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Owner: Andy Alvarez: Sr Mgr HR Policy Admin
Area: Human Resources

Systemwide Policy Prohibiting Discrimination, Harassment & Retaliation, Sexual Misconduct, Dating & Domestic Violence, & Stalking Against Students & Procedure for Addressing; Executive Order (EO) 1097

Executive Order 1097 (Revised March 29, 2019) supersedes Executive Order 1097 (Revised October 5, 2016). This policy and procedure applies systemwide, in conjunction with Executive Orders 1095 (Revised June 2, 2015) and 1098 (Revised March 29, 2019) and any superseding executive orders.

This executive order has been revised in response to a recent California court of appeal decision, and includes an [addendum](#) that applies to cases where a student has been accused of sexual misconduct as defined by CSU policy.¹ **The addendum supersedes Article III.B.7-9 and Article IV of this executive order with respect to cases (i) alleging sexual misconduct by a student that, (ii) if substantiated, could result in a severe sanction (suspension or expulsion), and (iii) where credibility of any party or witness is central to the finding.**

Complaints of student misconduct are governed by the following CSU policies.

Alleged Misconduct	Applicable Policy
Sexual misconduct by student that could result in severe sanction (suspension or expulsion), where credibility is central to finding	Executive Order 1097 (Revised March 29, 2019) (except Article III.B.7-9 and Article IV) and Addendum -- Investigation and Hearing Process for Students Accused of Sexual Misconduct
Discrimination, harassment or retaliation based on protected status (including sexual misconduct by student that, if substantiated, would <u>not</u> result in suspension or expulsion)	Executive Order 1097 (Revised March 29, 2019) and Executive Order 1098 (Revised March 29, 2019) (Article IV) re sanctions process
All other student misconduct prohibited by CSU Standards for Student Conduct (5 California Code of Regulations, Section 41301)	Executive Order 1098 (Revised March 29, 2019)

Complaints that are in process as of the effective date of this executive order will be processed in accordance with the *procedures* outlined herein, however utilizing the *policy and definitions* set forth in the executive order in place at the time of the alleged misconduct. A Complaint is "in process" if the time to appeal to the

Chancellor's Office under Executive Orders 1097 or 1098 has not expired.

If you have questions regarding this executive order, please call systemwide Equal Opportunity and Compliance at (562) 951-4400.

[NOTE: ARTICLE III.B.7-9 AND ARTICLE IV OF THIS EXECUTIVE ORDER DO NOT APPLY IN CASES (I) ALLEGING SEXUAL MISCONDUCT BY A STUDENT THAT, (II) IF SUBSTANTIATED, COULD RESULT IN A SEVERE SANCTION (SUSPENSION OR EXPULSION), AND (III) WHERE CREDIBILITY OF ANY PARTY OR WITNESS IS CENTRAL TO THE FINDING. SEE [ADDENDUM -- INVESTIGATION AND HEARING PROCESS – FOR STUDENTS ACCUSED OF SEXUAL MISCONDUCT.](#)]

Article I. Policy Statement

The California State University (CSU) is committed to maintaining an inclusive community that values diversity and fosters tolerance and mutual respect. We embrace and encourage our community differences in Age, Disability (physical and mental), Gender (or sex), Gender Identity (including transgender), Gender Expression, Genetic Information, Marital Status, Medical Condition, Nationality, Race or Ethnicity (including color or ancestry), Religion (or Religious Creed), Sexual Orientation, and Veteran or Military Status, and other characteristics that make our community unique.² All Students have the right to participate fully in CSU programs and activities free from Discrimination, Harassment, and Retaliation. The CSU prohibits Harassment of any kind, including Sexual Harassment, as well as Sexual Misconduct, Dating and Domestic Violence, and Stalking. Such misconduct violates University policy and may also violate state or federal law.

All sexual activity between members of the CSU community must be based on Affirmative Consent. Engaging in any sexual activity without first obtaining Affirmative Consent to the specific sexual activity is Sexual Misconduct and constitutes a violation of this policy, whether or not the sexual activity violates any civil or criminal law.

This policy is established in compliance with the California Equity in Higher Education Act, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013 (which amends the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security and Campus Crimes Statistics Act, commonly known as the Clery Act) (VAWA) under its Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act provision (Campus SaVE Act), Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, among other applicable state and federal laws.

A. **Prohibited Conduct.** The CSU prohibits:

1. Discrimination, including Harassment, because of any Protected Status: i.e., age, Disability (physical and mental), Gender (or sex), Gender Identity (including transgender), Gender Expression, Genetic Information, Marital Status, Medical Condition, Nationality, Race or Ethnicity (including color or ancestry), Religion (or Religious Creed), Sexual Orientation, sex stereotype, and Veteran or Military Status;
2. Retaliation for exercising rights under this policy, opposing Discrimination or Harassment because of a Protected Status, or for participating in any manner in any related investigation or proceeding;
3. Dating and Domestic Violence, and Stalking;
4. Sexual Misconduct of any kind, which includes sexual activity engaged in without Affirmative Consent; and,
5. Employees from entering into a consensual relationship with any Student over whom they exercise

direct or otherwise significant academic, administrative, supervisory, evaluative, counseling, or extracurricular authority. See Article I. F.

The University shall respond promptly and effectively to all complaints of Discrimination, Harassment, Retaliation, Sexual Misconduct, Dating and Domestic Violence, and Stalking, and shall take appropriate action to prevent, correct, and discipline conduct that violates this policy. This Executive Order is intended to protect the rights and privacy of both the Complainant and the Respondent, as well as other involved individuals.

Employees and Students who are found to have violated this policy shall be subject to discipline commensurate to the violation. If Employee discipline is warranted, it shall be administered in a manner consistent with applicable collective bargaining agreements, CSU policies, and legal requirements. Student discipline shall be administered in accordance with 5 Cal. Code Regs. § 41301 and Executive Order 1098, or any superseding executive order.

- B. **Discrimination.** The CSU strives to be free of all forms of Discrimination, including Harassment, because of a Protected Status. It is CSU policy that no Student shall be excluded from participation in, or be denied the benefits of, any CSU program or activity because of any Protected Status.
 - C. **Retaliation.** Retaliation against a Student for exercising any rights under this policy or for opposing Discrimination or Harassment because of a Protected Status, Sexual Misconduct, Dating and Domestic Violence, and Stalking, or for participating in any manner in any policy-related investigation or proceeding is prohibited.
- No victim or witness in related investigations or proceedings will be subject to disciplinary sanctions by the University for related violations of conduct policies occurring at or near the time of the incident unless the University determines the violation was egregious, including but not limited to plagiarism, cheating, academic dishonesty or conduct that places the health and safety of any other person at risk.
- D. **Dating and Domestic Violence, and Stalking.** The CSU prohibits Dating and Domestic Violence, and Stalking. Dating and Domestic Violence, and Stalking are often based on Gender. CSU prohibits all such misconduct whether or not it is based on Gender.
 - E. **Sexual Misconduct.** All sexual activity between members of the CSU community must be based on Affirmative Consent. Engaging in any sexual activity without first obtaining Affirmative Consent to the specific activity constitutes Sexual Misconduct and is a violation of this policy, whether or not the conduct violates any civil or criminal law.

Sexual Misconduct is a form of Sexual Harassment and may create a sexually hostile environment that affects access to or participation in CSU programs and activities. CSU prohibits all such conduct whether or not it also amounts to Sexual Harassment.

Sexual activity includes but is not limited to kissing, touching intimate body parts, fondling, intercourse, penetration of any body part, and oral sex.

Affirmative Consent means an informed, affirmative, conscious, voluntary, and mutual agreement to engage in sexual activity. It is the responsibility of each person involved in the sexual activity to ensure Affirmative Consent has been obtained from the other participant(s) to engage in the sexual activity. Lack of protest or resistance does not mean Affirmative Consent, nor does silence mean Affirmative Consent. Affirmative Consent must be voluntary, and given without coercion, force, threats or intimidation.

The existence of a dating or social relationship between those involved, or the fact of past sexual activities between them, should never by itself be assumed to be an indicator of Affirmative Consent. A request for someone to use a condom or birth control does not, in and of itself, constitute Affirmative Consent.

Affirmative Consent can be withdrawn or revoked. Consent to one form of sexual activity (or one sexual act) does not constitute consent to other forms of sexual activity. Consent given to sexual activity on one occasion does not constitute consent on another occasion. There must always be mutual and affirmative consent to engage in sexual activity. Consent must be ongoing throughout a sexual activity and can be revoked at any time, including after penetration. Once consent is withdrawn or revoked, the sexual activity must stop immediately.

Affirmative Consent cannot be given by a person who is incapacitated. A person is unable to consent when asleep, unconscious or incapacitated due to the influence of drugs, alcohol or medication so that the person could not understand the fact, nature or extent of the sexual activity. A person is incapacitated if the person lacks the physical and/or mental ability to make informed, rational decisions.

Whether an intoxicated person (as a result of using alcohol or other drugs) is incapacitated depends on the extent to which the alcohol or other drugs impact the person's decision-making ability, awareness of consequences, and ability to make informed judgments. A person's own intoxication or incapacitation from drugs or alcohol does not diminish that person's responsibility to obtain Affirmative Consent before engaging in sexual activity.

A person with a medical or mental disability may also lack the capacity to give consent.

Sexual activity with a minor (a person under 18 years old) is not consensual, because a minor is considered incapable of giving consent due to age.

It shall not be a valid excuse that a person affirmatively consented to the sexual activity if the Respondent knew or reasonably should have known that the person was unable to consent to the sexual activity under any of the following circumstances:

- The person was asleep or unconscious;
- The person was incapacitated due to the influence of drugs, alcohol or medication, so that the person could not understand the fact, nature or extent of the sexual activity;
- The person was unable to communicate due to a mental or physical condition.

It shall not be a valid excuse that the Respondent believed that the person consented to the sexual activity under either of the following circumstances:

- The Respondent's belief in Affirmative Consent arose from the intoxication or recklessness of the Respondent;
- The Respondent did not take reasonable steps, in the circumstances known to the Respondent at the time, to ascertain whether the person affirmatively consented.

F. Consensual Relationships. Consensual relationship means a sexual or romantic relationship between two persons who voluntarily enter into such a relationship. While sexual and/or romantic relationships

between members of the University community may begin as consensual, they may evolve into situations that lead to Discrimination, Harassment, Retaliation, Sexual Misconduct, Dating or Domestic Violence, or Stalking subject to this policy.

A CSU Employee shall not enter into a consensual relationship with a Student or Employee over whom that employee exercises or influences direct or otherwise significant academic, administrative, supervisory, evaluative, counseling, or extracurricular authority. In the event such a relationship already exists, each Campus shall develop a procedure to reassign such authority to avoid violations of this policy.

This prohibition does not limit the right of an Employee to make a recommendation on personnel matters concerning a family or household member where the right to make recommendations on such personnel matters is explicitly provided for in the applicable collective bargaining agreement or MPP/confidential personnel plan.

- G. **Reasonable Accommodations.** The CSU will provide reasonable accommodations to qualified individuals with a Disability. Reasonable accommodations will be determined by the Campus following an interactive process with those involved to identify the nature and extent of the restrictions and the appropriate accommodation.
- H. **Duty to Report.** Except as provided below, **any** Employee who knows or has reason to know of allegations or acts that violate this policy shall promptly inform the DHR Administrator or Title IX Coordinator. These Employees are required to disclose all information including the names of the Parties, **even where the person has requested anonymity.** The DHR Administrator or Title IX Coordinator will determine whether such confidentiality is appropriate given the circumstances of each such incident.

