

**RESOLUTIONS FOR CHANGES TO THE HOKIE HANDBOOK
(WWW.HOKIEHANDBOOK.VT.EDU)
EXPANSION OF STUDENT CONDUCT PROCEDURES FOR THE UNIVERSITY
STUDENT CONDUCT SYSTEM**

WHEREAS, The University Student Conduct System is an educational tool that engages students in intentional conversation and activities that promote deep reflective learning to foster personal growth, community commitment, and civility, and

WHEREAS, Student Affairs professionals within the University Student Conduct System look to the Association for Student Conduct Administration, the leading higher education association for student conduct administration and conflict resolution, to provide guidance related to best practices, and

WHEREAS, the Association for Student Conduct Administration endorses adaptable forms of conflict resolution as a best practice and a viable conduct administration option; including pathways based upon social justice theories, restorative justice, conflict coaching, and mediation, and

WHEREAS, adaptable forms of conflict resolution offer creative educational strategies that engage students in intentional conversations about the impact of their conduct while also meeting the needs of the harmed parties and the community, and

WHEREAS, adaptable forms of conflict resolution serve as a best practice and are compatible with the University Student Conduct System's mission of personal growth, community commitment, and civility, and

WHEREAS, current policy does not include an option to address complaints via adaptable conflict resolution, and

WHEREAS, without an expanded policy (the underlined text below) students will not have access to adaptable conflict resolution to address complaints in a way that includes all identified parties impacted by the conflict, creates a shared and mutually acceptable solution, and repairs harm,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Student Conduct Procedures for the University Student Conduct System be expanded as follows:

Adaptable Conflict Resolution

Adaptable conflict resolution (ACR) processes allow individuals involved in a conflict to have significant influence over the resolution process and the outcome. If (1) all identified parties impacted by the conflict agree to attempt resolution through one of these processes, and (2) the student conduct designee believes that the process is an appropriate form of resolution, then arrangements will be made for resolution via ACR.

The nature of some complaints, especially those involving abusive conduct, may render ACR inappropriate.

Participation in an ACR process is voluntary and may or may not result in an agreement or resolution. When a mutually satisfactory resolution is reached by the parties, the matter is resolved. By resolving the matter through ACR, the student/organization agrees to fulfill any outcomes that are developed during the meeting. Resolutions reached through ACR may not be appealed. If a resolution is not achieved through an attempt at ACR or there is a failure to complete the agreed upon outcomes and the matter involved a potential Student Code of Conduct violation, the director of student conduct, or his/her designee, will determine if the complaint will be resolved through an Agreed Resolution or a Formal Hearing .

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution for changes to the Hokie Handbook, whereby expanding student conduct procedures to include the optional Adaptable Conflict Resolution, be approved and effective immediately.

JUNE 2, 2014