50.1 STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

APPROVAL AUTHORITY: VICE PRESIDENT FOR UNIVERSITY ENROLLMENT AND ADMINISTRATION

RESPONSIBLE EXECUTIVE: VICE PRESIDENT FOR UNIVERSITY ENROLLMENT AND ADMINISTRATION

RESPONSIBLE OFFICE: OFFICE OF STUDENT LIFE

REVISION EFFECTIVE DATE: FEBRUARY 10, 2009

INTRODUCTION

Stevens Institute of Technology is dedicated to providing an environment that reflects its core values of honor, academic integrity, trust, and mutual respect; and which offers opportunities for every student to develop academically, personally and professionally. To this end the conduct of Stevens undergraduate and graduate students is expected to reflect these values.

The Student Code of Conduct provides guidance concerning the kinds of expressions that are consistent with Stevens mission and values, and promotes interactions and behaviors appropriate in a higher education community. The Student Code of Conduct fosters a climate in which all students, faculty, and staff feel safe, and valued. It is applicable in any university owned, operated, leased, controlled or affiliated property, at university sponsored or officially sanctioned activities on or off campus. These include but are not limited to:

- All Stevens housing
- All Stevens owned, operated or affiliated fraternities and sororities
- All Stevens academic and administration buildings
- Activities approved, recognized or sponsored by the University

While providing a safe and supportive environment, the university complies with State and Federal laws and regulations, and also affords each student the opportunity to exercise certain liberties. In turn students are expected to function as responsible and productive members of the Stevens community – these mutual expectations foster a productive and resourceful learning community.

STUDENT RIGHTS

Access to Higher Education

All facilities and services at Stevens are accessible equally to all enrolled students, regardless of race, religious creed, gender, national origin, sexual orientation, ethnicity, age, or physical challenges.

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)/Buckley Amendment

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) (20 U.S.C. § 1232g; 34 CFR Part 99) is a Federal law that protects the privacy of student education records. The law applies to all schools that receive funds under an applicable program of the U.S. Department of Education. Generally, schools must have written permission from the parent or eligible student in order to release any information from a student's education record, however there are certain exceptions – visit www.gov.edu for further information and clarification.

Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA)

HIPAA is the “Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996”, Public Law 104-191. HIPAA contains three parts relevant to healthcare information, which include requirements related to -- Privacy of individually identifiable health information; Security of electronic health information; and Standardization of transaction and code sets. There are two exceptions to this rule: certain infectious diseases must be reported to the Department of Public Health under requirements of the law, and documents must be surrendered upon the receipt of a court ordered subpoena. Visit www.njha.com for further information and clarification.
STUDENT LIBERTIES

- Respect for personal feelings, freedom from indignity and to expect an education of the highest quality.
- To participate in student self-governing bodies which provide channels of communication and means for using democratic processes to solve problems.
- Forums to hear and participate in dialogue and to examine diverse views and ideas
- An environment that fosters productive scholarly discussion.
- Access to a disciplinary process that is consistent with the Student Code of Conduct and procedures that are published in the Student Handbook.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

Each Stevens undergraduate and graduate student is charged with the responsibility to observe and abide by the Student Code of Conduct. It is also the students’ responsibility to ensure that their guests are aware of and abide by the code. The Stevens student will be held responsible for any behavior of their guests not be in keeping with the Student Code of Conduct. A guest is anyone currently not matriculating at Stevens or employed by the university.

Additional responsibilities include:

- Knowledge and observance of established university policies
- Continually upholding the Student Code of Conduct while participating in groups or organizations, with the understanding that individuals, groups and/or organizations may be held accountable for their actions.
- Undergraduates adhering to all aspects of the Stevens Honor System
- Respect for the exchange of scholarly discussion
- Ensuring guests are aware of, and abide by the tenets of the Student Code of Conduct, and comply with all rules and regulations while on Stevens property, included but not limited to Residence Halls, academic buildings and university owned and/or monitored facilities. Student hosts assume responsibility for any damage caused to university property by their guest(s).
- Assuming the consequence of one’s own actions, including those which defame, libel, injure or sexually harass others.
- Upholding the Code of Conduct while participating in a group or organization, as all groups and organizations may be held accountable for the actions of its members. Group misconduct need not be officially approved by the entire membership in order to be grounds for disciplinary action. In some cases, the conduct of a single member may provide sufficient grounds for action against the entire group.
- Complying with the Student Code of Conduct, and all laws of the city, state, and nation.
- Insure that no student organization, constitution or other organizational document includes discriminatory clauses pertaining to race, creed, religion, color, sex, national origin, disability or sexual orientation.
CONDUCT REQUIRED
All individuals shall conduct themselves in a manner consistent with the mission of the university. Any student who fails to conduct himself/herself in such a manner violates this code and a disciplinary sanction may be imposed.
The following are behaviors consistent with the Student Code of Conduct:
• Integrity by maintaining an ongoing dedication to honesty and responsibility
• Trustworthiness by acting in a reliable and dependable manner
• Respect by treating others with civility and decency

CONDUCT PROHIBITED
The following are violations of the Student Code of Conduct and may result in expulsion or a lesser sanction:
1. Commission of an act which would constitute an offense under appropriate federal, state, or local criminal statutes.
2. Violation of university regulations or campus policies approved by either the Board of Trustees or the President and/or described in official university publications.
3. Academic dishonesty and impropriety: for undergraduates enrolled in undergraduate courses all behaviors which violate the Stevens Honor System (http://www.stevens.edu/honor/), including, but not limited to plagiarism, academic cheating, and failure to report an Honor System violation; those enrolled in graduate courses are subject to the policy on academic improprieties contained in the Graduate Handbook (http://www.stevens.edu/gradacademics/handbook/grades.html).

