## Office of Student Accountability Annual Report June 1, 2018 – May 31, 2019

The Office of Student Accountability resolves non-academic reports 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 reports of non-academic misconduct, including accusations of theft, assault, harassment, classroom disruption, and alcohol and other drug violations made between June 1, 2018 and May 31, 2019.

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 <u>Student Misconduct Procedure</u> portion of the Dean of Students website in section 14.

| Status Sanctions       | Limited Exclusion      | Educational Sanctions     |
|------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|
| Disciplinary Reprimand | No Contact Order       | Critical MASS             |
| Disciplinary Probation | Building Prohibition   | Transfer Plan             |
| Suspension             | Restriction from Class | Student Health & Wellness |
| Expulsion              |                        |                           |

The Code of Student Life presents standards of student behavior that seek to 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 <a href="here">here</a>.

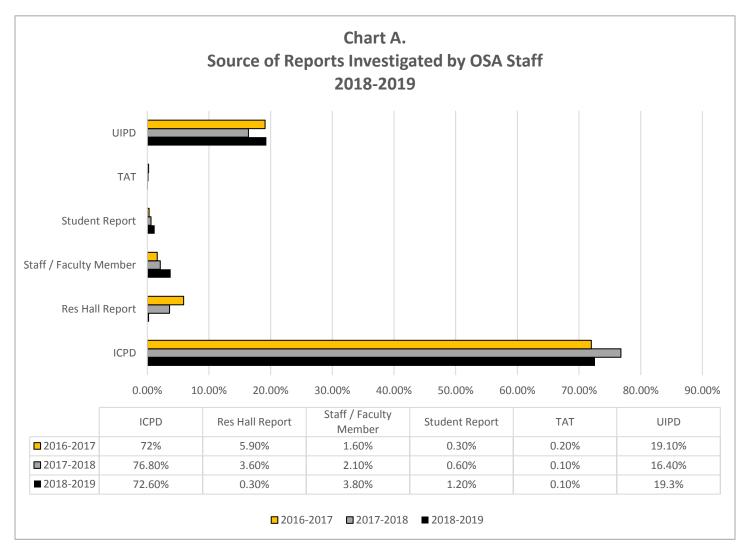
NOTE: The following pages contain summary information about student disciplinary complaints resolved by the Office of Student Accountability. Because disciplinary reports are educational record information protected by federal law, personally identifiable information contained in non-academic student 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.

# Summary and Analysis of Non-Academic Misconduct Reports Received by the Office of Student Accountability

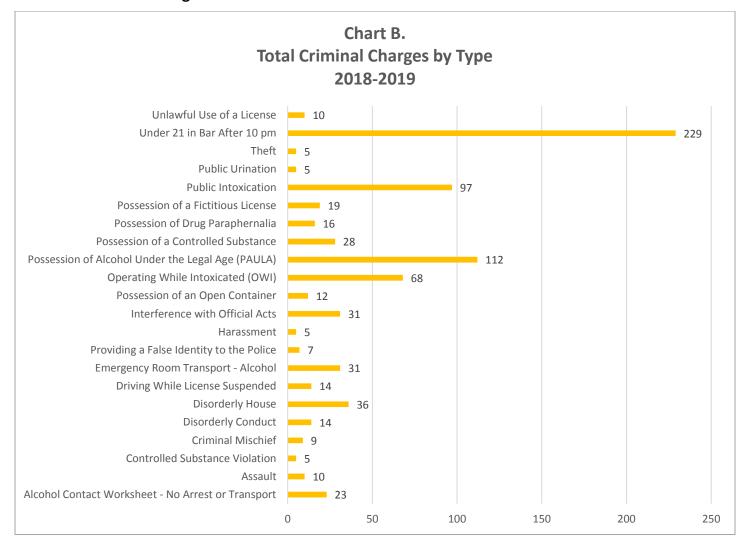
Between June 1, 2018 and May 31, 2019, the Office of Student Accountability (OSA) received 745 reports alleging that a student may have engaged in non-academic misconduct. The 767 figure includes cases with sanctions, cases dismissed, and cases not investigated. This figure does not include cases investigated by University Housing & Dining, Title IX investigations, or Student Organization investigations. The group of non-investigated cases included situations where the individual accused of misconduct was not currently enrolled (30), and cases where an OSA staff member sent a Policy Reminder Letter (240) to the student without meeting with them. Some students named in a report between June 1, 2018 and May 31, 2019 were involved in more than one infraction. As in previous years, the vast majority of reports (89.5%) came from local law enforcement agencies.

