidating, hostile, or demeaning environment

Behaviors or communications may be verbal or nonverbal, written, or electronic. Such conduct does not need to be directed at or to a specific individual in order to constitute harassment, but may consist of generalized unwelcome and inappropriate behaviors or communications based on race, color, age, creed, national or ethnic origin, physical or mental disability, veteran status, pregnancy status, religion, or other protected status not covered by the student sexual misconduct policy.

Community Feedback

go.wfu.edu/codereview

1. What objective is this policy/procedure trying to meet? How does it fail to do so?
2. Can you suggest an alternative to the language proposed?
3. How would the alternative language meet the same objective or be more effective?

Please note: comments will be moderated for posting to the website.

Questions