Employees Who Do Not Have A Duty to Report:

1. The following Employees are **not** required to report **any** information about an incident of Discrimination, Harassment, Retaliation, Sexual Misconduct, Dating or Domestic Violence, or Stalking to the DHR Administrator or Title IX Coordinator:
 - a. Physicians; psychotherapists; professional licensed counselors; licensed clinical social workers, and clergy who work on or off Campus, acting solely in those roles or capacities as part of their employment, in the provision of medical or mental health treatment or counseling (*and those who act under their supervision, including all individuals who work or volunteer in these centers and offices*); and
 - b. Sexual assault and domestic violence counselors and advocates who work or volunteer on or off Campus in sexual assault centers, victim advocacy offices, women's centers, and health centers and who are acting solely in that role (*including those who act in that role under their supervision, along with non-professional counselors or advocates who work or volunteer in sexual assault centers, victim advocacy offices, women's centers, gender equity centers, or health centers*) in the provision of counseling or advocacy services.
 - c. A CSU employee/union representative is not required to report a possible violation of this Executive Order if the information is provided to the union representative, acting in that role, in a confidential setting by a union member seeking advice about a possible violation or representation in a matter within the scope of representation. However, CSU employee/union representatives are **strongly encouraged** to report the information to the DHR Administrator or Title IX Coordinator.

2. University police are **not** required to report any **personally-identifiable information** about a victim of certain sex offenses,³ **if the victim requests confidentiality of identity**, but must report all known facts of the incident, including the identity of the perpetrator (if known), to the Title IX Coordinator.

EXCEPTIONS: Under California law, any health practitioner employed in a health facility, clinic, physician's office, or local or state public health department or clinic is required to make a report to local law enforcement if medical services are provided for a **physical condition** to a patient/victim who the practitioner knows or reasonably suspects is suffering from: (1) a wound or physical injury inflicted by a firearm; or, (2) any wound or other physical injury inflicted upon a victim where the injury is the result of assaultive or abusive conduct.⁴ This exception does **not** apply to sexual assault and domestic violence counselors and advocates. Health care practitioners should explain this limited exception to victims, if applicable.

Additionally, under California law, **all** physicians, psychotherapists, professional counselors, clergy, and sexual assault and domestic violence counselors and advocates are mandatory child abuse and neglect reporters, and are required to report incidents involving victims under 18 years of age to local law enforcement.⁵ These professionals will explain this limited exception to victims, if applicable.

Finally, some or all of these professionals may also have reporting obligations under California law to: (1) local law enforcement in cases involving threats of immediate or imminent harm to self or others where disclosure of the information is necessary to prevent the threatened danger;⁶ or, (2) to the court if compelled by court order or subpoena in a criminal proceeding related to the Sexual Misconduct, Dating or Domestic Violence, or Stalking incident.⁷ If applicable, these professionals will explain this limited exception to victims.

- I. **Grade Appeals.** Grade appeals that allege Discrimination, Harassment, Retaliation, Sexual Misconduct, Dating or Domestic Violence, or Stalking shall proceed concurrently: (i) under Campus procedures per Executive Order 1037 or any superseding executive order; and (ii) under this Executive Order. However, the Campus grade appeal procedure shall be placed in abeyance until such time as the Campus investigation and any appeal process under Article IV of this Executive Order have concluded. The final determination under this Executive Order regarding whether a violation occurred shall be provided to the Campus grade appeal committee. The committee shall be bound by such determination when considering the grade appeal request under Executive Order 1037.

Article II. Policy Implementation and Communication

Each Campus president shall designate a DHR Administrator and Title IX Coordinator who shall be responsible for the implementation of and compliance with this policy. The DHR Administrator is responsible for the implementation of and compliance with this policy with respect to all Discrimination, Harassment and Retaliation matters except those involving Sex Discrimination, Sexual Harassment, Sexual Misconduct, Dating and Domestic Violence, and Stalking. The DHR Administrator is responsible for publicizing this Executive Order, developing Campus training policies consistent with this Executive Order, conducting training, and establishing an administrative structure consistent with this Executive Order that facilitates the prevention and elimination of Discrimination, Harassment, and Retaliation. The Title IX Coordinator is responsible for the implementation of, and compliance with this policy with respect to Sex Discrimination, Sexual Harassment, Sexual Misconduct, Dating and Domestic Violence, and Stalking. The Title IX Coordinator is responsible for publicizing this Executive Order, developing Campus training policies consistent with this Executive Order,

conducting training, and establishing an administrative structure consistent with this Executive Order that facilitates the prevention and elimination of Sex Discrimination, Sexual Harassment, Sexual Misconduct, Dating and Domestic Violence, and Stalking. Each Campus shall make the contact information for the DHR Administrator and Title IX Coordinator available to all members of the Campus community as well as Third Parties. The contact information shall be updated as necessary.

The requirements for training to promote awareness of CSU policies against Sex Discrimination, Sexual Harassment, Sexual Misconduct, Dating and Domestic Violence, and Stalking are set forth in Executive Order 1095.

This Executive Order shall be made readily available and distributed on an annual basis to all Students and Employees utilizing multiple media for communication, including email, Student orientations and catalogs, new Employee orientations, Campus websites and publications, and the webpages for the offices of Equity and Diversity, Student Affairs, Student Judicial Affairs, Disabled Student Services, Auxiliary Service Organizations, Academic Affairs, Extended Education, Athletics, Residential Life, and Human Resources.

Article III. Campus Procedure for Responding to Complaints

[NOTE: ARTICLE III.B.7-9 OF THIS EXECUTIVE ORDER DOES NOT APPLY IN CASES (I) ALLEGING SEXUAL MISCONDUCT BY A STUDENT THAT, (II) IF SUBSTANTIATED, COULD RESULT IN A SEVERE SANCTION (SUSPENSION OR EXPULSION), AND (III) WHERE CREDIBILITY OF ANY PARTY OR WITNESS IS CENTRAL TO THE FINDING. SEE [ADDENDUM -- INVESTIGATION AND HEARING PROCESS – FOR STUDENTS ACCUSED OF SEXUAL MISCONDUCT.](#)]

This procedure provides Students a process to address alleged violations of this policy by the CSU, a CSU Employee, another Student, or a Third Party. Whenever a Campus determines that the allegation(s) are outside the scope of this policy, the Campus shall promptly notify the Student in writing. All Complaints and related investigations against Respondents who are sworn University public safety officers shall be governed by this policy, the applicable collective bargaining agreement, and by the Public Safety Officers Procedural Bill of Rights Act (POBR).⁸ The campus DHR Administrator/Title IX Coordinator shall work with the campus Chief of Police, or designee, to investigate Complaints against sworn public safety officers. Consultation with the Office of General Counsel is recommended.

The University will respond to all Complaints and will take appropriate action to prevent, correct, and discipline conduct that violates this policy. To report alleged violations, a Student may submit a formal written Complaint to the DHR Administrator (Discrimination, Harassment, and Retaliation) or Title IX Coordinator (Sex Discrimination, Sexual Harassment, Sexual Misconduct, Dating and Domestic Violence, and Stalking). The date of receipt shall be deemed to be the Complaint filing date. The DHR Administrator/Title IX Coordinator shall offer reasonable accommodations to Students who are unable to submit a Complaint because of a qualified Disability.

Complaints should be brought forward as soon as possible after the conduct occurs. While there is no stated timeframe for making a Complaint, prompt reporting will better enable the Campus to respond to the Complaint, determine the relevant issues, and provide an appropriate remedy and/or action. All incidents should be reported even if a significant amount of time has passed. However, delaying a report or Complaint may impede the ability to conduct an investigation or take appropriate remedial actions.

Alleged victims and witnesses should not be deterred from reporting any incidents of Sexual Misconduct, Dating or Domestic Violence, or Stalking out of a concern that they might be disciplined for related violations of

drug, alcohol, or other University policies. The University's primary concern is the safety of the Campus community; therefore, a person who participates as a Complainant or witness in investigations or proceedings involving Sexual Misconduct, Dating or Domestic Violence, or Stalking shall not be subject to discipline for related violations of the Student Conduct Code at or near the time of the incident unless the University determines the violation was egregious, including but not limited to plagiarism, cheating, academic dishonesty, or conduct that places the health and safety of another person at risk.

The Campus will respond to all reports of alleged violations of this policy, whether or not the report is submitted as a formal written Complaint. However, the response may be limited if information contained in the report is insufficient to verify violation(s) of this Executive Order.

- A. **Campus Early Resolution Process.** Complainants who believe they have experienced Discrimination, Harassment, Retaliation, Sexual Misconduct, Dating or Domestic Violence, or Stalking under this policy may initiate the Early Resolution process prior to, or instead of, filing a Complaint. The purpose of the Early Resolution process is to explore whether the Complainant's concern can be resolved by the Campus without an investigation.

This Executive Order neither prevents nor requires the use of the Early Resolution process. Under no circumstance shall a Complainant be required to use the Early Resolution process to address prohibited behaviors. It is not appropriate for a Complainant to be required to "work out the problem" directly or mediate with the Respondent. Mediation cannot be used, even on a voluntary basis, to resolve Sexual Misconduct, Dating or Domestic Violence, or Stalking Complaints. In other matters, where voluntary mediation is requested, no meeting between the Complainant and the Respondent should occur without involvement by appropriate Campus administrators, including the DHR Administrator or Title IX Coordinator.

Where the allegations involve Sexual Misconduct, Dating or Domestic Violence, or Stalking, the Complainant shall be advised to immediately file a Complaint under Article III, B.

1. **To initiate the Early Resolution Process.** The Complainant should contact the Campus DHR Administrator (Discrimination, Harassment, or Retaliation) or Title IX Coordinator (Sex Discrimination, Sexual Harassment, Sexual Misconduct, Dating and Domestic Violence and Stalking) who shall promptly meet with the Complainant to discuss his or her concern and possible resolutions as appropriate.

Complainants shall be informed about the range of possible outcomes, including Interim Remedies or disciplinary actions that might be taken against the Respondent, and information about the procedures leading to such outcomes.

2. **Participation in the Early Resolution Process.** Participation is voluntary. It may include an inquiry into the facts, but does not include an investigation. Means for resolution shall be flexible. Resolution options include but are not limited to discussions with the Parties, a resolution facilitated by the DHR Administrator or Title IX Coordinator, separating the Parties, referring one or both of the Parties to counseling programs, an agreement between Campus and the Respondent regarding disciplinary action, conducting targeted preventive educational and training programs or providing Remedies to persons harmed by violations of this policy.

The Campus shall attempt to resolve the Complainant's concern(s) quickly and effectively. The DHR Administrator or Title IX Coordinator shall meet with the Complainant, the Respondent, and any other persons or witnesses they may determine to be necessary.

3. **Final Early Resolution.** If resolution is reached, a written record of the resolution shall be documented and maintained in accordance with applicable Campus recordkeeping policies. The matter shall be considered closed.

Where the Respondent is another Student, the DHR Administrator/Title IX Coordinator shall inform the Student Conduct Administrator of the outcome of the Early Resolution process, including any Interim Remedies afforded to the Complainant. Where the Respondent is an Employee, Human Resources or Academic Affairs shall be informed as appropriate.

If resolution is not reached, the Campus shall promptly notify the Complainant and, where applicable, the Respondent in writing that the Early Resolution process is terminated, and the termination effective date. The DHR Administrator/Title IX Coordinator shall also determine whether the matter is appropriate for investigation, and so notify the parties in writing. The Complainant shall be provided written notification of the right to file a Complaint pursuant to Article III, B. 1.

