STUDENT MISCONDUCT RESOLUTION SYSTEMS

The Office of the Dean of students resolves non-academic complaints made against University of Iowa students. Allegations of academic misconduct, including accusations of plagiarism and cheating, are resolved by the Dean of the respective college. The subsequent annual report only pertains to allegations of non-academic misconduct, including accusations of theft, assault, harassment, classroom disruption, and alcohol and other drug violations.

When it has been determined after investigation or hearing that one or more University policies have been violated, one or more final sanctions may be imposed. Below is a list of sanctions that may be imposed. A more thorough list and explanation of sanctions can be found in the Student Judicial Procedure portion of the Dean of Students website in section 14.

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The Code of Student Life presents standards of student behavior and conduct that create a campus environment where ideas can be freely exchanged, University property and processes are secured, and conflict is peacefully resolved. A detailed description of the Code of Student Life (CSL), including definitions of terms, scope, and a detailed list of prohibited conduct can be found here.

NOTE: The following pages contain summary information about student disciplinary complaints resolved by the Office of Student Conduct. Because disciplinary complaints are educational record information protected by federal law, personally identifiable information contained in non-academic student disciplinary files is not released to the public as a general practice. Individual students are not identified in this report, and information is presented in such a manner as to ensure confidentiality of the parties.

I. SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS OF NON-ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT COMPLAINTS RECEIVED BY THE STUDENT CONDUCT OFFICE

Between June 1, 2015 and May 31, 2016, the Student Conduct Office (SCO) received 985 reports accusing a student of non-academic misconduct. The 985 figure includes cases with sanctions, cases dismissed, and cases not investigated. This figure does not include cases investigated by University Housing & Dining. The group of non-investigated cases included situations where the individual accused of misconduct was not currently enrolled, and cases where an SCO staff member sent a Policy Reminder Letter to the student without meeting with them. Some students named in a complaint June 1, 2015 and May 31, 2016 were involved in more than one infraction. Often, a student was accused of more than one infraction (such as possession of alcohol and a fake ID card). As in previous years, the vast majority of reports (87.9%) came from local law enforcement agencies.
A. SOURCE OF COMPLAINTS

Not every police complaint was investigated between June 1, 2015 and May 31, 2016. Consistent with the previous year’s practice, SCO staff investigated Public Intoxication and Possession of Alcohol Under Legal Age (PAULA) complaints filed by police in Iowa City in addition to other types of complaints. For Disorderly House charges, all of which involved off-campus noise violations, SCO staff followed a two-step practice. For the first offense of Disorderly House, a Policy Reminder letter was issued. A second Disorderly House charge resulted in a Code of Student Life investigation of both incidents.
B. OVERVIEW OF ALLEGED MISCONDUCT

Chart B.
Total Criminal Charges by Type
2015-2016

- Unlawful Use of a License: 11
- Under 21 after 10 pm in a Bar: 138
- Theft: 25
- Smoking in a Prohibited Area: 12
- Public Urination: 17
- Public Intoxication: 33
- Possession of Drug Paraphernalia: 32
- Possession of a Fictitious License: 43
- Possession of a Controlled Substance: 32
- PAULA: 9
- Operating While Intoxicated: 123
- Open Container: 35
- Interference with Official Acts: 7
- Emergency Room Transport - Drugs: 92
- Alcohol Emergency Room Transport: 28
- Driving While License Suspended: 1
- Disorderly House: 73
- Disorderly Conduct: 15
- Criminal Mischeif: 9
- Assault: 10

Chart showing total criminal charges by type from 2015 to 2016.
Analyzing the caseload by academic status shows that over one-third of the 985 cases investigated by the Student Conduct Office between June 1, 2015 and May 31, 2016 involved first-year students (TABLE C). Although the great majority of students named in disciplinary complaints were undergraduates (97.5% of the caseload), only a small percentage of all undergraduates were accused of misconduct. During AY 2015-16, 4.1% of the 21,927 UI undergraduates were named in a report received by the Student Conduct Office. For the cohort of first-year students, 7.2% were named in Student Conduct Office reports.
As in previous years, the bulk of disciplinary complaints investigated in between June 1, 2015 and May 31, 2016 arose during the fall semester. The Student Conduct Office received an average of 82 cases each month, although the actual number varied considerably. Relatively few cases arose during July of 2015. The largest volume was received in August, September, and February. Many of the fall semester infractions occurred on home football game weekends.

