

CONSENSUAL AMOROUS RELATIONSHIPS

Consensual Amorous Relationships with Colleagues

Because amorous relations between administrators or faculty members and other faculty members or support staff whom they supervise may create the appearance of a conflict of interest, administrators and faculty members are advised against participating in amorous relationships with those whom they supervise. Similarly faculty members should avoid situations requiring them to supervise those with whom they currently have an amorous relationship. Whenever such a situation arises or is foreseen, the faculty member shall report the situation promptly and seek advice from the appropriate administrative officer, who should take steps to insure unbiased supervision or evaluation of the person supervised.

Consensual Amorous Relationships with Students

The College prohibits consensual romantic and/or sexual relationships between faculty members and undergraduate students, as well as between faculty members and those graduate students for whom the faculty member has direct professional responsibility. The term “direct professional responsibility” refers to many faculty roles, both within and outside of the classroom, including but not limited to teaching, academic advising, coaching (athletics, drama, etc.), and service on evaluation committees (awards, prizes, etc.) and graduate or undergraduate thesis committees. In effect, “direct professional responsibility for students” includes the supervision of all college-sponsored academic, co-curricular, and extra-curricular activities.

The Deans of the Schools of Arts and Sciences may grant exemptions from this policy in exceptional circumstances.

Members of the university community who believe that violations of this policy have occurred may initiate a complaint with the appropriate department chair or academic Dean (see section III.F.4 of the *Faculty Handbook*). A complaint alleging that a Dean or other academic administrator has violated this policy may be filed with the Provost or President. Complaints must be filed no more than two years after an alleged violation.

Violations of this policy will be considered misconduct on the part of a faculty member and will be subject to institutional sanctions, including possible termination of the faculty member’s appointment. Treatment of allegations and imposition of sanctions will be governed by procedures specified in sections III.F.1 and III.F.4 of the *Faculty Handbook*.