

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN SENATE
COMMITTEE ON STUDENT DISCIPLINE
(Final; Information)

SD.22.01 2021-2022 Annual Report of the Senate Committee on Student Discipline

This report summarizes the activities of the Senate Committee on Student Discipline (SD) during the 2021-2022 academic year. SD met on September 27, November 29, January 31, February 28, March 28, April 11, and May 9. More detailed information is provided in the minutes of those meetings.

I. ITEMS COMPLETED BY THE COMMITTEE

Appendix D Changes (Title IX Process)

On September 27, 2021, SD made several, mostly minor, changes to the Title IX section of the Student Disciplinary Procedures, largely in response to suggestions from the University Ethics and Compliance Office. The most substantial of these changes was removing the requirement that the decision-making panel ignore any and all statements made by a party who does not submit to cross-examination during the formal hearing. This was originally a requirement imposed by the most recent Title IX regulations but was later invalidated by a federal court.

Marijuana to Cannabis

Given the problematic history of the term “marijuana,” all references to such in SD’s sanctioning guidance were changed to “cannabis.” This change was approved on September 27, 2021.

Sanctioning Guidance for COVID Testing Noncompliance

On September 27, 2021, SD modified the sanctioning guidance for testing noncompliance to a written warning for the first identified violation, a censure for the second, and probation for the third.

Witness Anonymity in Organizational Cases

On November 29, 2021, SD added a section to Appendix B of the Student Disciplinary Procedures that explicitly allowed the university to withhold the identity of certain witnesses in an organizational investigation and hearing. This was not a policy change but rather an official incorporation into the procedures of a longstanding practice.

Informal Resolution Meeting Process

After a summer and fall pilot of an informal approach for case coordinators to use in lower-level matters that do not include university-affiliated victims, SD officially adopted the

approach and included language describing it (as the Informal Resolution Meeting Process) in the Student Disciplinary Procedures on January 31, 2022.

Virtual Hearings

On April 11, 2022, SD modified the Student Disciplinary Procedures to permanently establish virtual formal hearings as the default instead of in-person proceedings. SD and its subcommittees, through the OSCR Director, will continue to consider requests for in-person hearings, including and especially those based on disability accommodations.

Subcommittee Selection

On April 11, 2022, SD approved the entire slate of new members for the Subcommittees on Undergraduate Student Conduct, Graduate Student Conduct, Organizational Conduct, and Sexual Misconduct as proposed by the selection committee.

Sexual Misconduct Informal Resolution Process

On May 9, 2022, SD approved the adoption of an informal process for resolving allegations of sexual misconduct. This process was designed to meet all requirements of the most recent Title IX regulations.

II. ITEMS UNDER CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMITTEE

Future Sanction Relief for COVID-Related Violations

Over the past two years, SD members have discussed their intent to provide future relief to students who were issued sanctions up to, and including, conduct probation for COVID-related violations, especially for testing noncompliance. SD will continue to discuss options during the 2022-2023 meetings but is unlikely to take action until most, or all, of the COVID-related university requirements have been lifted.

STUDENT DISCIPLINE

Pat Gill, Chair

Carolyn Beck

Meghan Burke

Darin Eastburn

Arne Fliflet

David Forsyth

Alison Green

Merinda Hensley

Anushya Iyer

Marius Junge

Zackary Landers

Yuan-Xiang Pan

Hannah Thomas

Patrobas Wafula

Ashley Winters

Justin Brown, *ex officio*