E. SANCTIONS

Status sanctions recommended by the Student Conduct Office staff ranged from disciplinary warnings to suspension from the University. In determining an appropriate sanction in AY 2015-16, the investigator assigned to the case took into account the nature of the misconduct and the offender’s disciplinary history. If cases involved alcohol or illegal drugs, the judicial administrator followed the sanction policy spelled out in the Student Judicial Procedure.

Of the 985 reports received between June 1, 2015 and May 31, 2016, an investigation was undertaken in 853 cases. In 132 cases not investigated, a Policy Reminder letter was issued. In total, a status sanction was imposed in 65% (639) of the 985 cases. The remaining 35% of cases were either dismissed with no sanctions imposed, or the case was not resolved because the accused student was no longer enrolled at the University of Iowa.

Of all the status sanctions imposed, disciplinary reprimand was the most common (TABLE E-1). For students placed on disciplinary probation, the probation period typically expired at the end of the current academic year or during the upcoming academic year. Students placed on probation returned to good standing at the conclusion of the probationary period so long as they did not commit a subsequent infraction.
In many cases resolved during the year, an educational sanction was recommended in addition to a status sanction (e.g., probation). Substance use counseling was the primary educational sanction assigned between June 1, 2015 and May 31, 2016. As a result of the substantial number of alcohol-related and drug-related complaints investigated, several hundred students were referred to a substance use program at Student Health & Wellness.

Critical MASS (Mentoring and Student Support) was also used as an educational sanction between June 1, 2015 and May 31, 2016. The Critical MASS program was created to support students found responsible for violations of the Code of Student Life, and help them learn about campus resources to lessen the possibility of additional policy violations in the future. Critical MASS mentors are UI faculty, staff and graduate students with at least one year of experience at the University. The Critical MASS program pairs faculty, staff, and graduate students with undergraduate students assigned to complete the program. Mentors will meet with their mentees at least four times during the course of a semester. Meetings are typically held in-person, last about sixty minutes, and monitor how a student is doing, progress towards their substance use goals, and provide them with information and additional resources from campus.

The Transfer Plan sanction was used in cases where students were placed on Disciplinary Probation and in danger of receiving University Suspension in the event of future misconduct. Students who received this sanction are asked to research other colleges or universities that they would attend in lieu of attending the University of Iowa.
The Student Conduct Office (SCO) opened 39 cases for investigation during the period June 1, 2015 to May 31, 2016, alleging sexual misconduct, domestic abuse, dating violence, or stalking (SM/DA/DV/S). Title IX related cases came to the office from multiple sources including: complaints filed by victims through the Office of the Sexual Misconduct Response Coordinator (OSMRC), routine review of police activity, and direct complaints to this office. Many matters not reflected in this report are resolved without formal investigation, and may include a policy reminder letter issued by this office, accommodations arranged through OSMRC, or a decision that the alleged activity does not fall within the jurisdiction of the Code of Student Life. The overall number of Sexual Misconduct investigations opened declined slightly as compared to the 51 cases opened between June 1, 2014 and May 31, 2015.

The chart below illustrates the types of cases opened between June 1, 2015 and May 31, 2016:
The chart below illustrates the outcome of the 39 investigations opened between June 1, 2015 and May 31, 2016:

* A student who withdraws their registration before the issuance of the investigator’s report is not permitted to re-enroll without the permission of the Dean of Students. In one instance of domestic violence the student withdrew prior to enrollment.

For more information related to the overall level of Title IX related activity on campus, please see the Annual Security Report filed by the UI Department of Public Safety as well as the report from the Office of the Sexual Misconduct Response Coordinator (OSMRC).