May 7, 2019

Dr. Harlin:

Below please find some additional explanation of the changes (beyond that provided by each submitter of the rule change proposal) that were recommended by the Rules & Regulations Committee on May 3, 2019. If you need any additional information, please do not hesitate to ask.

Sincerely,

Anne Reber, PhD
Chair, Rules & Regulations Committee

**Rule 24.7**

Simply put, this rule change is being proposed as a result of a request by the Office of General Counsel to ensure that what the Texas Education Code Sec. 51.9366 states we should be doing, with regard to amnesty, is actually encoded in the Student Rules.

**Rule 12**

The justification for edits to Rule 12 was made by Dr. Karen Butler-Purry, Associate Provost, Graduate and Professional Studies, to 1) remove gender pronouns, 2) replace the term “ratio” with “average,” 3) replace “GPR” with “GPA,” 4) put into the rule what is actually practiced when implementing the process of what happens when a graduate student becomes scholastically deficient, and 5) clarification of terms “dismissed,” “suspended,” and “separated.”
MEMORANDUM

DATE: May 7, 2019

TO: Dr. Julie Harlin
    Speaker, Faculty Senate

FROM: Dr. Anne Reber
      Chair, Rules and Regulations Committee

SUBJECT: Proposed Revisions to the Texas A&M Student Rules

Attached please find proposed revision to the Texas A&M University Student Rules as approved by the Rules and Regulations Committee. This change is for the following rule:

Addition of Rule 24.7 Amnesty

Approved by the Student Rules and Regulations Committee on May 3, 2019.
**PROPOSAL**

In alignment with Texas Education Code Sec. 51.9366, Texas A&M University will “not take any disciplinary action against a student enrolled at the institution who in good faith reports to the institution being the victim of, or a witness to, an incident of sexual harassment, sexual assault, dating violence, or stalking for a violation by the student of the institution’s code of conduct occurring at or near the time of the incident, regardless of the location at which the incident occurred or the outcome of the institution’s disciplinary process regarding the incident, if any.” This amnesty does not apply to a student “who reports the student’s own commission or assistance in the commission of sexual harassment, sexual assault, dating violence, or stalking.” Staff in the Offices of the Dean of Student Life “may investigate to determine whether a report of an incident of sexual harassment, sexual assault, dating violence, or stalking was made in good faith.” All questions of implementation of this amnesty policy are subject to the decision of the Dean of Student Life or designee.

**JUSTIFICATION**

This rule provides an explicit statement that Texas A&M University is complying with State law regarding amnesty for reports regarding sexual harassment, sexual assault, dating violence, or stalking.

**PROPOSED BY:**

Name: Kristen Harrell  
Phone: 979-845-3111  
E-Mail Address: kristenh@studentlife.tamu.edu  
Department: Offices of the Dean of Student Life  
Department Mail Stop: 1257  
Date: February 26, 2019
24.7 Amnesty. In alignment with Texas Education Code Sec. 51.9366, Texas A&M University will “not take any disciplinary action against a student enrolled at the institution who in good faith reports to the institution being the victim of, or a witness to, an incident of sexual harassment, sexual assault, dating violence, or stalking for a violation by the student of the institution’s code of conduct occurring at or near the time of the incident, regardless of the location at which the incident occurred or the outcome of the institution’s disciplinary process regarding the incident, if any.” This amnesty does not apply to a student “who reports the student’s own commission or assistance in the commission of sexual harassment, sexual assault, dating violence, or stalking.” Staff in the Offices of the Dean of Student Life “may investigate to determine whether a report of an incident of sexual harassment, sexual assault, dating violence, or stalking was made in good faith.” A determination by the Dean of Student Life or designee that a student is entitled to amnesty is final and may not be revoked. All questions of implementation of this amnesty policy are subject to the decision of the Dean of Student Life or designee.