

religious organizations have access to benefits only through Campus Ministries, and all sports teams would have access to benefits only through Athletics. In the Fall of 2000, the Center for Student Programs, in conjunction with the Department of Athletics, created the Advisory Board for Club Sports, which works out of the Office of Student Programs. Access to benefits can be granted by any university department. Delta Sigma Theta and the Accounting Society, for example, have access to benefits through the McDonough School of Business.

Access to benefits is open to any other groups which have open membership, have at least twelve currently enrolled full time undergraduate students as members, do not duplicate any existing group, have a proper constitution, and agree to comply with university policy. Groups are not eligible if their purpose or activities are unlawful or in violation of university policy, endanger the safety of anyone or of university facilities, threaten to disrupt or obstruct university functions, foster hatred or intolerance of others, or "are inconsistent with acceptable conduct at an American University committed to the Roman Catholic moral tradition," are conducted secretly or as a fraternity or sorority or are purely commercial or financially profitable to group members.

Several benefits are granted routinely when access to benefits is granted. These include a mailbox, use of the University mailing service, and inclusion in the SAC Fair. Groups may apply for use of university labels and use of University facilities, among other things. They may apply to boards for offices and approval for selective membership (such as the Gracenotes, or the College Bowl.)

Particularly because of the limited university facilities, ability to apply for space on campus is a valuable and desirable benefit. The university has decided that this benefit will be tied to organizations which have been granted access to benefits and have been determined to have a purpose which will help "provide students with the opportunities for the development of knowledge and skills, the cultivation of virtues, and the formation of character respectful to the Catholic vision."

Students who are not members of an organization who wish to meet to discuss issues are able to reserve a classroom under the University's Speech and Expression Policy. They will need to sign the statement on a Classroom Request form acknowledging that they understand that they must tell those attending the meeting that it is not sponsored by Georgetown University or any part thereof, and that they have access to classroom space due to their status as a student at the University through the Speech and Expression Policy, before their request can be approved and taken to the Registrar's Office for scheduling of the classroom. They must explain to individuals present at their meeting that they have the room as a student under the Speech and Expression Policy, and that they and/or their group have no official affiliation with the university. Students are not able to have classroom space if their group falls into the six categories of specifically prohibited groups, as listed above.

Members of the community are also able to be in Red Square, or Leavey Lobby to express their ideas.

[| top |](#)

## **2. Advertising Policy for Student Media (-student publications, the student press and student radio, and TV stations)**

As publisher/manager, the University retains the right to:

1. Exclude advertisements for abortion services, (contraception, sperm donors) of any kind from any and all student media.
2. Deny use of funds from any University budget for any media containing such advertisement.
3. Take action through the procedures outlined below against any member of any editorial board approving such advertising.
4. Exclude advertisements paid through an exchange of goods and/or service other than cash unless involved in a promotion approved by the media's editorial board and cleared by the Center for Student Programs.
5. Exclude advertisements of research papers or research assistance services of any kind.
6. Exclude any advertising that promotes violation of the intention and spirit of the DC Code and/or Georgetown University regulations.

The University also reserves the right to specify further types of advertisements that it considers to be grossly unjust or inconsistent with the conscience of Georgetown as a Catholic, Jesuit educational institution and to prohibit such advertisements from student media. Any such future prohibitions must be made with the advice and consultation of the Media Board, must be specified in writing to all student media and must be added to the exclusionary rights of this policy on student media before denial of any allotted funds.

Only for proper and stated causes will editors and members of editorial boards be subject to sanctions and then only by orderly and prescribed procedures stated herein. No editor may be retroactively subject to sanction for previously unspecified transgressions.

[| top |](#)

## **3. University Alcohol and Other Drugs Policy**

### **THE POLICY IS BEING UPDATED.**

For the 2007-2008 University Alcohol Policy, please see the Office of Student Conduct web site at <http://studentconduct.georgetown.edu>.

[| top |](#)

## **4. Bias-Related Conduct**

### **Philosophy**

Georgetown values the unique and vital contributions that diverse members of the community bring to the educational endeavor. We believe that exposure to and learning from individuals with different backgrounds, perspectives, and experiences are essential to the education of citizens and future leaders in a global society. Creating an open and inclusive community and protecting the right of every individual and group to engage fully in a free exchange of ideas and mutually respectful dialogue requires a safe and welcoming environment that is free of hostility and intimidation. We recognize that part of ensuring rights to free speech and academic freedom is the creation and protection of such an environment.

