Faculty Code of Conduct

Original Implementation: April 28, 2005
Last Revision: July 19, 2011

Tax-supported colleges and universities must function in accordance with the public trust, and actions by faculty within them must be consistent with the execution of that trust. The following offenses represent breaches of that trust and violations of the Stephen F. Austin State University Faculty Code of Conduct:

- Plagiarism;
- Forgery or unauthorized alteration or use of university documents, records or identification materials;
- Knowingly furnishing false information to the university, or failure to acquire and maintain appropriate licensure and certification required for supervision and practice;
- The use of violent or other forceful methods to obstruct the functions of the university, which include teaching, research, administration, public service, presentations by guest lecturers and speakers, and other authorized activities;
- Physical abuse of any person on university-owned or controlled property or at university-sponsored or supervised functions, or conduct that threatens or endangers the health or safety of any such person;
- Theft of or negligent damage to the university or to the property of a member of the university community or a campus visitor;
- Unauthorized entry to or use of university facilities or resources;
- Unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession, or use of controlled substances, or any substance the possession or distribution of which is regulated by federal or Texas law, except where the manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession, or use are in accordance with the laws of each;
- Lewd, indecent, or obscene conduct or language on university-owned or controlled property or at a university-sponsored or supervised function;
- Violation of other promulgated university policies or rules;
- Conviction of a criminal or civil offense that reflects negatively upon the university.
Procedures

1. Each faculty member is required to notify his or her immediate supervisor of any felonious criminal conviction no later than five days after such conviction.

2. Violations of the standards established in this policy can result in the assessment of a penalty ranging from an oral reprimand to termination. Tenured and tenure-track faculty members are also subject to standards and procedures in Tenure Policy (7.29).

3. Faculty members are required to abide by the terms of this policy as a condition of employment.

4. Violations of the standards established in this policy should immediately be brought to the attention of the academic unit chair/director to whom the individual is responsible and the dean of the college. The provost and vice president for academic affairs in consultation with the chair/director and the dean will investigate the incident and determine what action should be taken.

5. Faculty members may appeal disciplinary action taken pursuant to this policy by following the appeal procedure outlined in Resolving Faculty Disagreements in Issues Other Than Termination and Non-Renewal of Contracts (7.25), or Tenure (7.29).

Cross Reference: Tenure (7.29), Discrimination Complaints/Sexual Harassment (2.11), Property Inventory and Management (17.14), Use of University Facilities (16.33), Illicit Drugs and Alcohol Abuse (13.11), Resolving Faculty Disagreements in Issues Other Than Termination and Non-Renewal of Contracts (7.25)

Responsible for Implementation: Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

Contact for Revision: Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

Forms: None

Board Committee Assignment: Academic and Student Affairs