



Student Code of Conduct Revision Proposal

**GEORGIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
MEETING OF THE FACULTY SENATE**

**Tuesday, November 28, 2006, 3:00 pm
Student Center Theater**

Presented by:

Ericka McGarity, Asst Dean of Students/Director of the Office of Student Integrity

Dr. Jeffrey Streator, Associate Professor of Mechanical Engineering/

Student Regulations Committee Chair



Why the changes in the Code of Conduct?

- New initiative in Student Affairs with new leadership
- Feedback from faculty, students and staff throughout the years regarding concerns with the current process
- Revise and streamline the process
- Update the Code with current judicial affairs trends
- Full assessment of process to ensure Code is in line with legal requirements
- Last revisions: September 2002, February 2003, February 2005



Purpose of a new Code



To ensure the Code is constructed in a manner that is more user friendly to the entire campus community while maintaining educational value.



Code Revisions Process

- ◆ Professional assessment of current Code by Donald G. Gehring in Fall 2005 (October). Dr. Gehring, GT class of 1960, is a preeminent scholar and well known pioneer in the field of student judicial affairs. He is known in the world of student conduct as the “Godfather of Judicial Affairs.” He is the founder and first President of the Association of Student judicial Affairs.
- ◆ After a review of his assessment, the GT Code Revisions Committee was formed. This Committee was chaired by Dr. Ray Vito and consisted of students, faculty and staff across campus. This committee met approximately every 2 weeks during the Spring 2006 semester. Since that time, the Office of Student Integrity, with the assistance of GT Legal Affairs, has been rewriting the Student Code of Conduct.

Code Revisions Process continued. . .

- ◆ Summer 2006: Gary Wolovick from Legal Affairs and Ericka McGarity met to re-write the Code based on revisions from the Committee.
- ◆ Thursday, September 21, 2006: Final meeting with Dr. Schafer, Gary Wolovick, John Stein and Ericka McGarity to go over the rewritten draft of Code.
- ◆ Monday, September 25, 2006: OSI will complete written Code revisions and email revised Code to the Student Code of Conduct Revisions Committee.
- ◆ Friday, September 29, 2006: Code of Conduct revisions Committee will review written Code and discuss materials needed for the proposal to disseminate to campus committees for approval.

Code Revisions Process continued. . .

- ◆ Tuesday, October 3, 2006: OSI will send revised Code of Conduct to Revisions Committee for final review. OSI must have feedback by Thursday, October 5, 2006.
- ◆ Friday, October 6, 2006: OSI will send proposal and final Code to the Student Rules and Regulations Committee (SRC) for preliminary discussion at their October 12, 2006 meeting. OSI will also send proposal and final Code to the following student groups for feedback: Undergraduate SGA, Graduate SGA, RHA, HAC, UJC, GJC, Honor Committee. OSI will also send proposal and final Code to the Student Activities Committee (SAC).
- ◆ Monday, October 16, 2006: Student group feedback on Code, including SAC, due to OSI by 8:00am.

Code Revisions Process continued. . .

- ◆ Tuesday, October 17, 2006: OSI will send compiled student group feedback to the Student Rules and Regulations Committee (SRC).
- ◆ Thursday, November 2, 2006: SRC will meet and finalize their response to the Code.
- ◆ Thursday, November 16, 2006: Dr. Jeffrey Streator and Ericka McGarity meet to edit Code based on feedback from the SRC.
- ◆ Thursday, November 16, 2006: OSI met with SRC for editing and final approval of Code. *Code approved.*
- ◆ Friday, November 17, 2006: OSI will make final Code changes from SRC and send the final proposed Code to the Code of Conduct Revisions Committee, the SRC and Dean of Students Office via email.



Code Revisions Process continued. . .

- ◆ Friday, November 17, 2006: Proposed Code to Executive Board through Ron Bohlander, Secretary. *Code approved.*
- ◆ Tuesday, November 28, 2006: OSI will present the Final Code and answer any questions at the Faculty Senate.