For these reasons, the Georgetown student community strives to be inclusive, where all students are viewed as

equals, sharing the same rights, opportunities, and responsibilities. Any act that has the purpose or effect of unreasonably or substantially interfering with an individual or group's safety and security by creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive educational, living, or working environment will not be permitted.

### **I. Relevant Definitions and Policies**

While Georgetown's policies overall are imbued with this philosophy, of particular importance are the Speech and Expression policy (see Section 3: Policies) and the Student Code of Conduct (see Section 4: Student Conduct). This policy is also guided by the Policy on Affirmative Action, the Policy on Sexual Harassment, and the Ethos Statement.

The Speech and Expression Policy states:

"All members of the Georgetown University academic community, which comprises students, faculty and administrators, enjoy the right to freedom of speech and expression. This freedom includes the right to express points of view on the widest range of public and private concerns and to engage in the robust expression of ideas... As is true with society at large, however, this freedom is subject to reasonable restrictions of time, place and manner, as described herein, although such restrictions shall be applied without discrimination toward the content of the view being expressed or the speaker."

Guidelines for bias related infractions (see Section 4: Student Conduct)

Bias-related Student Code of Conduct (Code) violations are especially intolerable in view of the University's commitment to respect for all members of the community. The term "bias-related" refers to Code violations that include language and/or behaviors which demonstrate bias against persons because of, but not limited to, others actual or perceived: color, disability, ethnicity, gender, national origin, race, religion, and/or sexual orientation.

By its very nature, bias will be deemed an aggravating circumstance to any violation of the Code, regardless of its category. Consequently, bias-related violations will result in a more serious sanction up to, and including, permanent separation from the University.

Examples of bias-related code violations include:

Actions that result in the defacement of another's personal property or University property (thereby constituting defacement under the Code), which make use of slurs, phrases, symbols, or conduct, or which are directed at specific property that signifies group affiliation, in such a way as to make an individual or group feel intimidated or unwelcome because of their actual or perceived color, disability, ethnicity, gender, national origin, race, religion, and/or sexual orientation.

Any intimidating, hostile, coercive, and/or offensive act which is intentional or persistent (thereby constituting harassment under the Code), which makes use of slurs, phrases, symbols, or conduct, or which is directed at specific individuals or groups of individuals, in such a way as to make an individual or group feel intimidated or unwelcome because of their actual or perceived color, disability, ethnicity, gender, national origin, race, religion, and/or sexual orientation.

Examples of acts that would not be considered a bias-related violation include:

Posting flyers for public events on campus that use speech that may be considered offensive or inflammatory by another individual or group, where the posting is done in a way that does not deface or destroy personal or University property.

Expressing ideas, thoughts, and feelings in public events (such as speeches, dialogues, panel discussions, rallies, etc...) that may be considered harsh or extreme by another individual or group, where the expressions do not amount to harassment.

### **II. Procedures on Responding to Hostile or Unwelcome Behavior**

The following suggestions will assist students in deciding how to respond when an individual or group acts in a way that would cause them to feel uncomfortable. Such behavior could be bias-related, but these guidelines apply both to instances where bias is a component and where it is not a component. In all cases, the University community provides services and resources that will assist students in processing and responding to hostile or unwelcome behavior.

Students should be aware that as empowering as it may be to advocate for themselves, such advocacy is not always the best or most appropriate choice in every situation. No incident that involves physical violence or the threat of physical violence should be addressed without the assistance of a professional University staff person, the Department of Public Safety (DPS), or the Metropolitan Police Department. You should always seek help if you are feeling unsafe or threatened.

a. Informal procedures tend to concentrate on conciliation, not sanctions, and stop short of filing a formal complaint with the Office of Student Conduct. This is often the best way to handle a situation that is not overtly threatening and where the individual is open to discussion or to exploring resolution. Some methods might include: face-to-face conversation or writing a letter. These are only suggestions. University staff is available to consult with students prior to any communication and to assist them in planning to utilize any informal procedure.

Mediation is another possibility for resolution. Mediation seeks to increase both parties' ability to communicate and increase their understanding in order to resolve the conflict in a mutually agreeable manner. The staff members in the offices of Residence Life, Student Conduct, Center for Minority Educational Affairs, Health Education Services, and Off Campus Affairs are trained and available to assist students through a mediation process.