4. **Confidentiality.** Other than consulting with their respective Advisors, both the Complainant and the Respondent shall keep the details of the Early Resolution process confidential until the process is concluded. If the matter is not resolved and an investigation is conducted, the Complainant and the Respondent shall maintain confidentiality until the conclusion of the Campus investigation and CO Appeal Review process, if any.
5. **Termination of Early Resolution Process.** The Complainant shall be notified that the Complainant or the Campus may at any time elect to terminate the Early Resolution process. In that event, the DHR Administrator/Title IX Coordinator shall promptly notify the Complainant and the Respondent in writing that the Early Resolution process has terminated, the effective date thereof, and inform the Complainant of the right to file a Complaint pursuant to Article III, B. 1. The DHR Administrator/Title IX Coordinator shall also determine whether the matter is appropriate for investigation, and so notify the parties in writing.

- B. **Campus Investigation Process.** Campuses will investigate Complaints of Discrimination, Harassment, Retaliation, Sexual Misconduct, Dating or Domestic Violence, or Stalking unless an Early Resolution is reached, whether or not a formal written Complaint is submitted. The DHR Administrator/Title IX Coordinator will determine whether to open an investigation after making a preliminary inquiry into the allegations. An investigation may not be warranted where the reported information is insufficient. These determinations will be documented in writing by the DHR Administrator/Title IX Coordinator, and maintained in accordance with systemwide records retention policies.

In cases where the Complainant does not want to pursue an investigation, the DHR Administrator/Title IX Coordinator should inform the Complainant that the ability to take corrective action may be limited. The Campus may determine that circumstances warrant initiating an investigation even if a Complaint has not been filed and independent of the intent or wishes of the Complainant. In cases involving Sexual Misconduct, Dating or Domestic Violence, or Stalking, when determining whether to go forward with an investigation, the Title IX Coordinator should consider the seriousness of the allegation(s), the age of the Complainant, whether there have been other Complaints against the Respondent, and the risk to the Campus community if the Respondent's alleged conduct remains unaddressed. These determinations will be documented in writing by the DHR Administrator/Title IX Coordinator, and maintained in accordance with systemwide records retention policies.

1. **Filing a Complaint.** Any Student may file a Complaint reporting Discrimination, Harassment, Retaliation, Sexual Misconduct, Dating or Domestic Violence, or Stalking under this policy subject to

the following exceptions:

- a. Complaints of Student employees that arise out of their employment. Such Complaints shall be governed by Executive Order 1096, or any superseding executive order.
 - b. Complaints by a Student about his/her academic adjustments and/or accommodations to a Campus's educational program related to his/her qualified Disability. Such inquiries and Complaints shall be directed to the Campus Director, Disabled Student Services (DSS), and shall be governed by CSU Coded Memorandum AA 2014-08, or any superseding policy.
 - c. Complaints against a president shall be filed with the Chancellor's Office (CO). However, Complaints against a president shall be processed by the Campus if the president's role in the alleged incident was limited to a decision on a recommendation made by another administrator, and the president had no other substantial involvement in the matter.
 - d. For Complaints against CO employees, the responsibilities identified in this Executive Order as those of the president are the responsibilities of the chancellor. Complaints that involve allegations against the chancellor or a member of the Board of Trustees shall be referred to the chair or vice chair of the Board and the CO Title IX Coordinator for processing and investigation.
2. **Complaint Requirements.** The Complainant may submit a written Complaint to the DHR Administrator or Title IX Coordinator. The date the Complaint is received in the appropriate office shall be deemed to be the Complaint filing date. The DHR Administrator/Title IX Coordinator shall offer reasonable accommodations to Complainants who are unable to submit a written Complaint because of a qualified Disability.
- The Complainant may complete the attached "CSU Student Complaint Form" or, in the alternative, submit a written signed statement containing the following information:
- a. The Complainant's full name, address (including email address) and telephone number(s);
 - b. The name of the Respondent and job title, position or Student status, if known;
 - c. The Protected Status that is the basis for any alleged Discrimination, Harassment, or Retaliation, the Respondent's activity that is the basis for the alleged Retaliation, or whether Dating or Domestic Violence, or Stalking is alleged;
 - d. A clear, concise statement of the facts that constitute the allegations including pertinent date(s) and sufficient information to identify any individuals who may provide relevant information during the course of any investigation;
 - e. A statement verifying that the information provided is true and accurate to the best of the Complainant's knowledge;
 - f. The term and year of the Complainant's most recent active academic status or the term and year in which the Complainant sought admission to the University;
 - g. The full name, address and telephone number of the Complainant's Advisor, if any;
 - h. The specific harm resulting from the allegations;
 - i. The specific remedy sought;
 - j. The Complainant's signature; and,
 - k. The date on which the Complaint is submitted.
3. **Intake interview.** The DHR Administrator or Title IX Coordinator shall meet with the Complainant as

soon as possible, but no later than **10 Working Days** after the Complaint was received. The Complainant shall be available for and attend this meeting.

- a. The meeting shall serve as the initial intake interview with the Complainant and will:
 - i. Explain the investigation procedure and timelines and answer any questions about them;
 - ii. Inform the Complainant of rights and options under this Executive Order, including the right to have an Advisor throughout the process;
 - iii. Provide the opportunity for the Complainant to complete and sign a Complaint form, if not already done; and,
 - iv. Discuss Interim Remedies, as appropriate.
 - b. In cases alleging Sexual Misconduct, Dating or Domestic Violence, or Stalking, the Title IX Coordinator shall also:
 - i. Inform the Complainant of the right to file a criminal complaint;
 - ii. Offer to assist the Complainant with filing a criminal complaint;
 - iii. Assure the Complainant that such filing will not significantly delay the Campus investigation;
 - iv. Advise the Complainant of available resources such as the Campus police, Campus Sexual Assault Victim's Advocate, student health service center or psychological counseling center; and
 - v. Provide **written** information, as directed under Executive Order 1095, to any Student who makes a report to the Campus of Sexual Misconduct, Dating or Domestic Violence, or Stalking.
 - c. Prior to or during the initial interview with the Respondent, the DHR Administrator or Title IX Coordinator shall:
 - i. Explain the investigation procedure and timelines and answer any questions about them;
 - ii. Inform the Respondent of rights and options under this Executive Order, including the right to have an Advisor throughout the process;
 - iii. Provide the Respondent with a copy of this Executive Order;
 - iv. Provide the Respondent with a description of the Complainant's allegations against the Respondent;
 - v. Provide the Respondent a full opportunity to respond to the allegations, including scheduling other meeting(s), accepting documentary evidence, and accepting Respondent's list of potential witnesses; and,
 - vi. Discuss any Interim Remedies, as appropriate.
4. **Advisor.** The Complainant and the Respondent may elect to be accompanied by an Advisor to any meeting or interview regarding the Complaint. (See definition in Article VI.)
 5. **Confidentiality.** Information regarding the Complaint may be shared on a "need to know" basis with other Campus Employees, and with law enforcement (with the Complainant's written consent), except for some limited exceptions. (See Executive Order 1095.) The DHR Administrator and/or Title IX Coordinator shall endeavor to honor any request for confidentiality; however, the DHR Administrator and/or Title IX Coordinator shall also weigh requests for confidentiality against the

University's duty to provide a safe and nondiscriminatory environment for all members of the Campus community. **Confidentiality, therefore, cannot be ensured.**

The Title IX Coordinator receives all Complainant requests for confidentiality involving cases of Sexual Misconduct, Dating or Domestic Violence, or Stalking, and determines if the request can be honored under the facts and circumstances of the particular case. (See Executive Order 1095.)

6. **Complaint Accepted for Investigation.** The DHR Administrator or Title IX Coordinator will review all written Complaints and the information received during the intake interview with the Complainant. If the DHR Administrator or Title IX Coordinator determines that the Complaint falls within the scope of this Executive Order, the Complainant will be notified within **10 Working Days** that the Complaint has been accepted for investigation and the timeline for completion of the investigation.

If the DHR Administrator or Title IX Coordinator determines the Complainant has failed to state a Complaint within the scope of this Executive Order, the Complainant will be provided with written notice of this determination within **10 Working Days**. The DHR Administrator or Title IX Coordinator will also inform the Complainant that if additional information is provided, the Complaint will be reviewed again. The DHR Administrator or Title IX Coordinator will maintain a record of the Complaint and the reasons the Complaint was deemed not within the scope of this Executive Order.

The DHR Administrator or Title IX Coordinator shall determine whether the Complaint should be processed through another Campus office or University procedure available to the Complainant. If appropriate, the DHR Administrator or Title IX Coordinator shall direct the Complainant to that procedure as soon as possible.

7. **Investigation Procedure.** The DHR Administrator or Title IX Coordinator shall promptly investigate the Complaint or assign this task to another Investigator on a case-by-case basis. If assigned to another Investigator, the DHR Administrator or Title IX Coordinator shall monitor, supervise, and oversee all such delegated tasks, including reviewing all investigation draft reports before they are final to ensure that the investigation was sufficient, appropriate, impartial, and in compliance with this Executive Order.

The Complainant and the Respondent shall have equal opportunities to present relevant witnesses and evidence in connection with the investigation. Upon inquiry, the Complainant and Respondent shall be advised of the status of the investigation.

Before reaching a final conclusion or issuing a final investigation report, the Investigator shall have:

a) advised the Parties, or have offered to do so, verbally or in writing, of any evidence upon which the findings will be based; and, b) given the Parties an opportunity to respond to the evidence, including presenting further relevant evidence, information or arguments that could affect the outcome. The Investigator will not reach a final conclusion or issue an investigation report until giving careful consideration to any such relevant evidence, information or arguments provided by the Parties. The Investigator retains discretion and authority to determine relevance.

The investigation shall be completed no later than **60 Working Days** after the intake interview, unless the timeline has been extended pursuant to Article V. E. The timeline should not be extended for a period longer than an additional **30 Working Days** from the original due date.

On occasion, a criminal investigation may be initiated by a law enforcement agency over the same allegations that are reported in a Complaint filed under this policy. A pending (Campus or local) police investigation is a separate investigation and it does not relieve a Campus of its responsibility to timely investigate Complaints under this policy. Thus, a Campus may not wait until the conclusion of a police investigation to commence its own investigation. Although it may be necessary to temporarily delay the investigation while the police are gathering evidence, once notified that the police have completed the fact gathering portion of their investigation, the Campus must promptly resume and complete its own investigation. In cases involving Sexual Misconduct, Dating or Domestic Violence, or Stalking, see the "Coordination with Criminal Investigations and Proceedings" section of Executive Order 1095.

8. **Investigation Report.** Within the investigation period stated above, the Investigator shall prepare an investigation report. The report shall include a summary of the allegations, the investigation process, the Preponderance of the Evidence standard, a detailed description of the evidence considered, and appropriate findings. Relevant exhibits and documents, if any, shall be attached to the written report. The report shall be promptly provided to the DHR Administrator or Title IX Coordinator, if applicable. The DHR Administrator or Title IX Coordinator shall review the investigation report to assure compliance with this Executive Order before proceeding further.
9. **Notice of Investigation Outcome.** Within **10 Working Days** of issuance of the final investigation report, the DHR Administrator or Title IX Coordinator shall notify the Complainant and Respondent in writing of the outcome of the investigation. The notice shall include a summary of the allegations, the investigative process, the Preponderance of the Evidence standard, the evidence considered, the findings of fact, a determination as to whether this Executive Order was violated, and if so, any Remedies to be afforded to the Complainant (such as an order that the Accused not contact the Complainant). The notice shall advise the Complainant and Respondent of their right to file an appeal under this Executive order and to request a copy of the final investigation report with exhibits/ attachments, if any, redacted as appropriate. The Notice shall be delivered to the Parties in a manner which guarantees delivery within **2 Working Days** (email delivery is acceptable). Where a Complaint is made against another Student and this Executive Order is found to have been violated, the DHR Administrator or Title IX Coordinator shall also notify the Campus Student Conduct Administrator of the investigation outcome, and provide a copy of the investigation report. Where the Respondent is an Employee, Human Resources or Academic/Faculty Affairs shall be notified and provided a copy of the investigation report.

