


 Dartmouth Dean of the College

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## Dartmouth Community Standards of Conduct

**Preamble:** Students and student organizations at Dartmouth College accept membership in an academic community dedicated to the pursuit of intellectual and personal growth. Dartmouth seeks to provide educational opportunities of excellence, both in and outside the classroom, to assist students to develop critical thinking, integrity, judgment, appreciation of cultural and ethnic diversity, as well as social and ethical values necessary for community life. Dartmouth College expects its students and student organizations to conduct themselves in a manner which is consistent with the institutional community's pursuit of its educational objectives. The integrity of the Dartmouth community depends upon students' and student organizations' acceptance of individual responsibility and respect for the rights of others. All Dartmouth students and student organizations must abide by College policies.

The College has developed a set of Standards of Conduct which govern the behavior and activities of individual students and student organizations on or off campus. Violation of the Standards set forth below may subject individuals or recognized organizations to disciplinary action. Changes in the enumeration or definition of these Standards may take place from time to time and such changes take effect upon appropriate notice to the Dartmouth community by the Dean of the College.

Students and recognized organizations have an obligation to obey the rules and regulations governing disciplinary proceedings of the COS, the Dean of the College, and other College authorities having disciplinary responsibility. Further, individuals and recognized organizations are obligated to obey the decisions of the COS, the Dean of the College, and the Class Deans and to meet, on request, with the deans, the Director or Assistant Director of Undergraduate Judicial Affairs, and other College officials in the course of an investigation.

Dartmouth's undergraduate disciplinary system is not intended to address every social ill or every grievance one member of the community may have against another. There are many behaviors that most members of the community would find rude, disrespectful or obnoxious that violate no College regulation and are, therefore, not adjudicable under the disciplinary system. The fact that many behaviors are not adjudicable does not mean that the College does not take them seriously or fails to appreciate their negative impact on individuals or on the community. For example, the College has developed the "Principle of Community" which in itself is not adjudicable. In this context, there are responses which are more effective and more in keeping with the aspirations of an academic community: expressions of disapproval in the exchange of different ideas through free and open discussion and debate.

Nevertheless, the College has established community standards of conduct which are adjudicable. The purpose of these standards and the system for implementing them is not simply to prohibit misbehavior and to punish violations of regulations. All communities, including academic communities like Dartmouth,

have the need to articulate standards of conduct; to educate people about behavior and traits of character that the community wishes to promote or discourage; to protect members of the community from unwarranted interference or harm; to hold individuals and groups responsible for their actions and the consequences of their behavior; and to cultivate in an environment conducive to the achievement of the community's purposes, in this case, the purpose of learning. In other words, codes or standards of conduct and disciplinary systems exist to preserve and enforce the values of the community.

Students should recognize that student membership in the Dartmouth community is a privilege, and that certain types of misbehavior will result in temporary or, where appropriate, permanent revocation of membership. Students who have disciplinary cases pending are not eligible for a degree until the case has been resolved and the student has been restored to good standing. In any case in which penalties are imposed, the case is not resolved until the suspension, period of probation, or other penalty has been completed. Additionally, some disciplinary infractions may result in the revocation of certain student privileges, such as driving College vehicles for college-sponsored activities.

### **Standard I**

Students and student organizations must not engage in behavior which causes or threatens physical harm to another person or which would reasonably be expected to cause physical harm to another person.

Examples of such behavior include but are not limited to:

Conduct which places another in reasonable fear for his or her safety or in danger of bodily harm; use or threat of physical violence or injurious conduct (whether directed at another, at oneself, or at an object); hazing (See: Hazing).

### **Standard II**

Students and student organizations must not engage in behavior that threatens the safety, security or functioning of the College, the safety and security of its members, or the safety and security of others.

Examples of such behavior include, but are not limited to:

- Disorderly conduct. The College requires orderly conduct of all students while in Hanover and its environs, as well as at any College-related function or activity, whether in Hanover or elsewhere (including, for example, students on off-campus programs or players and spectators at "away" athletic contests).
- Coercion, harassment or hazing. Harassment is defined as abusive behavior or conduct that is targeted at an individual or group and is ordinarily repeated (See also: Hazing).
- Any disruption of the orderly processes of the College (See also: Standard VIII).
- Operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of alcohol or other drugs (See: Alcohol Laws of the State of New Hampshire).
- Knowingly providing false information or making misrepresentations to any College officer, College committee, duly-recognized College organization, or member of the College community acting on behalf of the College; or in any way misrepresenting to any individual or agency their status at or relationship with the College (e.g., enrolled, graduated, authorized to represent, etc.). Students are obligated to provide College personnel with accurate identification upon request. Also, students may not forge, alter, or use or possess without authorization College documents, records, billing numbers, or instruments of identification. Students may not possess any falsified instrument of identification (The prohibition on false statements or

information includes statements or information provided during the admissions process.