With any of these methods, should the response be extremely hostile or if the behavior does not desist, there are University officials trained and able to assist you. The following people could assist you in assessing the situation and determining your next course of action: any Residence Life Senior Staff person; Carolyn Hurwitz, Sexual Assault Services Coordinator; Judy Johnson, Director of Student Conduct; or Jeanne Lord, Associate Dean of Students and Director of Off Campus Student Life.

b. Procedures for Initiating a Formal Complaint Although some situations can be worked out informally, this is not always the case. Some situations should receive a formal review to determine the most effective course of resolution. Incidents that place an individual and/or the community at risk of physical or emotional harm warrant the direct involvement of University staff. In its section, How to File a Complaint (See Section 4: Student Conduct), the Code of Student Conduct details a step-by-step outline of the University's process.

All students of Georgetown University should also be aware of their rights, responsibilities, and duties under local law. District of Columbia law provides enhanced penalties for certain crimes in which bias plays a role.

It is the policy of Georgetown University Department of Public Safety (DPS) to contact all relevant local or federal law enforcement agencies in all cases where bias-related crimes may have taken place. These agencies will make their own independent determinations of how to proceed with investigations and/or referrals for prosecution. The decisions of the relevant law enforcement agencies should not be viewed as a replacement for Georgetown University's procedures under the Student Code of Conduct. Students may face penalties under the Student Code of Conduct, regardless of the outcome of any criminal investigation by public official. However, Georgetown, at its sole discretion may allow any pending criminal investigation to be concluded before it proceeds.

a. Reporting to the Community Georgetown publishes crime statistics annually, including bias-related conduct, in compliance with the Jeanne Cleary Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Crime Statistics Act. A copy may be acquired by contacting the Department of Public Safety. Further, as required by the Act, the University provides timely warnings to the campus community of certain crimes if they represent a threat to students and employees.

### III. Services and Resources

The University encourages all students to make use of appropriate resources and will assist all persons involved in an allegation of bias-related crimes. The primary resources are the Associate Dean of Students and the Director of Residence Life, both of whom are located in the Office of Student Affairs, 530 Leavey Center. The Director of Special Programs, located in the Office of the Provost, 650 Bunn Intercultural Center, is also a primary resource, especially if the allegation involves an employee of the University.

Structures are in place within Affirmative Action, Residence Life, Counseling and Psychiatric Services, the Women's Center, the Center for Minority Educational Affairs, Health Education Services, Campus Ministry, Student Conduct, the Department of Public Safety, the Student Primary Care Clinic, and the Vice President of Student Affairs Office to support students throughout the process. Each office is prepared to offer assistance to students both on an emergency and an ongoing basis. In addition to the previously mentioned resources on campus, referrals for off-campus counseling and support services can be provided for both the Complainant and the Respondent upon request. All offices respect and support students' right to privacy.

### IV. Prevention and Educational Programs

In addition to providing policies, protections and sanctions related to acts and incidents of bias, Georgetown has created a range of programs and educational resources designed to create and promote the kind of open and inclusive climate to which the University is committed. These programs include: The Center for Minority Educational Affairs, Women's Center, Affirmative Action Office, Diversity Working Group, Georgetown University Incident Response Team, Safe Zone, and Diversity Ambassadors.

### V. Oversight

Oversight of this policy is provided by the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs through the Disciplinary Review Committee in collaboration with the Director of Special Programs (Diversity Working Group and the Incident Response Team).

| [top](#) |

## 5. Computer Systems Acceptable Use Policy

Revised: October 28, 2005

Approved by the Faculty Senate January, 2006

### STATEMENT:

This policy is designed to establish acceptable and appropriate use of computer and information systems, networks and other information technology resources at Georgetown University. More importantly, it is meant as an application of the principles of respect and reverence for every person that are at the core of Georgetown's Catholic, Jesuit identity.

[back to top](#)

### APPLICABILITY:

Anyone using Georgetown University information technology resources. This includes all students, faculty and staff, fellows, visiting scholars, affiliates, campus visitors, Georgetown University Hospital employees when they use GU resources, et al.

[back to top](#)

### GUIDING PRINCIPLES:

The Georgetown University community is encouraged to make innovative and creative use of information technologies in support of education and research. Access to information representing a multitude of views on current and historical issues is allowed for the interest, information and enlightenment of the Georgetown University community. Consistent with other University policies, this policy is intended to respect the rights and obligations of academic freedom. The University recognizes that the purpose of copyright is to protect the rights of the creators of intellectual property and to prevent the unauthorized use or sale of works available in the private sector. Also consistent with other University policies, an individual's right of access to information technology resources and materials should not be denied or abridged because of race, creed, color, age, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, or disability.

Georgetown University computing and network resources are to be used only for University-related research,