### A. Source of Reports

Not every police report filed between June 1, 2018 and May 31, 2019 was investigated. Consistent with previous practices, OSA staff investigated Public Intoxication and Possession of Alcohol Under Legal Age (PAULA) reports filed by police in Iowa City in addition to other types of reports. For Disorderly House charges, all of which involved off-campus noise violations, OSA 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.

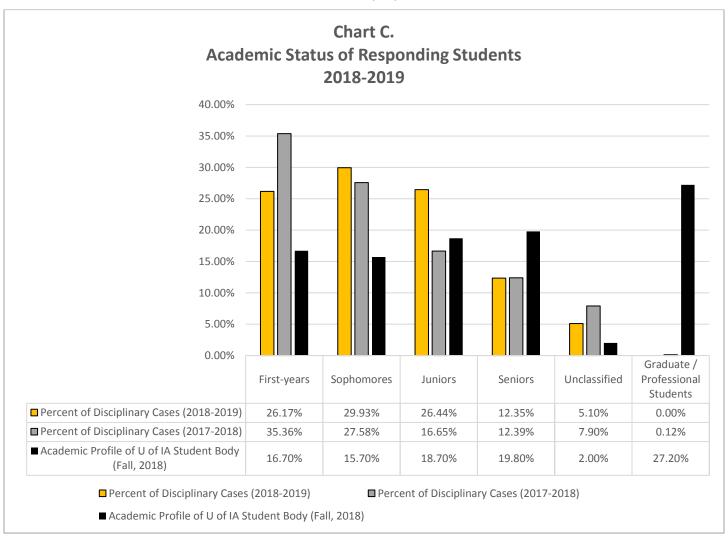


### **B.** Overview of Alleged Misconduct



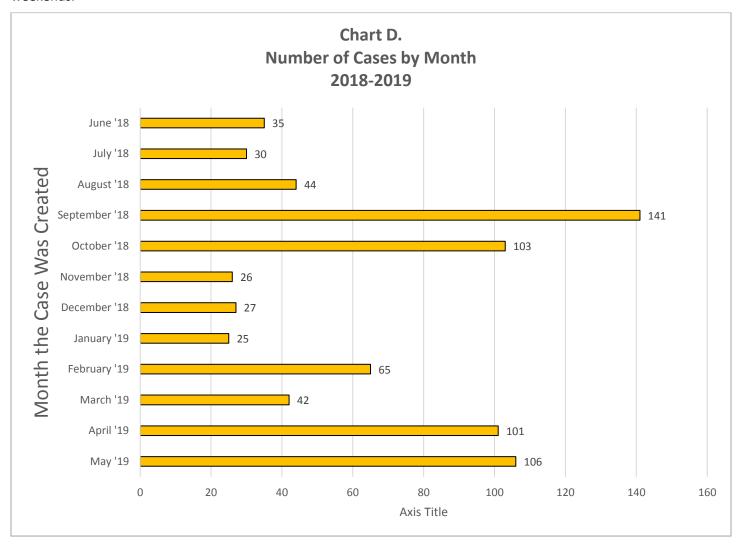
#### C. Academic Status of Respondents

Analyzing the caseload by academic status shows that just over one quarter of the 745 cases investigated by the Office of Student Accountability between June 1, 2018 and May 31, 2019 involved first-year students (Chart C). The vast majority of students named in disciplinary complaints were undergraduates (94.9% of the caseload), although only a small percentage of all undergraduates were accused of misconduct. During the AY 2018-2019, 2.8% of the 24,503 UI undergraduates were named in a report received by the Office of Student Accountability. For the cohort of first-year students, 3.4% were named in Office of Student Accountability reports.



#### D. Number of Cases by Month

As in previous years, the majority of disciplinary reports investigated between June 1, 2018 and May 31, 2019 arose during the fall semester. The Office of Student Accountability received an average of 62 cases each month, although the actual number varied considerably, including a low of 25 and a high of 141. Relatively few cases arose during July 2018, November 2018, December 2018, and January 2019. The largest volume was received in September 2018, October 2018, April 2019, and May 2019. Many of the fall semester alleged policy violations occurred on home football game weekends.