Falsification of Records
4. Furnishing false information to the university, and/or forging, altering or misusing university documents, records or identification, including, but not limited to, giving false testimony or other evidence at a disciplinary proceeding.
5. Unauthorized use of the name or insignia of the university by an individual or a group.

Disruptive Conduct
6. Unauthorized use, misuse, taking possession or destruction of public, private or university property on campus, or acts committed with disregard of possible harm to such property.
7. Obstruction or disruption of Stevens operations (academic and non-academic) and/or obstruction or disruption of university-authorized activities on property owned or controlled by Stevens.
8. Creating noise in such a way as to interfere with university functions or using sound amplification equipment in a loud and raucous manner.
9. Unauthorized entry, presence or use, or blocking of ingress or egress, of Stevens facilities or property.
10. Misuse of telephone - no student shall make or assist in making unauthorized or annoying telephone calls or otherwise misuse or abuse telephone equipment.
11. Failure to comply with the directives of a Stevens official acting in the performance of his/her duties.
12. Failure to respond to an official summons to the office of an administrative officer within the designated time.
13. Intentionally and substantially interfering with the freedom of expression of others on the campus or at a university sponsored activity.
15. Intentional disruption of the university’s computer systems, unauthorized alteration, disclosure, or destruction of Stevens computer systems or material, improper access to the University’s computer files and systems, or violation of copyright or proprietary material restrictions connected with the university’s computer systems, programs or material.
16. Computer abuse - this includes but is not limited to, plagiarism of programs, misuse of computer accounts, unauthorized destruction of files, creating illegal accounts, possession of unauthorized passwords, and disruptive or annoying behavior on the University's computer system.
17. Unauthorized use or copying of university keys.
18. No pets except fish may be housed in university buildings or grounds.
19. No person may place or erect any facility or structure upon university lands.
20. No person may climb into, out of or on university buildings, or walk upon the roof, balcony or fire escape of a university owned or affiliated building, except when an emergency exist and access to a fire escape is necessary.
21. Knowingly violating the terms of any disciplinary sanction imposed in accordance with this policy.
22. Intentionally filing a false complaint under this code.
23. Aiding or abetting any conduct described in this code.
24. Failure to be fully responsible for the behavior of guests at a university event, on university’s premises or in university’s residence halls. A guest is defined as any person that is not a Stevens student, faculty or staff member.
25. Obstruction and failure to comply with a request by Campus Police or a university official to enter any property associated with the university.

Abuse and Harassment
26. Physical or violent verbal abuse of any person.
27. Conduct that threatens or endangers the physical or mental health or safety of any person including oneself.
28. Actions that amount to intimidation, harassment (physical or verbal) or hazing, or involve the forced consumption of liquor or drugs.
29. Harassing, in person, by telephone, in writing, or by other means, annoying or alarming another person, attempting or threatening to strike, kick or otherwise subject another person to physical contact, addressing abusive language to any person, following a person in or about an university location or locations, or engaging in a course of conduct or repeatedly committing acts that alarm or seriously annoy another person.
30. Engaging in sexual harassment or assault, including but not limited to, non-consensual physical contact of a sexual nature, unwelcome sexual advances, unwelcome requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical conduct or communications constituting sexual harassment.
31. Stalking, defined as a person purposely and repeatedly following another person and engaging in a series of acts over a period of time, that alarms or annoys that person or that places that person in reasonable fear for his/her safety.
32. Hazing of a member or members of any organization. Hazing is defined as any action or situation that intentionally or unintentionally endangers the mental or physical health or safety of a student or that willfully destroys or removes public or private property for the purpose of initiation or admission into an organization.

Fire, Firearms, Explosives and Safety Systems
33. Possession, use, or storage of any firearms or other weapons, explosives, fireworks or incendiary, dangerous or noxious devices or materials as defined by NJ State laws and statutes on property owned or controlled by the university or at functions sponsored or supervised by the university.
34. Circulating a report or warning that property under university control or supervision may be subject to a bombing, fire, crime, emergency or other catastrophe, knowing that the report or warning is false.
35. Intentionally or recklessly burning or setting fire to or in any building or starting unauthorized fire on University property.
36. The illegal use or possession of (or tampering with) safety equipment

Drugs, Alcohol, Gambling and indecency
37. Use, possession, or sale of marijuana, narcotics or dangerous, illegal or controlled substances or drug paraphernalia (except as expressly permitted by law).
38. To serve or make available alcoholic beverages to individuals under 21 years of age.
39. Possession or use of alcoholic beverages by individuals under 21 years of age.
40. Possession and/or consumption from a "common source" such as a keg or beer ball are strictly prohibited within the residence halls and Greek houses.
41. Unauthorized possession of an open container of an alcoholic beverage.
42. Unauthorized distribution of alcoholic beverages or possession of alcoholic beverages for purposes of distribution.
43. Drunken or disorderly behavior.
44. Gambling in any form on campus except as provided by law.
45. Lewd, indecent, or obscene conduct.