See: Misrepresentations in Admissions Procedures).

Students must comply with the College policy on weapons (including prohibition against possession or use of conventional firearms, air guns, gas-powered guns, or any slingshot device) (see: Weapons, Firearms, Fireworks, and Projectiles) and are prohibited from possessing, storing, or using fireworks or other explosives. Tampering or interference with, as well as destruction or misuse of, fire safety, fire prevention, or other emergency equipment is also prohibited.

Tampering with locks to College buildings, unauthorized possession or use of College keys or access cards, and the alteration or duplication of College keys or access cards are prohibited under this standard as is the unauthorized entry or presence in private rooms, offices, or other restricted areas including campus construction sites. This standard applies to sporting events as well, where unauthorized presence in reserved, restricted, recognized and/or posted areas, or on athletic playing surfaces, tracks, or sidelines is prohibited.

Misappropriation of or negligent or intentional damage to personal or College property.

In general, any conduct which interferes with the College's responsibility to protect the health and safety of its members or visitors, to protect College property or the property of others, to carry out its functions, or to provide its members and others with services would also be in violation of this standard.

### **Standard III**

Students and student organizations are prohibited from engaging in sexual abuse of any kind. (See: Sexual Abuse) Sexual abuse includes, but is not limited to: conduct of a sexual nature which reasonably would be expected to have the effect of threatening or intimidating the person at whom such conduct is directed; intentional physical contact with an intimate part of the body of another person without that person's consent; sexual intercourse when such contact is achieved without consent; through physical force, coercion, or threat, or in situations in which the victim is unable to give consent because of physical or mental incapacitation by reason of drug or alcohol consumption, sleep, or unconsciousness.

### **Standard IV**

Students and student organizations shall abide by the College's Student Alcohol and Drug Policies. (See: Student Alcohol Policy, and Student Drug Policy)

### **Standard V**

Students and student organizations shall abide by the Academic Honor Principle. (See: Academic Honor Principle) The wide spectrum of behaviors encompassed by this standard, and cases of repeated violations, will incur the most serious sanctions the College can impose, up to and including separation.

### **Standard VI**

Students and student organizations are subject to disciplinary action for violation of the laws of any jurisdiction, whether local, state, federal, or foreign.

Evidence of a conviction in a court or administrative proceeding, or written admission of a violation of this standard shall be conclusive as to a violation of law. Pendency of an appeal of a conviction shall not affect the application of this standard.

## **Standard VII**

Students and student organizations must abide by College policies, rules, and regulations.

These include, but are not limited to, those policies, rules, or regulations published in the undergraduate Student Handbook or any other official College publications, as well as the operating regulations (both written and oral) of academic and non-academic offices, centers, classrooms, laboratories, and departments of the College. Failure to comply with the terms of a disciplinary sanction is also a violation of this standard (See: Rules and Regulations, for a partial listing).

## **Standard VIII**

Students and student organizations must not intentionally disrupt, interfere with, or obstruct teaching, research, or College administration.

Actions among those considered to constitute intentional disruption of the orderly processes of the College include, but are not limited to, the following:

- the unauthorized entry into, or occupation of a private office, work area, or a closed and/or posted College building;
- the failure to maintain clear passage into, out of, or to any part of a College building or passageway;
- conduct that interferes with normal activities or movements in a building, including the failure to vacate a building or office at its normal closing time (the presence of College employees or other authorized individuals in a building or office after hours does not alter the normal closing time);
- conduct that restricts or prevents College employees from performing their duties; or
- conduct (including by way of example, obstruction, noise, or the display of banners or objects) that prevents or disrupts the effective carrying out of a College function or approved activity, such as classes, lectures, meetings, interviews, ceremonies, and public events.

Interference with fair and equal access to the computing and library resources of the College is also prohibited by this standard.