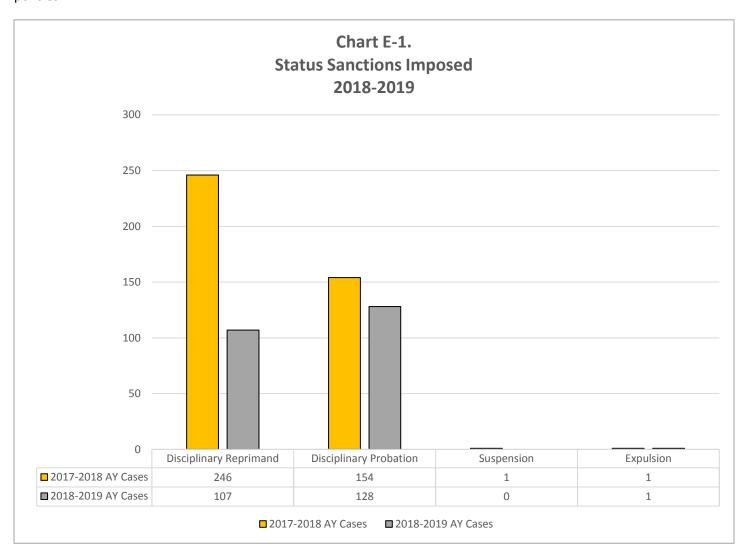
#### E. Sanctions

Status sanctions recommended by the Office of Student Accountability staff ranged from disciplinary reprimands to expulsion from the University. In determining an appropriate sanction in AY 2018-2019, 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 investigator followed the sanction policy spelled out in the Student Misconduct Procedure.

Of the 745 reports received between June 1, 2018 and May 31, 2019, an investigation was undertaken in 505 cases. In the 240 cases not investigated, a Policy Reminder letter was issued. Of the 505 cases investigated, a status sanction was imposed in 46.7% (236) of the time. The remaining 53.3% of cases were either dismissed with no sanctions imposed, the case was unresolved because the student was not enrolled in classes at the university, or the case was not resolved by the time this report was compiled.

Of all the status sanctions imposed, disciplinary probation was the most common (Chart E-1). For students placed on disciplinary probation, the probation period typically lasts 2-3 semesters. Students placed on probation return to good

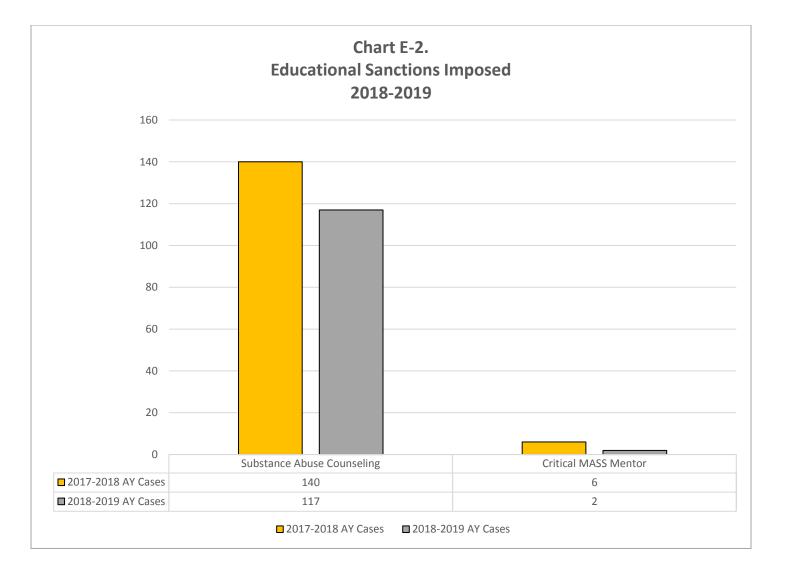
standing at the conclusion of the probationary period as long as they did not commit a subsequent violation of university policies.