Overview of Code Revisions



Overall

- ◆ Complete language overhaul, altered for easier reading
- ◆ Sections reorganized for easier reading and logical flow
- ◆ Formatting added for easier reference
- ◆ Time-lines added throughout Code under a new definition of business day



Overview of Code Revisions continued. . .

A. General

- ◆ Definitions
 - Kept 13 definitions, edited 8 and kept 5 the same
 - Added 16 new definitions for a streamlined process
 - Deleted 2 definitions due to new process and language
- ◆ Placed Authority, Jurisdiction, Inappropriate Classroom Behavior and Student Organizational Discipline under one heading

Overview of Code Revisions continued. . .

B. Prohibited Academic Misconduct- moved up for better read and flow

- ◆ This section was C, moved to B for easier flow
- ◆ Gave headings to each charge
- ◆ Clarified B.2
- ◆ Edited B.4
- ◆ B.6 changed to include “and/or Institute official”
- ◆ Addition of B.8

Overview of Code Revisions continued. . .

C. Prohibited Nonacademic Misconduct- moved up for better read and flow

- ◆ This section was D, moved to C for easier flow
- ◆ Separated out alcohol and drug charges.
- ◆ Clarified C.6.a.
- ◆ Removal of residence, institute owned charge (previously D.12.)
- ◆ Addition of C.17.- Abuse of the Student Conduct Process
- ◆ C.19 Additional sub-category added to harassment to specifically address sexual harassment
- ◆ C.18 (computer misuse) created
- ◆ C.20 (sexual assault) broken into 3 subcategories
- ◆ C.21- reworded, Violations of GT policy
- ◆ C.22- reworded

Overview of Code Revisions continued. . .

D. Student Code of Conduct Procedures- Complete overhaul of the entire Conduct Process- Moved below charges for better read and flow.

- ◆ Section was B, moved to D for easier flow
- ◆ Case referrals
 - Statute of limitations
- ◆ Communication process with students
 - Deleted hand delivery, made one definition for all communication.

Overview of Code Revisions continued. . .

- ◆ Investigation and Resolution Process
 - Timelines changed (business days)
 - 30 day case referral
 - 5 days for students to schedule meeting
 - Clear explanation of the investigation process
 - Low level and high level case routing- level depends on the severity of the case
- ◆ Forms of Case Resolution- defined, reworded and streamlined
 - Timelines changed
 - 5 days for appeal
 - 5 days for forwarding case to OSI (Faculty Conference)
 - 5 days notification before date of Student Conduct Board hearing
 - 7 days to notify OSI of witness list

Overview of Code Revisions continued. . .

E. Sanctions

- ◆ Loss of Good Standing deleted
- ◆ Disciplinary Reprimand deleted
- ◆ Standing sanctions terminology deleted
- ◆ Reworded all sanction definitions
- ◆ Added heading of Supplementary Requirements

F. Interim Suspension: reworded and a new process designed.

Overview of Code Revisions continued. . .

G. Appeal Procedures

- ◆ Appeal routing procedures (low vs. high) added
- ◆ VPSA- nonacademic
- ◆ Vice Provost for Undergraduate Studies and Academic Affairs
- ◆ 10 day timeline created
- ◆ Removal of SGAC in process

H. Record Keeping




- ◆ Deleted processes from other constituents
- ◆ Deleted long phrasing of federal law
- ◆ Reworded and streamlined information




Future Code Process



- ◆ Marketing campaign for Code revisions to the campus community
- ◆ Reorganize REMEDY, GT's Judicial database
- ◆ Reorganize and design the OSI website
- ◆ Develop brochures and educational materials for OSI regarding the Code of Conduct



Office of Student Integrity Contact Information



- ◆ [http://www.deanofstudents.gatech.edu/
integrity/](http://www.deanofstudents.gatech.edu/integrity/)
- ◆ 404-894-2564