Article IV. Appeal Review - Office of the Chancellor (CO)

[NOTE: ARTICLE IV OF THIS EXECUTIVE ORDER DOES NOT APPLY IN CASES (I) ALLEGING SEXUAL MISCONDUCT BY A STUDENT THAT, (II) IF SUBSTANTIATED, COULD RESULT IN A SEVERE SANCTION (SUSPENSION OR EXPULSION), AND (III) WHERE CREDIBILITY OF ANY PARTY OR WITNESS IS CENTRAL TO THE FINDING. SEE [ADDENDUM -- INVESTIGATION AND HEARING PROCESS – FOR STUDENTS ACCUSED OF SEXUAL MISCONDUCT.](#)]

- A. **Filing an Appeal to the CO.** Any Complainant or Respondent who is not satisfied with a Campus investigation outcome may file an appeal with the CO no later than **10 Working Days** after the date of the Notice of Investigation Outcome.
- B. **Written Appeal.** The appeal shall be in writing and shall be based only on one or more of the appeal

issues listed below:

1. The investigation outcome is unsupported by the evidence, based on the Preponderance of the Evidence standard;
2. Prejudicial procedural errors impacted the investigation outcome to such a degree that the investigation did not comply with this Executive Order; or
3. New evidence not available at the time of the investigation.

C. **Issues and Evidence on Appeal.** The issues and evidence raised on appeal shall be limited to those raised and identified during the investigation, unless new evidence becomes available after the Campus investigation process and is made part of the appeal by the appealing party. The CO may conduct an interview, at the CO's discretion, with the appealing party to clarify the written appeal. Appeals shall be addressed to:

Equal Opportunity and Whistleblower Compliance Unit
Systemwide Human Resources
Office of the Chancellor
401 Golden Shore, 4th Floor
Long Beach, California 90802
eo-wbappeals@calstate.edu

- D. **Acknowledgement of Appeal.** The CO shall provide prompt written acknowledgement of the receipt of the appeal to the appealing party, and will provide written notification of the appeal to the other party and the Campus DHR Administrator or Title IX Coordinator.
- E. **Reasonable Accommodation.** The CO will provide reasonable accommodation(s) to any party or witness in the appeal process with a qualified Disability upon request by the person needing the accommodation. A reasonable accommodation may include an extension under these procedures. The timeframe for the CO Appeal Response will automatically be adjusted for the time needed, if any, to provide reasonable accommodation(s).
- F. **Scope of CO Review.** The CO review will not involve a new investigation by the CO and will not consider evidence that was not introduced during the Campus investigation, unless the new evidence was not available at the time of the Campus investigation process. The CO may make reasonable inquiries to determine if the new evidence could have affected the investigation determination. If the CO review determines the investigation should be reopened to cure any defects in the investigation and/or consider new evidence introduced for the first time on appeal (that could have affected the investigation determination), the investigation will be remanded back to the Campus and the investigation reopened at the Campus level.
- G. **Reopening a Campus Investigation.** The CO will return the matter to the Campus and will specify in writing the timeline by which a reopened investigation must be completed. The CO will notify the Parties of the reopening of the investigation and the timeline for completion of the reopened investigation. The Campus will complete the reopened investigation and provide the CO with an amended investigation report. The Campus will also provide the Parties with amended Notices of Investigation Outcome, and such Notices will provide the Parties the opportunity to appeal any new or amended findings, in accordance with this Executive Order. Upon receipt of the amended investigation report, the CO will contact the appealing party to determine whether that party wishes to continue with the appeal.
- H. **Timeline.** The CO shall respond to the appealing party no later than 30 Working Days after receipt of the

written appeal unless the timeline has been extended as specified in Article V, E. below.

- I. **CO Appeal Response.** The CO Appeal Response shall include a summary of the issues raised on appeal, a summary of the evidence considered, the Preponderance of the Evidence standard, and the determination(s) reached regarding the issue(s) identified within the written appeal. A copy of the final CO Appeal Response shall be forwarded to the Complainant and Respondent, as well as the Campus DHR Administrator or Title IX Coordinator.

The CO Appeal Response is final and concludes the Complaint and CO review process under this Executive Order.

Article V. General Provisions for Campus Investigation/CO Appeal Review

- A. **Impartial Investigations.** All investigations and reviews shall be conducted impartially and in good faith.
- B. **Cooperation in an Investigation.** Students and Employees are required to cooperate with the investigation and other processes set forth in this Executive Order, including but not limited to, attending meetings, being forthright and honest during the process, and keeping confidential the existence and details of the investigation/review. If a Complainant and/or Respondent refuse to cooperate, the CSU may draw all reasonable inferences and conclusions on the basis of all available evidence and conclude the investigation/review.
- C. **False Allegations Prohibited.** A Complainant shall proceed with a Complaint in good faith. A Complainant who knowingly and intentionally files a false Complaint or any individual who is determined to have provided false statements or information during the investigation/appeal review shall be subject to discipline. Such disciplinary action shall not be deemed to be Retaliation.
- D. **Input into the Investigation.** Both the Complainant and Respondent shall have the right to identify witnesses and other evidence for consideration; however, the CSU shall decide what evidence is relevant and significant to the issues raised.
- E. **Timelines and Extensions.** The timeline for the procedures contained within this Executive Order may be extended for any reason deemed to be legitimate by the Campus Investigator/CO Appeal reviewer or by mutual agreement of the Parties. The timelines stated within this Executive Order will be automatically adjusted for a reasonable time period that should not exceed an additional **30 Working Days** for a Campus investigation or an additional **30 Working Days** for a reopened Campus investigation under Article IV. The Complainant and Respondent shall receive written notification of any period of extension.
- F. **Delivery.** When submitting a Complaint or issuing any notices required by this Executive Order, personal delivery, overnight delivery services, electronic mail, or certified mail may be used. If personal delivery is used, a proof of service shall be prepared attesting to the calendar date of delivery, which will establish the date of filing or response. If certified mail delivery is used, the postmark shall establish the date of filing or response. Electronic communications must be sent to the designated CSU or Campus e-mail address unless the intended recipient has specified a different address. Electronic communications will be deemed received on the date sent.
- G. **Investigation Not Warranted.** In the event that a Campus determines an investigation is not warranted, the reasons for that decision shall be reduced to writing and retained by the Campus according to appropriate record retention policies.
- H. **Information Requests.** Where it is necessary for the Complainant or Respondent to have access to

specific information for the purpose of filing a Complaint or CO Appeal, the Complainant or Respondent shall make a written request for such information to the Campus. The Complainant or Respondent shall have access to information within the policies, procedures and laws governing confidentiality and privacy that are relevant to any issue raised in the Complaint. This provision does not authorize a Complainant or Respondent access to the personnel files of another without the written consent of that person.

Article VI. Definitions

For purposes of this Executive Order, the following definitions apply:

- A. **Adverse Action** means an action that has a substantial and material adverse effect on the Complainant's ability to participate in a University program or activity free from Discrimination, Harassment or Retaliation. Minor or trivial actions or conduct not reasonably likely to do more than anger or upset a Complainant does not constitute an Adverse Action.
- B. **Advisor**: The Complainant and the Respondent may each elect to be accompanied by an Advisor to any meeting or interview regarding the allegations. The Advisor may be anyone, including a union representative from the Complainant's or Respondent's collective bargaining unit, an attorney, or, in the case of the Complainant, a Sexual Assault Victim's Advocate, provided the Advisor is not a person with information relevant to the allegations who may be interviewed by the Investigator during the investigation. The Advisor may not answer questions regarding the subject matter of the investigation for the Complainant or the Respondent. However, the Advisor may observe and consult with the Complainant or Respondent and take appropriate action to ensure that the investigation does not violate applicable laws, policies, or collective bargaining agreements.
- C. **Affirmative Consent** means an informed, affirmative, conscious, voluntary, and mutual agreement to engage in sexual activity. It is the responsibility of each person involved in the sexual activity to ensure that Affirmative Consent has been obtained from the other participant(s) to engage in the sexual activity. Lack of protest or resistance does not mean consent nor does silence mean consent.

Affirmative Consent can be withdrawn or revoked. Affirmative Consent cannot be given by a person who is incapacitated.

A person with a medical or mental Disability may also lack the capacity to give consent.

Sexual activity with a minor (under 18 years old) is never consensual because a minor is considered incapable of giving legal consent due to age.

See Article I, E. for more information.

- D. **Age**, with respect to employment discrimination, refers to the chronological age of any individual who has reached his or her 40th birthday.⁹ With respect to discrimination in non-employment programs and activities, Age means how old a person is, or the number of years from the date of a person's birth.¹¹ Age based stereotype refers to generalized opinions about matters including the qualifications, job performance, health, work habits, and productivity of individuals over forty.

Age is a Protected Status.

- E. **Calendar Days** are defined as Monday through Sunday and include official holidays.
- F. **California State University (CSU)** means the 23 Campus system of the California State University,

including the CO.

- G. **Campus or University** means any of the 23 Campuses of the CSU or the CO.
- H. **CO Appeal Response** refers to the decision provided to the Complainant and the Respondent upon completion of the appeal process provided under Article IV.
- I. **Complainant** means an individual who is eligible to file a Complaint or to report a violation of this policy. See Article III. B. 1 for a description of those eligible to file a Complaint. It also includes any person who is reported to have experienced a violation of this policy in cases where some other person has made a report on that person's behalf. A Complainant may also be referred to as a party to the Complaint.
- J. **Complaint** means a report of a violation of this policy or a written communication that complies with Article III. B. 2 alleging Discrimination, Harassment, Retaliation, Sexual Misconduct, Dating or Domestic Violence, or Stalking, against the CSU, an Employee, another Student, or a Third Party.
- K. **Dating Violence** is abuse committed by a person who is or has been in a social or dating relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the victim.¹¹ This may include someone the victim just met; i.e., at a party, introduced through a friend, or on a social networking website. For purposes of this definition, "abuse" means intentionally or recklessly causing or attempting to cause bodily injury or placing another person in reasonable apprehension of imminent serious bodily injury to self or another. Abuse does not include non-physical, emotional distress or injury.
- L. **DHR (Discrimination, Harassment, and Retaliation) Administrator** means the Management Personnel Plan (MPP) Employee at each Campus who is designated to administer this Executive Order and coordinate compliance with the laws prohibiting Discrimination, Harassment and Retaliation. The DHR Administrator may delegate tasks to one or more designees, provided that any designee shall be a MPP Employee or an external consultant, and the DHR Administrator retains overall responsibility and authority. **MPP Employee** means an employee who has been designated as a "management" or "supervisory" employee under the provisions of the Higher Education Employer-Employee Relations Act.¹² The Campus president may assign the roles of the DHR Administrator and Title IX Coordinator to the same person. The names of, and contact information for the DHR Administrator and Title IX Coordinator shall be made readily available to the Campus community and Third Parties as described in Article II.
- M. **Disability**, as defined in California Education Code §66260.5, Government Code § 12926 and the federal Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), 2008 Amendments, means:
1. Having a physical or mental condition that limits a major life activity. "Limits" means making the achievement of a major life activity difficult. "Limits" is determined without regard to mitigating measures such as medications, assistive devices, prosthetics, or reasonable accommodations, unless the mitigating measure itself limits a major life activity. A "major life activity" is broadly construed and includes physical, mental, and social activities (such as walking, talking, seeing, hearing) and working; or
 2. Having a known history of a qualifying impairment; or
 3. Being regarded or treated as having or having had a qualifying impairment; or
 4. Being regarded or treated as having or having had such an impairment that has no presently disabling effects but may become a qualifying impairment in the future.