In many cases resolved during the year, an educational sanction was recommended in addition to a status sanction (e.g., probation). Substance abuse counseling was the primary educational sanction assigned between June 1, 2018 and May 31, 2019. As a result of the substantial number of alcohol-related and drug-related complaints investigated, many students were referred to a substance use program at Student Wellness. Students charged with an OWI, possession of a controlled substance, and other serious alcohol and other drug related offenses are often required to complete substance abuse counseling as mandated through the court system, and do not receive an additional referral from the Office of Student Accountability.

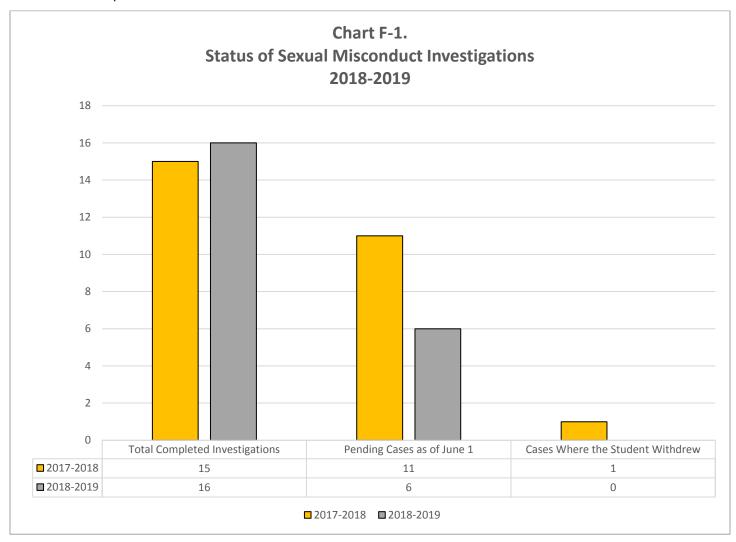
Critical MASS (Mentoring and Student Support) was also used as an educational sanction between June 1, 2018 and May 31, 2019. The Critical MASS program was created to support students found responsible for lower-level violations of the Code of Student Life to help them learn about campus resources to 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.

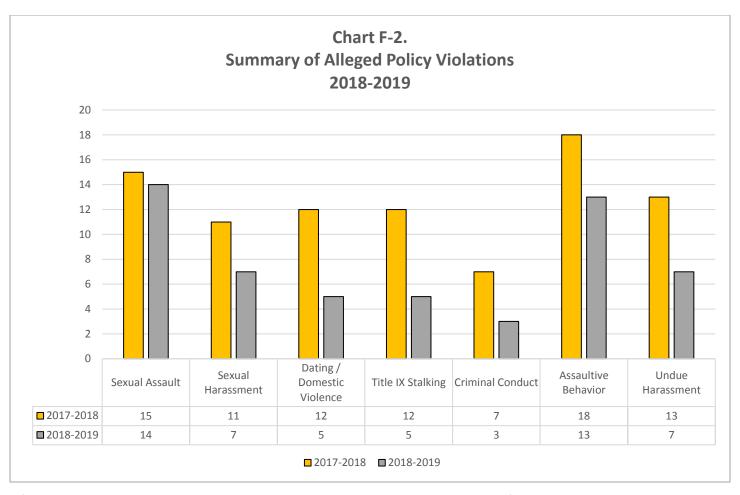


#### F. Sexual Misconduct Investigations

The Office of Student Accountability investigated twenty-two incidents during the period between June 1, 2018 and May 31, 2019 which alleged sexual misconduct. In each case investigated by the Office of Student Accountability, the Office of the Sexual Misconduct Response Coordinator (OSMRC) reached out to the reporting party and the responding party to offer assistance. In each case, the reporting party was advised of their opportunity to file a police report and a Code of Student Life report.



As of May 31, 2019, six cases had not yet been resolved. In one case, the responding student withdrew from the University of Iowa after the report was filed. A student who withdraws before an investigation is completed is not permitted to re-enroll without the permission of the Office of Student Accountability. Students who withdraw during an investigation that may result in their suspension or expulsion may have a notation included on their transcript that they withdrew after a non-academic disciplinary complaint was filed.



Of the twenty-two investigations, each investigation typically included allegations of multiple sexual misconduct violations as well as other violations of the Code of Student Life. In three cases, criminal charges were filed against the responding student.

