Counseling

Students who are concerned about the use or abuse of alcohol and drugs – either their own or others – may receive assistance from Counseling Services. Individual assessments, individual counseling, and group counseling are offered depending upon student need and preference. Referrals to local agencies and practitioners are made when more extensive treatment is required. Confidentiality is maintained within legal and professional standards.

HAZING POLICY

HAZING EXPLAINED

Hazing is any action taken or situation created as part of initiation or continued membership in a student organization, which produces, or could be expected to produce, mental or physical discomfort, harm, or stress; embarrassment; harassment; or ridicule and/or which violates university policy, organization policy, or law, no matter how good the intent or end result. Potential new members cannot choose to be hazed. Doing so violates university policy and the South Carolina Hazing Law.

This applies to behavior on or off the Coastal Carolina University campus. Events that are optional can be considered hazing due to the emotional status of potential members and the fear of not being initiated for not participating.

All members should read and understand the Coastal Carolina University Hazing Policy. Any questions or needed clarification should be directed to the Director of Student Activities and Leadership or the Office of Judicial Affairs.

Questions to ask when planning an activity:
• Does the activity promote and conform to the ideals, values, and the mission of both the university and organization?
• Is it an activity that all members (current and initiates) can participate in together?
• Would the group’s adviser, the national headquarters or founders of the fraternity/sorority, and/or other university officials approve of the activity?
• Would your parents approve of the activity?
• Would you like to see a story about the activity in the campus newspaper?
• Will this activity increase new members’ respect for the group and all members of the group?
• Is the activity free of mental anguish or physical discomfort?
• Does the activity have inherent value in and of itself?

Activities that are considered to be hazing include:

• Physical acts such as running or calisthenics
• Forced or coerced carrying of unusual items such as buckets, paddles, rocks, pledge kits, etc.
• Paddling (striking an individual with the hand or board)
• Branding (burning or scarring of the skin)
• Forced or coerced eating or drinking of any substance, including alcohol
• Applying of any substance to an associate member’s body or belongings
• Forced listening to any loud or repetitious music or noise
• Physical harassment such as pushing, tickling, yelling, etc.
• Deprivation of sleep or normal sleeping patterns
• Deprivation of normal amounts of food and/or water
• Individual or group interrogations such as line-ups
• Forced or coerced trips such as kidnap, drop-offs, dumps, etc.
• Putting potential members in any uncomfortable settings such as cold or hot rooms, smoke filled rooms, etc.
• Personal servitude (forcing members to provide services to an active member such as cleaning their house, shopping for them, etc.)
• Assigning pranks such as streaking, painting objects, panty raids, harassing other individuals or organizations, etc.
• Calling potential members derogatory names such as plebe, scum, fags, bitch, maggots, worms, etc.
• Deprivation of adequate study time
• Potential members expected to do anything for the entertainment of the brothers/sisters
• Treasure or scavenger hunts
• Forced or coerced wearing of conspicuous clothing not normally in good taste
• Forcing an individual to perform sexual acts

Penalties for hazing may include the imposition of fines; the withholding of diplomas or transcripts pending compliance with the rules, or pending payment of fines; and the imposition of probation, suspension, dismissal, and any other sanctions the Office of Judicial Affairs deems appropriate.

In the case of a university organization which authorizes hazing in blatant disregard of such rules, penalties may also include rescission of permission for that organization to operate on campus property or to otherwise operate under the sanction of the university.

**Policy for Off-campus Speakers**
The Board of Trustees is, by law, the governing board of the university, and nothing in this statement of policy abrogates or limits in any way the authority of the Board in matters of governance.

A. Coastal Carolina University is committed to the principle that students should be allowed to invite and to hear any person of their own choosing. The campus is open to free discussion and the examination of views and ideas, both popular and unpopular, orthodox and unorthodox, with the condition that such discussion be accompanied by peaceful methods and peaceful conditions consistent with the scholarly nature of an academic community. Freedom of inquiry, both in the classroom and in all other aspects of university life, is essential to the search for truth and, therefore, is a major tenet of the university educational philosophy.

B. A positive effort is made to provide for a vigorous presentation of varied points of view under conditions of suitable scheduling and publicity.

C. Invited speakers and their sponsoring organizations are accountable to campus and civil authorities for compliance with existing regulations and laws which are designed to prevent disruption of the university, injury to person or property, obscene behavior or riot.

Since the university encourages the expression of diverse opinions and views, it is equally clear to the academic and larger community that the presentation of a particular view or opinion by the visiting speaker on campus does not imply university endorsement of that view.

50
The officers of a recognized student organization desiring to use university facilities for a visiting speaker shall submit to the Office of Student Activities & Leadership a request for reservation of meeting space and an Event Registration Form with the following information (submitted two (2) weeks prior to the event):

1. The name of the sponsoring organization and the proposed speaker’s topic;
2. Sufficient biographical information to identify the proposed speaker, including the address and telephone number of the speaker or that of the agency representing the speaker;
3. Request for a date and place of meeting; and
4. A statement as to what non-college attendance, if any, is invited or expected, along with an outline of the manner in which the event is to be publicized.

Arrangements for the scheduled use of University facilities are subject to administrative approval to prevent conflict in the scheduling of facilities. When a negative decision is made upon the grounds of conflict, the sponsoring organization is free to seek a more suitable date and arrangements. Unless there are conflicts in scheduling, speaker appearances will be authorized upon fulfillment of these requirements. An exception to routine authorization occurs when the proposed speaker or activity is undesirable under criteria of paragraph “C” of the policy statement above or when conditions within the university indicate that danger to persons or property might result from an appearance. The President of the university shall have final authority in these matters, whether upon review of the decision of the Office of Student Affairs or upon appeals from such decision.