Disability includes HIV and AIDS. Disability is a Protected Status.

- N. **Discipline** means any disciplinary action taken to correct a violation of the prohibitions against

Discrimination, Harassment, Retaliation, Sexual Misconduct, Dating and Domestic Violence, and Stalking set forth in this Executive Order. Discipline for Employees includes but is not limited to suspension, demotion, and termination of employment. Discipline for Students includes but is not limited to probation, suspension, and expulsion. Suspension of one academic year or more, expulsion, withdrawal in lieu of suspension or expulsion, and withdrawal with pending misconduct investigation or disciplinary proceeding shall be entered on the Student's transcript permanently without exception; this requirement cannot be waived in connection with any settlement agreement. See the definition of Remedies below.

- O. **Discrimination** means Adverse Action taken against a Student by the CSU, a CSU employee, or another Student because of a Protected Status.
- P. **Domestic Violence** is abuse committed against someone who is a current or former spouse; current or former cohabitant; someone with whom the Respondent has a child; someone with whom the Respondent has or had a dating or engagement relationship; or a person similarly situated under California domestic or family violence law. Cohabitant means two unrelated persons living together for a substantial period of time, resulting in some permanency of relationship. It does not include roommates who do not have a romantic, intimate, or sexual relationship. Factors that may determine whether persons are cohabiting include, but are not limited to: (1) sexual relations between the Parties while sharing the same living quarters; (2) sharing of income or expenses; (3) joint use or ownership of property; (4) whether the Parties hold themselves out as spouses; (5) the continuity of the relationship; and, (6) the length of the relationship. For purposes of this definition, "abuse" means intentionally or recklessly causing or attempting to cause bodily injury or placing another person in reasonable apprehension of imminent serious bodily injury to self, or another.¹³ Abuse does not include non-physical, emotional distress or injury.
- Q. **Employee** means a person legally holding a position in the CSU. This term includes full-time, part-time, permanent, tenured, probationary, temporary, intermittent, casual, and per-diem positions. This term does not include auxiliary or foundation Employees or other Third Parties.¹⁴
- R. **Gender** means sex, and includes Gender Identity, Gender Expression, and transgender. It also includes sex stereotyping.¹⁵

Sex includes, but is not limited to pregnancy, childbirth, breastfeeding or any related medical conditions.¹⁶

Gender Identity means a person's identification as male, female, a gender different from the person's sex at birth or transgender.

Gender Expression means a person's gender-related appearance or behavior whether or not stereotypically associated with the person's assigned sex at birth.

Sex stereotype means an assumption about a person's appearance or behavior or about an individual's ability or inability to perform certain kinds of work based on a myth, social expectation, or generalization about the individual's sex.

Transgender is a general term that refers to a person whose gender identity differs from the person's sex at birth. A transgender person may or may not have a gender expression that is different from the social expectation of the sex assigned at birth. A transgender person may or may not identify as transsexual.

Gender is a Protected Status.

S. **Genetic Information** means¹⁷:

- The Student's genetic tests.
- The genetic tests of the Student's family members.
- The manifestation of a disease or disorder in the Student's family members.
- Any request for, or receipt of genetic services, or participation in clinical research that includes genetic services, by a Student or any Student's family member.
- Genetic Information does not include information about any Student's sex or age.

Genetic Information is a Protected Status.

T. **Harassment** means unwelcome conduct, based on the Complainant's Protected Status, that is sufficiently severe, persistent or pervasive that its effect, whether or not intended, could be considered by a reasonable person in the shoes of the Complainant, and is in fact considered by the Complainant, as limiting her/his ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities or opportunities offered by the University.

U. **Investigator** means the person tasked by a Campus with investigating a Complaint. All Investigators shall receive annual training regarding such issues as the laws governing Discrimination, Harassment and Retaliation; Title IX and VAWA/Campus SaVE Act; as well as other related state and federal laws prohibiting Discrimination, Harassment and Retaliation based on Gender or Sex, including Sex Discrimination, Sexual Harassment, Sexual Misconduct, Dating and Domestic Violence, and Stalking; Complainant, Respondent, Employee, and witness privacy rights; and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA). For matters involving Sex Discrimination, Sexual Harassment, Sexual Misconduct, Dating or Domestic Violence or Stalking, the Investigator shall also receive annual training on how to conduct an investigation process that protects the safety of the Complainant(s) and the University community. (See also Executive Order 1095 regarding required training for Sexual Harassment and Sexual Misconduct investigations.)

If delegated, the DHR Administrator or the Title IX Coordinator (for Complaints alleging Sex Discrimination, Sexual Harassment, Sexual Misconduct, Dating or Domestic Violence, or Stalking) shall monitor, supervise, and oversee the investigation to ensure that it is conducted in accordance with the standards, procedures and timelines set forth in this policy.

The Investigator shall not be within the administrative control or authority of any Respondent CSU Employee. The Investigator may be the DHR Administrator, the Title IX Coordinator, or their designee, provided that any designee shall be an MPP Employee or an external consultant.

V. **Marital Status** means an individual's state of marriage, non-marriage, divorce or dissolution, separation, widowhood, annulment, or other marital state.¹⁸ Marital Status is a Protected Status.

W. **Medical Condition** means either of the following:

1. Any health impairment related to or associated with a diagnosis of cancer or a record or history of cancer; or
2. Genetic characteristics. For purposes of this section, "genetic characteristics" means either of the following:
 - a. Any scientifically or medically identifiable gene or chromosome, or combination or alteration thereof, that is known to be a cause of a disease or disorder in a person or offspring, or that is

determined to be associated with a statistically increased risk of development of a disease or disorder, and that is presently not associated with any symptoms of any disease or disorder; or

- b. Inherited characteristics that may derive from the individual or family member, that are known to be a cause of a disease or disorder in a person or offspring, or that are determined to be associated with a statistically increased risk of development of a disease or disorder, and that are presently not associated with any symptoms of any disease or disorder.¹⁹

Medical Condition is a Protected Status.

- X. **Nationality** includes citizenship, country of origin, and national origin. It also includes language use restrictions and holding or presenting a driver's license issued under section 12801.9 of the Vehicle Code.

Nationality is a Protected Status.²⁰

- Y. **Parties** to a Complaint are the Complainant(s) and the Respondent(s).

- Z. **Preponderance of the Evidence** means the greater weight of the evidence; i.e., that the evidence on one side outweighs, preponderates over, or is more than, the evidence on the other side. The Preponderance of the Evidence is the applicable standard for demonstrating facts and reaching conclusions in an investigation conducted pursuant to this Executive Order.

- AA. **Protected Status** includes Age, Disability (physical or mental), Gender (or sex), Genetic Information, Gender Identity (including transgender), Gender Expression, Marital Status, Medical Condition, Nationality, Race or Ethnicity (including color or ancestry), Religion or Religious Creed, Sexual Orientation, and Veteran or Military Status.

- AB. **Race or Ethnicity** includes ancestry, color, ethnic group identification, and ethnic background.

Race or Ethnicity is a Protected Status.²¹

- AC. **Religion** or Religious Creed and includes all aspects of religious belief, observance, and practice, including religious dress and grooming practices, and includes agnosticism and atheism. Religious dress and grooming practices, such as wearing religious clothing, head or face covering, jewelry, and artifacts, are part of a Complainant's religious observance or belief.²²

Religion or Religious Creed is a Protected Status.

- AD. **Remedies** mean actions taken to correct allegations and/or reported violations of Discrimination, Harassment, Retaliation, Sexual Misconduct, Dating or Domestic Violence or Stalking as set forth in this Executive Order. Remedies can include Discipline or other corrective action.

Interim Remedies shall be offered prior to the conclusion of an investigation in order to immediately stop any wrong-doing and/or reduce or eliminate any negative impact, when appropriate. Persons reporting that they have been the victim of Sex Discrimination, Sexual Harassment, Sexual Misconduct, Dating or Domestic Violence or Stalking must be provided reasonable and available Interim Remedies, if requested, regardless of whether the person chooses to report the conduct to Campus police or local law enforcement, and regardless of whether an investigation is conducted under this Executive Order. Examples may include offering the option of psychological counseling services, changes to academic or living situations, completing a course and/or courses on-line (if otherwise appropriate), academic tutoring, arranging for the re-taking of a class or withdrawal from a class without penalty, and/or any measure as appropriate to stop further alleged harm until an investigation is concluded or a resolution is reached. The

Title IX Coordinator shall assist and provide the Complainant with reasonable Remedies as requested throughout the reporting, investigation, appeal, and disciplinary processes, and thereafter.

AE. **Respondent** means the CSU, a CSU Employee, another Student, or a Third Party who is alleged to have violated this Executive Order.

AF. **Retaliation** means Adverse Action taken against a Student because the Student has or is believed to have:

1. Exercised rights under this Executive Order;
2. Reported or opposed conduct which was reasonably and in good faith believed to be in violation of this Executive Order;
3. Assisted or participated in a policy-related investigation/proceeding regardless of whether the Complaint was substantiated; or,
4. Assisted someone in reporting or opposing a violation of this Executive Order, or assisted someone in reporting or opposing Retaliation under this Executive Order.

Retaliation may occur whether or not there is a power or authority differential between the individuals involved.

AG. **Sexual Assault Victim's Advocate** refers to Employees or third party professionals appointed to support Complainants reporting Sexual Misconduct. They must be certified and have received specialized training to provide advice and assistance, including but not limited to the provision of information about available options in the Complaint, law enforcement, legal, and medical processes, and with emotional and decision making support. Sexual Assault Victim's Advocates may serve as the Complainant's Advisor and assist in seeking services. They are committed to maintain the highest possible level of confidentiality permissible under state and federal law in their communications with the persons they assist.²³ Sexual Assault Victim's Advocates are appointed based on experience and demonstrated ability to effectively provide services to victims/survivors/Complainants. See Executive Order 1095 for more detailed information.

AH. **Sexual Harassment**, a form of Sex Discrimination, is unwelcome verbal, nonverbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature that includes but is not limited to sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and any other conduct of a sexual nature where:

1. Submission to, or rejection of, the conduct is explicitly or implicitly used as the basis for any decision affecting a Complainant's academic status or progress, or access to benefits and services, honors, programs, or activities available at or through the University; **or**
2. The conduct is sufficiently severe, persistent or pervasive that its effect, whether or not intended, could be considered by a reasonable person in the shoes of the Complainant, and is in fact considered by the Complainant, as limiting his or her ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities or opportunities offered by the University; **or**
3. The conduct is sufficiently severe, persistent or pervasive that its effect, whether or not intended, could be considered by a reasonable person in the shoes of the Complainant, and is in fact considered by the Complainant, as creating an intimidating, hostile or offensive environment.

