



## **Senate Committee on Non-Academic Discipline**

Report to Senate – Meeting of January 9, 2014

Proposed Revisions to the Queen's University Student Code of Conduct  
and Supporting Documentation Request

### **Introduction**

A recommendation that Senate amend the terms of the Queen's University Student Code of Conduct to include hazing as a violation of the Code of Conduct was approved by the Senate Committee on Non-Academic Discipline (SONAD) at its meeting on January 9, 2014. A motion was also passed by SONAD requesting that Senate task SONAD with developing documentation to support the proposed revisions to the Student Code of Conduct. A copy of the proposed amendments is attached to this report.

### **Analysis and Discussion**

The following points summarize the work of the committee in arriving at the proposed changes:

- The proposed amendments to the Terms of Conduct section of the Queen's University Student Code of Conduct are in response to a memorandum of understanding between the AMS and Queen's University, which directs that a framework be created to address student group discipline. The question of how to process incidents of hazing was brought forward for SONAD's consideration along with a proposal for addressing incidents where group discipline is warranted.
- Members engaged in considerable discussion and explored several proposed options regarding the definition of hazing and potential amendments to the Queen's Student Code of Conduct. A definition of hazing was endorsed by SONAD members for the purpose of creating a shared understanding of hazing.
- The proposed amendments clarify that hazing is a clear violation of the Queen's Student Code of Conduct and will not be tolerated within the Queen's community.
- The proposed amendments provide the AMS, the SGPS, Athletics and Recreation, and Residences clear direction when processing incidents involving hazing.

## **Conclusions and Recommendations**

- 1) The Senate Committee on Non-Academic Discipline recommends that Senate amend the student code of conduct to add hazing as a violation of the code of conduct. (Appendix A)**
- 2) That Senate task SONAD to develop a more in depth document to assist the various non-academic discipline systems in responding to hazing incidents and require SONAD to present this document to the Senate for approval no later than April 2015.**

Respectfully submitted,

G. Jerkiewicz, Chair, SONAD

Committee Members 2013-2014:

L. Acchione (Undergraduate Student - Elected)  
J. Downie (Athletics and Recreations - Ex Officio)  
N. Francis (Rector - Ex Officio)  
A. Girgrah (Student Affairs - Ex Officio)  
G. Jerkiewicz, Chair (Faculty - Elected)  
L. Knox, Guest (University Secretariat)  
K. Morrissey, Secretary (Residence Life)  
K. Olver, (AMS - Ex Officio)  
H. Smith (Dispute Resolutions Mechanisms – Ex Officio)  
C. Yorke (SGPS - Ex Officio)

## Appendix A

### **Original Document:**

#### **Queen's University Student Code of Conduct**

**Approved by Senate April 24, 2008**  
(effective July 1, 2008)

##### **Terms of Conduct**

Students have a duty to familiarize themselves with the rules and regulations of the University that determine what their responsibilities are.

1. Students shall abide by the published rules, regulations, and policies of the University or of any authorized rule-making body within the University. This includes, but is not limited to, the Queen's Harassment/Discrimination Policy and Procedure, those established by Residence administration, and this Student Code of Conduct.
2. Students shall abide by the provisions of the Criminal Code of Canada while in Canada. Students shall also abide by all the other laws of the land, including but not limited to those regulating the possession, sale, or consumption of alcoholic beverages and contraband substances. While outside Canada, students are expected to abide by the laws of the host country. If a student violates those laws, the University may pursue disciplinary action, whether the conduct occurred on or off campus, if the conduct had a real and substantial connection to the legitimate interests of the University and/or the members of the University community.
3. Students shall comply, and shall not interfere, with the directions of officials acting within the scope of their authority, including, but not limited to, the Kingston Police, Queen's Campus Security, Queen's Student Constables and Science Constables.

### **SONAD Recommended Revisions:**

#### **Queen's University Student Code of Conduct**

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3. Students shall comply, and shall not interfere, with the directions of officials acting within the scope of their authority, including, but not limited to, the Kingston Police, Queen's Campus Security, Queen's Student Constables and Science Constables.

4. Students shall not furnish false information to the University or any University official or judicial body authorized by the University, nor forge or possess any forged, altered, or falsified instrument of identification.

5. Students shall not interfere, directly, indirectly, or by threat, with the communication or pursuit of a complaint under the Code.

6. Students shall refrain from theft, knowingly possessing stolen property, trespassing, vandalism, and willfully or negligently damaging private or University property.

7. Student conduct shall respect the lawful rights of others to possess, use, or enjoy private or University property.

8. Students shall respect the freedom of individuals to study, teach, work, engage in research and socialize. Students shall refrain from conduct that attempts to limit these freedoms or any other freedoms guaranteed by law. The following conduct is unacceptable and constitutes an offence within the University community: acts of discrimination or harassment based upon, but not limited to, race, religion, gender, ability, ethnicity, national origin or sexual orientation. Students shall comply with the terms of any disciplinary sanction imposed in accordance with the Code or other applicable University policy.

4. Students shall not furnish false information to the University or any University official or judicial body authorized by the University, nor forge or possess any forged, altered, or falsified instrument of identification.

5. Students shall not interfere, directly, indirectly, or by threat, with the communication or pursuit of a complaint under the Code.

6. Students shall refrain from theft, knowingly possessing stolen property, trespassing, vandalism, and willfully or negligently damaging private or University property.

7. Student conduct shall respect the lawful rights of others to possess, use, or enjoy private or University property.

**8. Students shall not organize or participate in hazing activities, on or off-campus. Hazing is defined as any activity expected of someone joining a group (or to maintain full status in a group) that humiliates, degrades or risks emotional and/or physical harm, regardless of the person's willingness or consent to participate. Any action taken or situation created may be deemed hazing regardless of the intent of the organizer(s).**

9. Students shall respect the freedom of individuals to study, teach, work, engage in research and socialize. Students shall refrain from conduct that attempts to limit these freedoms or any other freedoms guaranteed by law. The following conduct is unacceptable and constitutes an offence within the University community: acts of discrimination or harassment based upon, but not limited to, race, religion, gender, ability, ethnicity, national origin or sexual orientation. Students shall comply with the terms of any disciplinary sanction imposed in accordance with the Code or other applicable University policy.

Violation of the aforementioned terms of conduct is an offence under the Code, subject to disciplinary sanction. The above terms apply with equal force to individual students and student groups or organizations. Being under the influence of alcohol and/or other substances does not diminish or excuse a violation of the Code.

Misconduct under the Code will be deemed aggravated if it results or foreseeably could have resulted in significant injury to persons or damage to property or which otherwise posed a substantial threat to the stability and continuance of normal university or university-sponsored activities.

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