

RRU Policy on Student Rights and Responsibilities

Students are expected to conduct themselves in a manner consistent with the educational mandate of the University as an institution of higher learning, and in accordance with generally accepted standards of behaviour and published University policies, procedures, and guidelines. In addition to enjoying the rights accorded them by law, students have the right to free and open intellectual inquiry and to membership in the University community. Students are responsible for making themselves aware of applicable laws and University policies, procedures, and guidelines that are available online on the University website, and abiding by these.

This Policy applies to all Students enrolled in the University, regardless of place of residence, and applies in respect of behaviours or conduct occurring in both academic and non-academic settings and may be applied in respect of behaviours or conduct occurring on campus, off campus or online if the rights of members of the University community to use and enjoy the University's learning, living, or working environments are adversely affected. Where an event impacts the University environment, the University also reserves the right to enforce this Policy regardless of whether any legal proceedings are undertaken in any other forum or by any other party.

Guidelines:

The following guidelines are intended to describe the general rights and responsibilities of students. These guidelines do not limit the powers of the President conferred by the Royal Roads University Act [RSBC 1996], nor do they preclude the University from publishing additional policies, procedures, and guidelines not described herein which students must respect.

1.0 Students have the right to engage in free and open intellectual inquiry.

2.0 Students have the responsibility to adhere to academic and non-academic regulations and abide by the University's Policies.

3.0 Students have the right to a University community characterized by mutual respect and equal opportunity.

4.0 Students have the responsibility to treat all members of the University with respect, to not intimidate, interfere with, threaten or otherwise obstruct any University activity, nor to hinder members of the University community in the pursuit of their legitimate activities. Students have the responsibility not to engage in behaviour that a reasonable person should reasonably know is unsafe or inappropriate.

5.0 Students have the right to access University resources designated to help them plan and achieve their educational and career objectives upon payment of

required fees.

6.0 Students have the responsibility to respect the right of others to use those same resources, and not to monopolize University resources to the exclusion of others.

7.0 Students have the right to use University facilities and resources designated for students and to enjoy the University campus.

8.0 Students have the responsibility to respect the natural and cultural attributes of the University campus and the responsibility to respect the hours of operation and limits on entry where such conditions exist, the prohibition of smoking in or near buildings, the prohibition on sleeping or living in tents or cars without permission, and the prohibition on the possession of weapons on campus.

9.0 Students have the right to an environment that is free from interference and disruption, while enjoying the right to dissent, and the right to peaceful assembly.

10.0 Students have the responsibility to respect the rules of the University, and the lawful directions of University personnel, including campus security, and the responsibility not to destroy, tamper with, deface or vandalize, unlawfully access or remove or possess property that is not their own. Students have the responsibility to comply with the University's rules on consumption of alcohol. Consumption of alcohol is prohibited on campus except in licensed premises or individual residence rooms.

Process:

The following process is intended to apply where there is reason to believe that there may have been a violation of this Policy. The University reserves the right in its discretion to modify the process as it determines may be appropriate in any particular instance.

1.0 If the University has reason to believe that a Student may be in violation of this Policy, the University may initiate the processes set out below.

2.0 If a person wishes to register a complaint that a Student has violated this Policy, that complaint should be submitted in writing to the Coordinator, Student Services as soon as possible. If a complaint involves a matter of University Life, the complaint will be sent to a university staff member appointed by the Vice President and Chief Financial Officer. Normally complaints should be filed within seven days. Anonymous complaints may not be investigated.

3.0 Where appropriate, the Coordinator, Student Services will work to find an informal resolution of the matter. If a resolution of the matter is found to the satisfaction of any complainant and the Student that is consistent with the interests of the

University, the matter will be closed. Written confirmation of closure of the matter may be requested by any party.

4.0 Should an informal resolution not be found, the matter will be referred to the Associate Vice President, who shall make such inquiries as are necessary to determine whether a violation of this Policy has occurred and to take, or to recommend the taking of, appropriate action in response. Such action may include, but is not limited to, one or more of the following: a warning; required written apologies; required restitution; denial of access to specific University facilities, services, or activities; restrictions on areas of access; a fine; an undertaking to be of good behaviour; a probationary period; or a recommendation to the President for suspension or expulsion. Prior to making a decision, the Associate Vice President shall provide the Student an opportunity to be heard in connection with the allegations against them.

4.1 The Vice-President and Chief Financial Officer may appoint an alternate to the Coordinator, Student Services, or the Associate Vice President, if deemed that either has a conflict of interest in any complaint.

5.0 Except where the decision of the Associate Vice President is to recommend suspension or expulsion of the Student, the Student shall have the right to appeal a decision of the Associate Vice President to the Review Committee on Student Rights and Responsibilities which will consider the matter and which may meet with the Student.

5.1 The Review Committee will be comprised of one student at the same academic level (i.e. undergraduate or graduate) from programs other than that in which the Student is enrolled, a core faculty member from the Faculty in which the student is not enrolled, and staff member who is not a member of the Faculty. Members will be appointed by the Vice-President and Chief Financial Officer. The members will select a chair by majority vote.

5.2 The Review Committee shall determine its own procedure, having regard to its duty to act fairly toward the Student. Students have the right to an opportunity to be heard in connection with the allegations against them. The Review Committee will determine whether it will hear from the Student in person, in writing, or by some other means.

5.3 If the Review Committee decides to meet with the Student, the Review Committee will make a reasonable effort to notify the Student in writing of the meeting no less than five business days before the meeting; a reasonable attempt will be made to arrange the meeting at the convenience of the Student.

5.4 On an appeal, the Review Committee shall have the power to deny the appeal, to allow the appeal and to set aside the decision of the Associate Vice President, or to vary the decision of the Associate Vice President, including by

substituting any penalty for that imposed by the Associate Vice President. The Review Committee may impose a penalty greater or lesser than that imposed by the Associate Vice President, and has the power to recommend the suspension or expulsion of the Student.

5.5 Decisions of the Review Committee shall be final and not subject to further appeal.

6.0 If the Associate Vice President or the Review Committee recommends to the President that the Student be suspended or expelled, the President shall, prior to making a decision to suspend or expel the Student, provide the Student an opportunity to be heard. The President shall determine whether to hear from the Student in person, in writing or by some other means.

7.0 The Student may appeal the decision of the President to suspend or expel the Student. If the Student wishes to appeal that decision, he or she must submit a notice of appeal to the Secretary of the Board of Governors within five working days of receipt of the decision of the President. The appeal shall be considered by the Board of Governors Appeals Committee, the decision of which is final and binding. Appeal procedures are outlined in the document titled "Appeal Procedures for Decisions of the President to Suspend or Expel a Student".

8.0 Notwithstanding anything in this Policy, the President, on the recommendation of the Associate Vice President or the Vice-President and Chief Financial Officer, may summarily temporarily suspend a Student, suspend a Student's online or academic privileges, or bar the Student from access to campus if, in the judgment of the Associate Vice President or the Vice-President and Chief Financial Officer the safety or personal well-being of others or of University property is threatened or if the Student has been charged with a legal offence such that in the judgment of the Associate Vice President or the Vice President and Chief Financial Officer it renders their continued participation in their program inadvisable pending the disposition of such charges. In such circumstances, the Student will be provided the opportunity to request a review by the President of such suspension, at which review the Student will be provided an opportunity to be heard.