Sexual Harassment could include being forced to engage in unwanted sexual contact as a condition of membership in a student organization; being subjected to video exploitation or a campaign of sexually explicit graffiti; or frequently being exposed to unwanted images of a sexual nature in a classroom that are

unrelated to the coursework.

Sexual Harassment also includes acts of verbal, non-verbal or physical aggression, intimidation or hostility based on Gender or sex-stereotyping, even if those acts do not involve conduct of a sexual nature.

This policy covers unwelcome conduct of a sexual nature. While romantic, sexual, intimate, personal or social relationships between members of the University community may begin as consensual, they may evolve into situations that lead to Sexual Harassment or Sexual Misconduct, including Dating or Domestic Violence, or Stalking, subject to this policy.

Claiming that the conduct was not motivated by sexual desire is not a defense to a complaint of harassment based on Gender.

- AI. **Sexual Misconduct:** All sexual activity between members of the CSU community must be based on Affirmative Consent. Engaging in any sexual activity without first obtaining Affirmative Consent to the specific activity is Sexual Misconduct, whether or not the conduct violates any civil or criminal law.

Sexual activity includes, but is not limited to, kissing, touching intimate body parts, fondling, intercourse, penetration of any body part, and oral sex. It also includes any unwelcome physical sexual acts, such as unwelcome sexual touching, Sexual Assault, Sexual Battery, Rape, and Dating Violence. Sexual Misconduct may include using physical force, violence, threat, or intimidation, ignoring the objections of the other person, causing the other person's intoxication or incapacitation through the use of drugs or alcohol, or taking advantage of the other person's incapacitation (including voluntary intoxication) to engage in sexual activity. Men as well as women can be victims of these forms of Sexual Misconduct. Sexual activity with a minor is never consensual when the Complainant is under 18 years old, because the minor is considered incapable of giving legal consent due to age.

1. **Sexual Assault** is a form of Sexual Misconduct and is an attempt, coupled with the ability, to commit a violent injury on the person of another because of that person's Gender or sex.²⁴
2. **Sexual Battery** is a form of Sexual Misconduct and is any willful and unlawful use of force or violence upon the person of another because of that person's Gender or sex as well as touching an intimate part of another person against that person's will and for the purpose of sexual arousal, gratification, or abuse.²⁵
3. **Rape** is a form of Sexual Misconduct and is non-consensual sexual intercourse that may also involve the use of threat of force, violence, or immediate and unlawful bodily injury or threats of future retaliation and duress. Any sexual penetration, however slight, is sufficient to constitute Rape. Sexual acts including intercourse are considered non-consensual when a person is incapable of giving consent because s/he is incapacitated from alcohol and/or drugs, is under 18 years old, or if a mental disorder or developmental or physical Disability renders a person incapable of giving consent. The Respondent's relationship to the person (such as family member, spouse, friend, acquaintance or stranger) is irrelevant. (See complete definition of Affirmative Consent above.)²⁶
4. **Acquaintance Rape** is a form of Sexual Misconduct committed by an individual known to the victim. This includes a person the victim may have just met; i.e., at a party, introduced through a friend, or on a social networking website. (See above for definition of Rape.)

- AJ. **Sexual Orientation** means one's preference in sexual partners and includes heterosexuality, homosexuality or bisexuality.²⁷ Sexual Orientation is a Protected Status

AK. **Stalking** means engaging in a repeated Course of Conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a Reasonable Person to fear for the safety of self or others' safety or to suffer Substantial Emotional Distress.²⁸ For purposes of this definition:

1. **Course of Conduct** means two or more acts, including but not limited to, acts in which the stalker directly, indirectly, or through Third Parties, by any action, method, device, or means, follows, monitors, observes, surveils, threatens, or communicates to or about a person, or interferes with a person's property;
2. **Reasonable Person** means a reasonable person under similar circumstances and with the same Protected Status(es) as the Complainant;
3. **Substantial Emotional Distress** means significant mental suffering or anguish that may, but does not necessarily require medical or other professional treatment or counseling.

AL. **Student** means an applicant for admission to the CSU, an admitted CSU Student, an enrolled CSU Student, a CSU extended education Student, a CSU Student between academic terms, a CSU graduate awaiting a degree, a CSU student currently serving a suspension or interim suspension, and a CSU Student who withdraws from the University while a disciplinary matter (including investigation) is pending.

AM. **Third Party** means a person other than an Employee or a Student. Examples include employees of auxiliary organizations²⁹, unpaid interns, volunteers, independent contractors, vendors, and their employees, and visitors.

AN. **Title IX** means Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972.

AO. **Title IX Coordinator** means the Campus MPP Employee appointed by the Campus president to coordinate compliance with Title IX; VAWA/Campus SaVE Act; and other related state and federal laws prohibiting Discrimination, Harassment and Retaliation based on Gender or sex, including Sex Discrimination, Sexual Harassment, Sexual Misconduct, Dating and Domestic Violence and Stalking. (See Executive Order 1095.)

AP. **VAWA** means the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013 (which amends the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Crimes Statistics Act, commonly known as the Clery Act) (20 U.S.C. 1092(f)), under its Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act provision (Campus SaVE Act).

AQ. **Veteran or Military Status** means service in the uniformed services. Veteran or Military Service may be a Protected Status.

AR. **Working Days** are defined as Monday through Friday, excluding all official holidays or Campus closures at the Campus where the Complaint originated or at the CO where an Appeal is reviewed.

ADDENDUM TO CSU EXECUTIVE ORDERS

1096, 1097 & 1098 (Revised March 29, 2019)

INVESTIGATION AND HEARING PROCESS – FOR STUDENTS ACCUSED OF SEXUAL MISCONDUCT

This Addendum, entitled "Investigation and Hearing Process — For Students Accused of Sexual Misconduct," **supersedes Article III.C.7-9 and Article IV of California State University Executive Order 1096 (Revised October 5, 2016); Article III.B.7-9 and Article IV of California State University Executive Order 1097 (Revised October 5, 2016); and Article IV of California State University Executive Order 1098 (Revised June 23, 2015), and applies to Complaints alleging Sexual Misconduct committed by a Student Respondent.**³⁰

Article I. Scope of this Addendum

This Addendum **supersedes** the existing investigation and resolution process under Article III.C.7-9 and Article IV of EO 1096 (Revised March 29, 2019); Article III.B.7-9 and Article IV of EO 1097 (Revised March 29, 2019); and Article IV of EO 1098 (Revised March 29, 2019) (sanctions) for cases (i) alleging Sexual Misconduct by a Student that, (ii) if substantiated, could result in a severe sanction (suspension or expulsion), **and** (iii) where credibility of any Party or witness is central to the finding.³¹ Allegations of other misconduct set forth in the same Complaint that arise out of the same facts and/or incidents will also be investigated and resolved (including sanctions) in accordance with this Addendum.

Article II. Investigation Procedure

The Title IX Coordinator will either promptly investigate the Complaint or assign this task to another Investigator. If assigned to another Investigator, the Title IX Coordinator will monitor, supervise, and oversee all such delegated tasks, including reviewing all investigation draft reports before they are final to ensure that the investigation is sufficient, appropriate, impartial, and in compliance with the relevant Executive Order, including this Addendum.

At the onset of the investigation, the Title IX Coordinator will simultaneously provide both Parties a Notice of Investigation. The Notice of Investigation will include:

- A. a summary of the Complaint (e.g., “who,” “what,” “when,” and “where”);
- B. a copy of, or internet link to, the relevant Executive Order, including this Addendum;
- C. a description of the investigation and resolution procedure (including the right to hearing and appeal);
- D. the estimated timeline for completion of the investigation;
- E. a description of the University’s policy against Retaliation; and
- F. information about the Parties’ right to an Advisor. The Complainant and Respondent will have equal opportunities to present relevant witnesses and evidence in connection with the investigation and at any hearing. Upon request, the Complainant and Respondent will be advised of the status of the investigation. If new allegations are raised during the investigation that are materially different from those described in the Notice of Investigation, a revised Notice of Investigation will be issued to the Parties.

Article III. Evidence

A. Gathering of Evidence. The Investigator will take reasonable steps to gather all relevant evidence from the Parties, other witnesses or other sources. The Investigator will document the steps taken to gather evidence, even when those efforts are not successful.

The Investigator will notify the Parties in writing that they may:

- A. submit documentary information to the Investigator;
- B. submit a list of potential witnesses to the Investigator; and/or
- C. request that the Investigator attempt to collect documents and other information that are not reasonably accessible to the requesting Party.

B. Basis for Declining Request. The Investigator may decline a Party’s request to gather information if:

- A. the request seeks information about the Complainant’s sexual history with anyone other than the

Respondent (unless such evidence about the Complainant's sexual behavior is offered to prove that someone other than the Respondent committed the alleged misconduct, or if the evidence concerns specific incidents of the Complainant's sexual behavior with respect to the Respondent and is offered to prove consent);

- B. the request seeks information about the Respondent's sexual history with anyone other than the Complainant unless such information is used to prove motive or pattern of conduct;
- C. the request seeks information that is unreasonably duplicative of evidence in the Investigator's possession;
- D. the Investigator determines that the information is not relevant to disputed issues;
- E. the request seeks information that can be reasonably and adequately obtained by the requesting Party from other independent or publicly available sources;
- F. the burden of obtaining the information is likely to substantially outweigh the benefit that the evidence bears on a disputed issue; or
- G. the requested information can be reasonably obtained through other means less likely to intrude on a person's privacy.

In determining the relevance of evidence, consent to one form of sexual activity (or one sexual act) does not constitute consent to other forms of sexual activity, and consent given to sexual activity on one occasion does not constitute consent on another occasion.

Article IV. Review of Evidence

Before issuing a final investigation report (Final Investigation Report), the Investigator will share with the Complainant and Respondent a preliminary report of the evidence, along with all relevant evidence gathered as described above (Preliminary Investigation Report), redacted if and to the extent required by law. The Preliminary Investigation Report will: (a) describe the allegations; (b) identify the material facts – undisputed and disputed – with explanations as to why any material fact is disputed; and (c) describe the evidence presented and considered.

The Investigator may use discretion in determining how to provide access to the Preliminary Investigation Report with the Parties in light of the particular circumstances and any Party or witness privacy concerns. The Preliminary Investigation Report will also identify any evidence offered by the Parties or any other witnesses that the Investigator concluded is not relevant to a material disputed fact, and will briefly explain why it is not relevant. Such evidence need not be attached to the report, but will be available for reasonable review upon request during the review of evidence process.

This process is collectively referred to as the "Review of Evidence."

Each Party will be given a reasonable opportunity to respond to the list of disputed facts and evidence and ask questions. In particular, each Party may:

- A. meet again with the Investigator;
- B. identify additional disputed facts;
- C. respond to the evidence in writing;
- D. request that the Investigator ask specific questions to the other Party and other witnesses;
- E. identify additional witnesses; and

- F. request that the Investigator gather additional evidence.

The Investigator will share with the Parties the answers to questions posed during the Review of Evidence. If additional disputed material facts are identified or relevant evidence is gathered, it will be included in the Preliminary Investigation Report (or in a separate addendum) and shared with all Parties, who will be given a reasonable opportunity to respond to the new evidence and ask questions. The Investigator determines when it is appropriate to conclude the Review of Evidence.

