

## **University Values, Rights and Protections**

As affirmed in Section 440.

## The Senate Committee on Rules of University Conduct

Make-up, Mandate and Jurisdiction Overview, Section 452.

#### The Rules Administrator

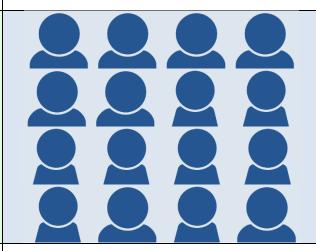
Defined in Section 445a.

Duties detailed in Sections <u>446</u> (Rights of the Respondent), <u>447</u> (Prehearing Procedures/Investigation), <u>448</u> (Hearing Process) and <u>449</u> (Sanctions and Remedies).

### The University Judicial Board

Defined in Section <u>445c</u>.
Sanctioning Role Section <u>449</u>.
Members of University Judicial Board









All members of our community may engage in our cherished traditions of free expression and open debate. However, the right to demonstrate cannot come at the expense of the right of others to counter-demonstrate, to teach, or to engage in academic pursuits requiring uninterrupted attention.

Every member of our community has the right to:

- Demonstrate / Rally / Picket
- Circulate petitions and distribute ideas
- Partake in debates
- Invite outsiders to participate,

...and the freedom to express opinions on any subject.

The University reasonably regulates the

- Time
- Place
- Manner

of certain forms of public expression to protect the rights of

- Free speech
- Free press
- Academic freedom

The University may restrict expression that constitutes a genuine threat of harassment, that unjustifiably invades an individual's privacy, or that falsely defames a specific individual.

Any member of the University who believes a violation of the Rules has been committed may file a written complaint: http://publicdocs.maxient.com/incidentreport.php?ColumbiaUniv

Reviews and recommends revision of Rules of University Conduct, as well as the means of enforcing rules.

16 members:

- 5 students including 1 Student Affairs Committee member
- 4 tenured faculty
- 2 non-tenured faculty
- 2 administrators
- 1 library staff
- 1 officer of research
- 1 administrative staff

Prepares material to facilitate procedures.

At least every four years, must facilitate public discussion, engaging faculty, students, and staff, about whether revision of the Rules is merited.

Receives, investigates, confers and can informally resolve or dismiss complaints; informs parties about administrative processes, files and presents charges to the University Judicial Board.

Appointed by the President in consultation with the Senate Executive Committee.

- Accepts complaints
- Conducts interviews and gathers pertinent information and documentation
- Informs the Dean of the relevant school(s).
- Directs the respondent, witnesses, and other interested individuals to preserve any relevant evidence.
- Will not interview witnesses whose sole purpose is to provide character information.
- Will not consider the respondent's prior conduct violations, unless the respondent was previously found to be responsible, or the previous incident was substantially similar to the present allegation(s) and/or the information indicates a pattern of behavior
- Can resolve certain cases through an informal process with the respondent.
- Prepares a report detailing the Rules Administrator's investigation
- Files charges with the University Judicial Board, as appropriate

For more on the Rules Administrator's responsibilities, see the sections listed above.

## Hears charges and imposes sanctions.

Members appointed by the Senate Executive Committee. Consists of five members including students, faculty members, and staff.

Only the University Judicial Board shall be empowered to determine whether the actions of the accused were in violation of the Rules.\*

\*Section 444b.



## **Additional Rights of the Respondent**

Detailed in Section 446.



### What is a Violation?

Detailed in Section <u>443</u>.



## Throughout the investigation and adjudication of allegations of misconduct, the respondent has rights:

- To respect, dignity, and sensitivity.
- To appropriate support from the University.
- To privacy to the extent possible consistent with applicable law, University policy, and the respondent's wishes.
- To information about the University's Rules of University Conduct.
- To the presence of an advisor throughout the process.
- To participate or to decline to participate in the investigation or hearing process. However, a decision to refrain from participating in the process either wholly or in part will not prevent the process from proceeding with the information available.
- To a prompt and thorough investigation of the allegations.
- To adequate time to review documents during and following the investigation.
- To adequate time to prepare for a hearing.
- To introduce evidence into the record and call witnesses on one's own behalf.
- To request access to University documents or camera footage that can be used in one's defense.
- To an opportunity to challenge the Rules Administrator, members of the University Judicial Board, or members of the Appeals Board for a possible conflict of interest.
- To refrain from making self-incriminating statements.
- To appeal the decision made by a hearing panel and any sanctions.
- To notification, in writing, of a report of misconduct, any charge filed, any resolution of the case, any factual findings of the investigation, any explanation of findings of responsibility, and any imposed sanctions, including the outcome of any appeal.
- To understand that information collected in the process may be subpoenaed in criminal or civil proceedings.

# The Rules apply to any demonstration at the University or a University-sponsored activity.

A person may be in violation of the rules by participating in a demonstration in a way that, for example:

- Interrupts a University function, either briefly or entirely
- Prevents passage into a University facility
- Endangers others
- Causes or threatens bodily harm, physical injury, or property damage or loss
- Includes failure to identify oneself or disperse under circumstances specified in the Rules.

A full list of violations appears here.

Read the full Rules of Conduct: https://universitypolicies.columbia.edu/content/rules-university-conduct