It shall be the responsibility of all organizations to provide speakers with a copy of the procedures at the time of the invitation.

Once a speaker affected by the above procedures has been invited, and acceptance received, the appearance on campus shall be governed by the following policies:

1. Student attendance at campus-wide events is not compulsory.
2. In order to assure the free and open discussion which is essential to safeguarding free institutions, the President, at his/her discretion and when he/she considers it appropriate, may require that a meeting be chaired by an officer of the university or by a ranking member of the faculty.

Exceptions to the above policy will be submitted to the Office of Student Affairs who will chair a committee comprising two (2) faculty and two (2) student members of the Student Affairs Committee of the Faculty Senate. Speakers thus permitted to speak will do so only in the Student
Center and only for a specific day and time. The speaker must fulfill all other requirements above. The President shall have final authority in these matters.

**SEXUAL ASSAULT POLICY**

Coastal Carolina University will not tolerate sexual assault in any form, including acquaintance rape. A student charged with sexual assault may be prosecuted under South Carolina criminal statutes and disciplined under the university’s Code of Student Conduct. The university reserves the right to apply the code whether or not civil authorities elect to prosecute such offenses. Victims of sexual assault are strongly encouraged to seek redress in a confidential process wherein a complaint is filed consistent with the Student Code of Conduct. In those instances where a complaint has been filed, the university will pursue disciplinary action through the university judicial process.

**SEXUAL HARASSMENT POLICY**

It is the policy of Coastal Carolina University, in order to maintain an environment in which the dignity and worth of all members of the institutional community are respected, that sexual harassment of employees or students is prohibited. Such conduct is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. It is a form of behavior which seriously undermines the atmosphere of trust essential to the academic environment. It also is the policy of the university that willful false accusation of sexual harassment shall not be condoned.

Sexual harassment of employees or students at Coastal Carolina University is defined as unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, verbal or other expressive behaviors, or physical conduct commonly understood to be of a sexual nature. Prohibited acts of sexual harassment may take a variety of forms ranging from subtle pressure for sexual activity to physical assault.

Any student who feels that he/she has been sexually harassed under the above definition and who wishes further information, or who wishes to file a complaint, should immediately contact one of the following on the Coastal Carolina University campus: the Vice President for Organizational Development and Human Resources, the Office of Student Affairs, or the Director of Counseling Services.

A complete copy of this policy may be obtained from the Office of Human Resources/Equal Opportunity or the Counseling Center.
SMOKING POLICY
In conformity with the South Carolina Clean Indoor Air Act of 1990 and to protect the health and safety of Coastal Carolina University students, faculty, staff, and visitors, smoking or the possession of lighted smoking material in any form is allowed only in designated smoking areas of the campus. Other than in the designated areas, smoking is prohibited in buildings, outdoor areas, and in University-owned vehicles.

Canisters for the disposal of tobacco remains will be placed at designated areas and such areas will be clearly marked with signage.

ADVERTISING AND SAMPLING OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS

The sale, sampling, and advertising of any and all tobacco products on campus, including advertisement and promotion in Coastal Carolina University publications, is prohibited.

RESPONSIBILITY FOR ADMINISTERING POLICY

The Department of Public Safety has enforcement authority. It is also the responsibility of individual department heads to monitor this policy for compliance within each building or area under their supervision.

NON-COMPLIANCE

Non-compliance with this policy may result in disciplinary action and subject the person to the penalties provided for in the South Carolina Clean Indoor Air Act of 1990.

SOLICITATION AND DISTRIBUTION

South Carolina Code of Laws, Volume 4, Section 8-11-230, sets forth the policy on Solicitation and Distribution. Coastal Carolina University, as a state agency, is legally responsible for adhering to state laws.

Solicitation is defined as contact for the purpose of:
1. Soliciting funds or sales or demonstrations that result in sales;
2. Distributing advertising or other materials;
3. Compiling data for surveys, programs, or other purposes; or
4. Recruitment of members or support for an organization or cause.

The following rules are promulgated in furtherance of the university’s legal responsibility:

1. Solicitation or distribution of pamphlets, products, or other materials by persons other than employees and students of the university in those areas of the university which are not open to the public is prohibited. Solicitation or distribution by persons other than employees and students of the university in those areas of the university which are open to the public is prohibited. Solicitation in conjunction with non-university sponsored activities by university employees or students on university property during working time is prohibited.

2. Distribution of pamphlets, products, or other materials by university employees or students on university property in non-working areas during working time is prohibited.

3. Distribution in conjunction with non-university sponsored activities of pamphlets, products, or other materials by university employees or students on university property in working areas is prohibited.

4. Charitable fund drives approved by the Director of Student Activities & Leadership may be conducted under the university’s supervision.

**Telephone Regulations**

Students are not permitted to use university telephones for long distance calls unless authorized by a university official. Pay telephones are available at various locations on campus.

**Unauthorized Entry or Usage**

The university prohibits unauthorized entry into or usage of a university facility and/or property. This rule includes the failure or refusal to leave university grounds or a specific portion thereof or a university facility when requested by an authorized university official. Additionally, this policy applies to unauthorized possession, duplication or use of keys or access cards to any university premises.