

## **Temporary Amendment to the UCSB Student Conduct Code**

Office of Student Conduct Decision-Making and Sanctioning Authority through the Hearing Officer  
Adjudication Model during Remote Instruction and Public Health Emergency (COVID-19)  
*Effective March 8, 2021*

The Office of Student Conduct is granted temporary authority by the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs to allow a hearing officer to make finding determinations and apply disciplinary sanctions in matters resulting in University Warning or Disciplinary Probation. In matters where the outcome may result in Suspension or Dismissal, the matter will be referred to the Student-Faculty Committee on Student Conduct (SFCC) hearing process (see *Student Conduct Code, D.1.d.*).

### **Hearing Officer Adjudication Model**

Student Conduct Officers within the Office of Student Conduct may act as Hearing Officers when invoking the Hearing Officer Adjudication Model. Students are entitled to procedural due process in all aspects of the student conduct process. For cases in which a hearing officer is utilized, the following procedures will be followed:

- Written Notice: Accused students will receive a notice informing them of the allegation and the alleged violation.
- Student Conduct Meeting: Students will have the opportunity to be heard and present evidence to a Hearing Officer during a conduct meeting.
- Letter of Decision: Hearing Officers will review the information from their investigation and the evidence presented by the accused student to determine if the accused student is responsible for a conduct violation. If responsible, the Hearing Officer will also apply an appropriate sanction. A decision letter will be issued to the student informing them of the decision and the Hearing Officer's rationale.
- Appeal: If a student is dissatisfied with the outcome of their conduct matter, they may appeal the decision.
  - Appeals must be made in writing and must be submitted within ten working days of the date appearing on the notification of the imposition of sanction(s) emailed to the student.
  - The student's appeal may request that the sanctions be reduced or eliminated or that the case be referred to the SFCC for a hearing. Appeals must specify in detail one or more of the following alleged conditions:
    - Lack of substantial bases of fact to support the sanction (invoked or proposed)
    - Incongruity of the sanction with the offense
    - Unfairness in the proceedings
    - Newly discovered important evidence not known at the time of the hearing.
- Appellate Officer
  - Disciplinary action taken by a Hearing Officer in the Office of Student Conduct may be appealed to the Assistant Dean & Director of Student Conduct (or designee).
  - Disciplinary action taken by the Assistant Dean & Director of Student Conduct acting as a Hearing Officer may be appealed to the Associate Dean of Student Life (or designee).