Article V. Investigation Report, Pre-Hearing Disposition, and Scheduling of Hearing

- A. The Final Investigation Report will include all of the information included in the Preliminary Investigation Report as well as additional relevant evidence received during the Review of Evidence. Any relevant documentary or other tangible evidence provided by the Parties or witnesses, or otherwise gathered by the Investigator will be attached to the Final Investigation Report as exhibits or otherwise made available for reasonable review by the Parties and at the hearing. Evidence offered by the Parties or any other witnesses that the Investigator concluded is not relevant to a material disputed fact will also be accessible to the Hearing Officer during the hearing.
- B. Absent good cause (of which the Parties will receive written notice): (i) the investigation should be concluded within **90 Working Days** from the date that Notice of Investigation is provided to the Parties; and (ii) the Final Investigation Report should be completed and provided to the Parties within **10 Working Days** after the Review of Evidence has concluded. Any extensions will be granted, and notice to the Parties given, as set forth in Article V. E. of EO 1096 and EO 1097.
- C. If assigned to another Investigator, the Title IX Coordinator will monitor, supervise, and oversee all delegated tasks, including reviewing all draft reports before they are finalized to ensure that the investigation was sufficient, appropriate, impartial, and in compliance with the relevant Executive Order, including this Addendum.
- D. Within **10 Working Days** after the Parties have been provided the Final Investigation Report, the Parties will be informed of the timelines that will apply to the pre-hearing and hearing processes described in Article VII below.

Article VI. Early Resolution³²

If the Title IX Coordinator or either Party believes that it may be possible to resolve the Complaint in a prompt, fair, and reasonable manner without a hearing, the Title IX Coordinator may suggest that the Parties consider an Early Resolution subject to the following:

- A. both Parties must agree to engage in the Early Resolution process;
- B. any agreed-upon remedies and disciplinary sanctions will have the force and effect of sanctions imposed following a Hearing;
- C. the terms of any resolution must be memorialized in writing and signed by the Parties and the Title IX Coordinator; and
- D. the resolution will be final and not appealable by either Party.

Article VII. Pre-Hearing and Hearing Processes

1. The Student Conduct Administrator, Title IX Coordinator, or other appropriate Administrator (Hearing

Coordinator) will be responsible for coordinating the hearing process. The Hearing Coordinator's duties will include: scheduling the hearing; notifying witnesses of the hearing; ensuring that the Hearing Officer is provided with appropriate materials including a copy of the report and any exhibits; coordinating videoconferencing (if necessary); and securing a location for the hearing. The Hearing Coordinator will also act as liaison between the Parties and the Hearing Officer on procedural matters.

2. The Parties will be given written notice of the date, time, and location of the hearing as well as the identity of the Hearing Officer. Notification of the hearing will be sent to the designated CSU campus e-mail address, unless the recipient has specifically requested in writing to the Hearing Coordinator that notice be given to a different e-mail address. Communications will be deemed received on the date sent. The hearing will not be set sooner than **15 Working Days** after the date of notice of hearing.

3. Timelines:

Hearing Officer

Any objections to an appointed Hearing Officer will be made in writing to the Hearing Coordinator within **5 Working Days** after notice of the identity of the Hearing Officer has been provided.

The objection must be based on an actual conflict of interest. A conflict of interest exists if the Hearing Officer has a personal relationship with one of the

Parties or witnesses or has demonstrated actual bias towards a Party or witness. The fact that a Hearing Officer has previously served as a Hearing Officer in university proceedings will not constitute a conflict of interest. The Hearing Coordinator will determine if a conflict of interest exists. In that event, the Parties will be notified in writing of the name of the new Hearing Officer. The date for the hearing may need to be rescheduled. Any objection to the new Hearing Officer will be made in accordance with this section.

Hearing Process

No later than **10 Working Days** before the hearing, each Party will:

- A. Provide to the Hearing Coordinator the name of, and contact information for, the Party's advisor and support person (if any);
- B. Make any requests to the Hearing Coordinator to consolidate pending cases for hearing;
- C. Provide to the Hearing Coordinator a proposed witness list that includes the names of, and current contact information for, that Party's proposed witnesses as well as an explanation of the relevance of each proposed witness's testimony and the disputed issue to which the witness's testimony relates. Absent extenuating circumstances, such witnesses should have been identified to the investigator during the investigation process, and referenced in the investigation report.

The Hearing Officer will make all determinations regarding pre-hearing matters, including witness participation and questions, and will promptly notify the Hearing Coordinator who, in turn, will promptly notify the Parties.

No later than **5 Working Days** before the hearing, the Hearing Coordinator will:

- A. Share a final witness list with the Parties.
- B. Notify each witness of the date, time and location of the hearing. Witnesses will be instructed to attend the hearing and to promptly direct any questions or concerns about their attendance at the hearing to the Hearing Coordinator.

No later than **5 Working Days** prior to the hearing, the Parties will submit a list of proposed questions to the Hearing Coordinator.

No later than **3 Working Days** before the hearing, the Parties will submit to the Hearing Coordinator any: (i) objections to, or questions about, the witness list or (ii) requests for permission to participate in the hearing remotely or out of the physical presence of the other Party. All communications will be in writing.

No later than **1 Working Day** before the hearing, the Hearing Officer will resolve all pending requests regarding participation at the hearing. The Hearing Coordinator will give prompt notice to the Parties (and witnesses) as appropriate.

The hearing is closed to all persons except the Parties; the Parties' respective Advisors; one support person per Party; appropriate witnesses while they are testifying; the Student Conduct Administrator; Title IX Coordinator; Hearing Officer; and Hearing Coordinator. A CSU administrator may also be present, but will not participate in the hearing. Campus police or a security officer may also be present if deemed appropriate or necessary by the Vice President for Student Affairs, Hearing Coordinator or Hearing Officer. The University will take reasonable steps to instruct witnesses employed by the University to attend the hearing, and to arrange for such witnesses to be available to attend, provided that such employee witnesses are timely identified to the Hearing Coordinator in accordance with this Executive Order.

4. The University will instruct Student witnesses to attend the hearing, provided that such Student witnesses are timely identified to the Hearing Coordinator in accordance with this Executive Order. Students who fail to comply may be subject to discipline, depending on the circumstances. The University will take reasonable steps to accommodate Student witnesses including arranging for them to be excused from class attendance, if necessary.

5. The hearing will commence with an overview of the hearing process given by the Hearing Officer, after which the Parties will be given an opportunity to ask questions about the hearing process. Generally, the Investigator or the Title IX Coordinator (if not the Investigator) will be the first witness and will describe the complaint, investigation process, and summarize the evidence. Each Party will be given an opportunity to make an opening statement that will last no longer than 10 minutes. The Advisor and any support person are not permitted to make the opening statement or speak during the hearing. The Parties will not make closing statements.

6. The Hearing Officer may ask questions of the Complainant, Respondent, Investigator, any University official (e.g., Title IX Coordinator or Student Conduct Administrator), and any witness.

- A. The Complainant and Respondent may be present at all times during the hearing unless the Hearing Officer determines that a Party should be excused for extraordinary circumstances.
- B. As set forth above, the Parties will give the Hearing Coordinator a written list of any questions that they would like the Hearing Officer to ask the witnesses. The Parties may also propose follow-up questions to the Hearing Officer during the hearing, at appropriate times designated by the Hearing Officer.
- C. The Hearing Officer will ask the questions proposed by the Parties except for questions that:
 - 1. seek information about the Complainant's sexual history with anyone other than the Respondent (unless such evidence about the Complainant's sexual behavior is offered to prove that someone other than the Respondent committed the alleged misconduct);
 - 2. seek information about the Respondent's sexual history with anyone other than the Complainant, unless such information is used to prove motive or pattern of conduct;
 - 3. seek information that is unreasonably duplicative of evidence in the Hearing Officer's possession; or

4. the Hearing Officer determines are not relevant to material disputed issues, are argumentative or harassing or unduly intrude on a witness's privacy.
- D. The Hearing Officer has discretion to modify or change the wording of a question proposed by a Party (for example, when a question is unclear or inappropriate in tone) as long as the substance of the question is preserved.
- E. The Parties will address any questions, concerns or objections about a question (or line of questioning) to the Hearing Officer who will use their discretion to resolve any issues consistent with the Executive Order. Advisors may not speak on behalf of a Party.
- F. Formal rules of evidence applied in courtroom proceedings (e.g., California Evidence Code) do not apply in the hearing. All information that responsible persons are accustomed to rely upon in the conduct of serious affairs is considered.
7. Hearsay may be considered, but will only be given the weight appropriate under all of the circumstances, with due consideration given to the importance of credibility assessment. Absent extenuating circumstances, the Hearing Officer will not rely on prior statements made by the Parties or witnesses during the investigation whose credibility is central to the determination unless those Parties or witnesses make themselves available for examination by the Hearing Officer.
8. The Hearing Officer will not, prior to preparing the Hearing Officer's Report (described below), have substantive communications about the facts of the case with either Party or the Investigator unless in the presence of both Parties and a University official (e.g., Hearing Coordinator, Title IX Coordinator or Student Conduct Administrator).
9. New evidence not reasonably available at the time of the investigation to the Party seeking to introduce the evidence may be considered in the Hearing Officer's discretion.
10. The Hearing Officer will make an official audio recording of the hearing. The recording is University property. No other recording of the hearing is permitted. The audio recording will be retained by the Hearing Coordinator or designee in accordance with the Campus records/information retention and disposition schedule.
11. If either Party fails to appear at the hearing without good cause the hearing will nevertheless proceed. Whether good cause exists is determined by the Hearing Officer.
12. The Respondent will not be found to have violated University policy solely because the Respondent failed to appear at the hearing. Nor will the Respondent be found not to have violated the University policy solely because a Complainant or other witness failed to appear at the hearing.
13. Abusive or otherwise disorderly behavior that causes a material disruption is not tolerated. The Hearing Officer may eject or exclude anyone (including either Party, their advisors, and support persons) whose behavior causes a material disruption.
14. The Hearing Officer controls the hearing, is responsible for maintaining order during the hearing, and makes whatever rulings are necessary to ensure a fair hearing. The Hearing Officer's decisions in this regard are final.
15. Where there is more than one Respondent or Complainant in connection with a single occurrence or related multiple occurrences, the Hearing Officer and the Parties may agree to a single hearing. A Party may request consolidation with other cases, or the Student Conduct Administrator may initiate the consolidation (subject to FERPA and other applicable privacy laws). All such requests will be made in accordance with timelines set forth in this section. The Hearing Officer makes consolidation decisions, which are subject to

review by the Vice President of Student Affairs or designee.

Article VIII. Standard of Proof, Report, and Hearing Officer's Report

- A. After the hearing, the Hearing Officer will make findings of fact and conclusions about whether the Respondent violated University Policy (Hearing Officer's Report). The standard of proof the Hearing Officer will use is whether each allegation is substantiated by a Preponderance of the Evidence. The Title IX Coordinator will review the Hearing Officer's Report to ensure compliance with this Executive Order. The Hearing Coordinator will transmit the Hearing Officer's Report promptly to the Parties, the Title IX Coordinator, and the Student Conduct Administrator, usually within **10 Working Days** of the close of the hearing. If no violation is found, the president (or designee) will also be notified.
- B. If a violation is found, within **5 Working Days** of receiving such finding the Parties may submit to the Hearing Coordinator an impact statement or other statement regarding discipline that is no more than 2000 words in length. The document is an opportunity for the Parties to suggest disciplinary outcomes and to provide information that they believe is important for the Hearing Officer to consider. The Student Conduct Administrator and/or Title IX Coordinator may also submit a written statement regarding aggravating and mitigating factors, including whether the Respondent was previously found to have violated the Student Code of Conduct.
- C. Within **5 Working Days** after receiving and considering any impact or other statements submitted by the Parties and other statements described above, the Hearing Officer will submit the Hearing Officer's Report to the president (or designee), including recommended sanctions (as defined in EO 1098) if a Respondent has been determined to have violated University policy. The Hearing Officer's Report will attach the Investigation Report and will include:
 - A. the factual allegations and alleged policy violations;
 - B. the Preponderance of the Evidence standard;
 - C. the evidence considered including an analysis of the credibility of the Parties and witnesses, when credibility assessments are required to resolve factual disputes;
 - D. any material evidence identified by the Parties or witnesses that the Hearing Officer determined was not relevant (or duplicative) and the reason why the evidence was not considered to be relevant;
 - E. a list of all questions proposed by the Parties at the hearing, and if any questions were not asked, why;
 - F. a summary of the procedural issues raised by the Parties before or during the hearing;
 - G. the factual findings and the evidence on which the factual findings are based;
 - H. to the extent that the factual findings required a determination concerning of the relative credibility or lack of credibility of the Parties or witnesses, an explanation as to how that determination was reached; and
 - I. a determination of whether the Executive Order was violated and an analysis of the basis for that determination.

Article IX. Final Decision/Notification

In cases where the Hearing Officer has found a violation of policy, the president (or designee) will review the Investigation Report and the Hearing Officer's Report and issue a decision concerning the appropriate sanction within **10 Working Days** of receipt of the Hearing Officer's Report.

- A. The president may impose the recommended sanctions, adopt a different sanction or sanctions, or reject sanctions altogether. If the president adopts a sanction other than what is recommended by the Hearing Officer, the president must set forth the reasons in the Decision Letter.
- B. The president will simultaneously send the Decision Letter electronically to the Respondent and Complainant at the University-assigned or other primary e-mail address linked to their University accounts.³³ The decision will also be sent to the Student Conduct Administrator and the Hearing Officer.
- C. The Decision Letter will include:
 - 1. the outcome of the hearing, including any sanction imposed, and the name of the Respondent(s);
 - 2. a copy of the Hearing Officer's Report, redacted as appropriate or as otherwise required by law; and
 - 3. notice of the Complainant's and Respondent's right to appeal to the CO.
- D. The president will also send the Decision Letter to the Title IX Coordinator so that they may determine whether any additional Remedies (or other supportive measure) will be afforded or undertaken in order to maintain a safe and nondiscriminatory University environment.
- E. Unless the CO notifies the campus and Parties that an appeal has been filed, the president's sanction decision becomes final **11 Working Days** after the date of the Decision Letter.

Article X. Appeal of Decision

- A. **Filing an Appeal to the CO.** Any Complainant or Respondent who is not satisfied with a Campus hearing outcome may file an appeal with the CO no later than **10 Working Days** after the date of the Decision Letter.
- B. **Written Appeal.** The appeal will be in writing and will be based only on one or more of the appeal issues listed below:
 - 1. The hearing outcome is not supported by substantial evidence (in other words, there was no reasonable basis for such findings or conclusions);
 - 2. Prejudicial procedural errors impacted the hearing outcome to such a degree that the hearing did not comply with this Executive Order;
 - 3. New evidence that was not reasonably available at the time of the hearing and would have affected the Hearing Officer's decision about whether the Respondent violated CSU policy; or
 - 4. The sanction(s) imposed constituted an abuse of discretion based on the substantiated conduct.
- C. **Issues and Evidence on Appeal.** The issues and evidence raised on appeal will be limited to those raised and identified during the hearing, unless new evidence becomes available after the Campus hearing process and is made part of the appeal by the appealing party. The CO may conduct an interview, at the CO's discretion, with the appealing party and/or the Campus to clarify the written appeal. Appeals will be addressed to:

Equal Opportunity and Whistleblower Compliance Unit
Systemwide Human Resources
Office of the Chancellor
401 Golden Shore, 4th Floor
Long Beach, California 90802
eo-wbappeals@calstate.edu

- D. **Acknowledgement of Appeal.** The CO will provide prompt written acknowledgement of the receipt of the appeal to the appealing Party, and will provide prompt written notification of the appeal, including a copy of the appeal, to the non-appealing Party and the Campus Title IX Coordinator. The notice will include the right of the non-appealing Party and the Campus to provide a response to the appeal within **10 Working Days** of the date of the notice.
- E. **Reasonable Accommodation.** The CO will provide reasonable accommodations to any Party or witness in the appeal process with a qualified Disability upon request by the person needing the accommodation. A reasonable accommodation may include an extension under these procedures. The timeframe for the CO Appeal Response will automatically be adjusted for the time needed, if any, to provide reasonable accommodations.
- F. **Scope of CO Review.** The CO review will not involve a new hearing by the CO and will not consider evidence that was not introduced during the Campus hearing, unless the new evidence was not reasonably available at the time of the Campus hearing process. The CO may make reasonable inquiries to determine if the new evidence could have affected the hearing determination. If the CO review determines the hearing should be reopened to cure any defects in the hearing and/or consider new evidence introduced for the first time on appeal (that could have affected the hearing determination), the matter will be remanded back to the Campus and the hearing reopened at the Campus level. Under very limited circumstances, the CO can reverse the Hearing Officer's decision, provided that the factual findings remain intact.
- G. **Reopening a Campus Hearing.** The CO will return the matter to the Campus and will specify in writing the timeline by which a reopened hearing must be completed. The CO will simultaneously notify the Parties of the reopening of the hearing and the timeline for completion of the reopened hearing. The Campus will complete the reopened hearing and provide the CO with an amended Hearing Officer's Report. The Campus will also provide the Parties with amended Notices of Hearing Outcome, and such Notices will provide the Parties the opportunity to appeal any new or amended findings, in accordance with this Executive Order. Upon receipt of the amended hearing report, the CO will contact the appealing party to determine whether that Party wishes to continue with the appeal.
- H. **Reversal by CO.** If the hearing outcome (determination regarding policy violation) is not supported by the facts as determined by the Hearing Officer, the CO may vacate and reverse the Hearing Officer's decision, but only with respect to whether University policy was violated.
- I. **Timeline.** The CO will respond to the appealing Party no later than **30 Working Days** after receipt of the written appeal unless the timeline has been extended as specified in Article V, E. of EO 1096 and 1097.
- J. **CO Appeal Response.** The CO Appeal Response will include a summary of the issues raised on appeal, a summary of the evidence considered, the scope of review, and the determination(s) reached regarding the issue(s) identified within the written appeal. A copy of the final CO Appeal Response will be forwarded to the Complainant and Respondent, as well as the Campus Title IX Coordinator. The CO Appeal Response is final and concludes the Complaint and CO review process under this Executive Order.
- K. **Notifications to the Parties.** The Complainant and the Respondent will be simultaneously informed, in writing, whenever there is a change to the outcome of the proceedings (findings and/or sanctions).

Supersedes

Executive Order 1097 (Revised October 5, 2016)

Issued by

Timothy P. White, Chancellor

Endnotes

¹ See John Doe v. Kegan Allee, Ph.D., et al., California Court of Appeal (January 2019): <http://www.courts.ca.gov/opinions/documents/B283406.PDF>

² Key capitalized terms are defined at Article VI of this Executive Order. Please see that Article for the full definitions. Terms contained within this policy and procedure are intended to be gender neutral.

³ See Cal. Penal Code § 293; Cal. Gov. Code § 6254(f)(2) ("The name of a victim of any crime defined by Section 220, 236.1, 261, 261.5, 262, 264, 264.1, 265, 266, 266a, 266b, 266c, 266e, 266f, 266j, 267, 269, 273a, 273d, 273.5, 285, 286, 288, 288a, 288.2, 288.3 (as added by Chapter 337 of the Statutes of 2006), 288.3 (as added by Section 6 of Proposition 83 of the November 7, 2006, statewide general election), 288.5, 288.7, 289, 422.6, 422.7, 422.75, 646.9, or 647.6 of the Penal Code may be withheld at the victim's request, or at the request of the victim's parent or guardian if the victim is a minor.")

⁴ Assaultive or abusive conduct is defined to include a list of 24 criminal offenses, including Sexual Battery, incest, Rape, spousal Rape, abuse of a spouse or cohabitant, and any attempt to commit these crimes. See Cal. Penal Code §§ 11160-11163.2.

⁵ See Cal. Penal Code §§ 11164-11174.3; see also CSU Executive Order 1083 or any superseding executive order.

⁶ See Cal. Evid. Code § 1024.

⁷ See Cal. Evid. Code § 1035.4.

⁸ See Cal. Govt. Code §§3300-13.

⁹ See Cal. Gov. Code § 12926(b).

¹⁰ See 34 C.F.R. 110.3

¹¹ See Cal. Penal Code § 13700 (b).

¹² See Cal. Code Regs. Title 5 § 42720 et seq.

¹³ See Cal. Penal Code § 13700(b) and Cal. Family Code § 6211.

¹⁴ See Cal. Code Regs. Title 5 § 42700(h).

¹⁵ See Cal. Educ. Code § 66260.7 and Cal. Gov. Code §12926(r).

¹⁶ See Cal. Gov. Code §12926®; 34 C.F.R. 106.4

¹⁷ See Cal. Gov. Code §12926(g).

¹⁸ See 2 Cal. Code Regs §11053.

¹⁹ See Cal. Govt. Code § 12926 (i).

²⁰ See Cal. Educ. Code § 66261.3.

²¹ See Cal. Educ. Code § 66261.7.

²² See Cal. Educ. Code § 66262.

²³ See Cal. Evid. Code §§ 1035.2 and 1035.4.

²⁴ See Cal. Penal Code § 240.

²⁵ See Cal. Penal Code § 242.

²⁶ See Cal. Penal Code §§ 261-263.

²⁷ See Cal. Educ. Code § 66262.7.

²⁸ See Cal. Penal Code § 646.9

²⁹ See 5 Cal. Code Regs. § 42406.

³⁰ Capitalized terms are defined in this Addendum and in CSU Executive Order 1096 (*Systemwide Policy Prohibiting Discrimination, Harassment, Retaliation, Sexual Misconduct, Dating and Domestic Violence, and Stalking against Employees and Third Parties and Systemwide Procedure for Addressing Such Complaints by Employees and Third Parties*) and CSU Executive Order 1097 (*Systemwide Policy Prohibiting Discrimination, Harassment and Retaliation, Sexual Misconduct, Dating and Domestic Violence, and Stalking against Students and Systemwide Procedure for Addressing Such Complaints by Students*).

³¹ In most Sexual Misconduct cases, credibility will be central to the finding. Therefore, Parties should presume that this Addendum applies to all matters alleging Sexual Misconduct.

³² The Early Resolution process is available at any time prior to the issuance of the Hearing Officer's Report.

³³ The copy of the Decision Letter issued to the Complainant will be redacted as to findings regarding conduct that does not constitute a "crime of violence," Sexual Misconduct, Dating Violence, Domestic Violence, or Stalking (34 C.F.R. § 99.31 et seq.).

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All revision dates:

3/29/2019, 10/5/2016, 6/23/2015, 6/3/2014, 4/6/2012, 1/27/2010

Attachments

[Attachment A: Student Complaint Form](#)

[Attachment B: Student Complaint Procedure Timeline](#)

[Superseded Policy \(EO 1045\) Dated 1-27-2010.pdf](#)

[Superseded Policy \(EO 1074\) Dated 4-6-2012.pdf](#)

[Superseded Policy \(EO 1097 Revised\) Dated 10-5-2016.pdf](#)

[Superseded Policy \(EO 1097 Revised\) Dated 6-23-2015.pdf](#)

[Superseded Policy \(EO 1097\) Dated 6-3-2014.pdf](#)