TUSCULUM COLLEGE
ACADEMIC CALENDAR

FALL 2017

Block 1: Monday, August 14 – Saturday, October 7
  Opening Convocation – Thursday, August 24
  Nettie Day – September 13

Block 2: Monday, October 9 – Saturday, December 9
  Thanksgiving Break: November 20 – 25
  Commencement: December 9

Block 3: Monday, August 15 – Saturday, December 10

SPRING 2018

Block 4: Monday, January 8 – Saturday, March 3
  Martin Luther King Jr. Day – Monday, January 15

  Spring Break – Thursday, March 5 - Friday, March 10

Block 5: Monday, March 12 – Saturday, May 5
  Good Friday – Friday, March 30

Block 6: Monday, January 8 – Saturday, May 5
  Commencement – Saturday, May 5

Summer Session Term A: Monday, May 7 – Saturday, June 16

Summer Session Term B: Monday, June 18 – Friday, August 4

Summer Session Term C: Monday, May 28 – Saturday, July 28

Summer Session Term D: Monday, May 7 – Saturday, August 4

This handbook is designed to serve as a guide to the rules, policies and services of the College; therefore, it is not intended to establish a contract and the College reserves the right to amend, modify, or change regulations, policies, and financial charges stated in this handbook throughout the year. In such a case, the College will make reasonable efforts to notify community members, in a timely manner, of any changes in policies and regulations (Tusculum College recognizes College issued e-mail accounts as the primary means of notification for Official College Business).
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I. Tusculum College Information

A. Mission
Tusculum College provides a liberal arts education in a Judeo-Christian and civic arts environment with pathways for career preparation, personal development and civic engagement.

B. Vision
Tusculum College strives to actualize educational excellence and ongoing relevance through our third century by:

• Establishing transformative living and learning communities,

• Reflecting institutional integrity through aspirational leadership and academic innovation,

• Distinguishing Tusculum College alumni as leading citizens-scholars, and

• Maximizing individual, group and community fiscal support and partnerships to promote innovation.

C. Core Values

1. Integrity: Encompassing honesty and trustworthiness, all members of the Tusculum College community value and live with integrity, respect and virtue in communications, relationships and actions.

2. Education: We value a balanced education grounded in the civic and liberal arts and career preparedness. Our goal is for students to develop practical wisdom, global literacy, critical and independent thinking and an appreciation for life-long learning, diversity and inclusion.

3. Civic Responsibility: We value our unique heritage in the civic arts and the Judeo-Christian tradition, and seek to develop citizen-scholars who will serve their communities throughout the world. We develop students as leaders who problem solve with reflective judgment.

D. Accreditation

Tusculum College is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to award baccalaureate and masters degrees. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097 or call 404-679-4500 for questions about the accreditation of Tusculum College.
E. History

Founded in 1794, Tusculum College is the oldest college in Tennessee, the twenty-eighth oldest college in the nation, and the oldest coeducational institution affiliated with the Presbyterian Church (USA). The wooded 140-acre Tusculum College campus hosts eight buildings and the Tusculum Arch that are listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

F. Presbyterian Heritage

Affiliated with the Presbyterian Church (USA), the Holston Presbytery and the Presbytery of East Tennessee.

G. College Structures of Significance

1. Apartment Complex (Mastapasqua Hall and five additional facilities) (4-2002 and 2-2013) – these six residential living facilities built behind "Old College" provide independent living accommodations for college residents.

2. Arch (1917) – The Arch was built at the College's traditional entrance, directly out from the entrance of McCormick Hall.

3. Byrd Center – The Annie Hogan Byrd Fine Arts Center and Chapel (1965) - The Center was named in honor of the wife of Thomas H Byrd, a longtime trustee and major donor to the project.


5. Garland Library – The Thomas J. Garland Library at Tusculum College (1910/2008) (previously Carnegie Hall-1910/Carnegie Library-1930/Tate Library-1991) - originally built in 1910 with funds from steel-tycoon/philanthropist Andrew Carnegie to house the library and gymnasium (with 2nd floor running track), a major renovation was completed in 2005 and in 2008 the Library was rededicated in honor of Thomas J. Garland, a lifelong Tennessean with a long and illustrious career in state government, higher education and private enterprise (including service as Tusculum’s Chairman of the Board and Interim President). The Garland Library incorporates the Albert Columbus Tate Library section (named for the valedictorian of the 1894 Centennial class) dating to 1910.

6. Haynes Hall (1914) - built with funds from Nettie McCormick. It was named in honor of Landon C. Haynes, Tusculum faculty member for 65 years.

8. Katherine Hall (1962) – built as residence hall and dedicated October 18, 1962, the hall was named for President Rankin’s wife Katherine.

9. Knoxville Regional Center (2001) – built to house the Graduate and Professional Studies programs in Knoxville, this 30,000 square foot facility has a library, student services, two full-time computer labs, 12 class rooms, and a conference room.

10. McCormick Hall (1887) - built using funds donated by Nettie Fowler McCormick, widow of Cyrus McCormick, inventor of the mechanical reaper.

11. Meen Center - The Ronald H. and Verna June Meen Center for Science and Math (Fall 2016) is a 100,000-square foot, state-of-the-art, math and science building which is designed to educate future leaders, professionals, nurses, chemists, mathematicians, educators and more.

12. Museum – The Pres. Andrew Johnson Museum and Library/Old College (1841) - built due to growth of student enrollment. It is the oldest "academic" building on the College campus. In 1992/1993, "Old College" was restored to its original appearance and became the Pres. Andrew Johnson Museum and Library with help from Tusculum alumnus and great-granddaughter of Johnson, Margaret Johnson Patterson Bartlett. It also houses the College Archives and original, college library-The Coffin Collection-from Greeneville College. Today, it is also home to the Museum Studies Program.


14. Niswonger Commons (1999)- encompassing and dramatically extending the facilities of the Simerly Union building and the Pioneer Gym, the Niswonger Commons includes the post office, cafeteria, bookstore, student coffee lounge, student radio station, offices, and classrooms.

15. Pioneer Arena (1998) – replacing the former gymnasium as the primary indoor sports complex, the Arena is home to several pioneer athletic teams.

16. President's House (1909) - built across the road from the College, this home has housed the College’s president since President Gray.
17. Rankin Hall (once Gordon Hall) (1923) – built as last building to be built on campus using funds donated by Nettie McCormick, who died later that same year. It is named for another McCormick family member. In 1928, Cyrus McCormick II donates a final family gift of $15,000 to the College and asks that Gordon Hall be renamed. It is rededicated Rankin Hall in honor of senior professor Thomas S. Rankin.


19. Tredway Science Building (1928/1930) - built using the last of the money donated by the McCormick family. This is the only Tusculum building to be used continually for the same purpose since its beginning. In 1989, the Science Building became the Tredway Science Building in honor of William L. Tredway, alumnus and benefactor of the College.

20. Virginia Hall (1901) - designed by renowned architect Louis Sullivan, family associate of the McCormick's, it was the College's first modern building including baths and furnace heat. It was named in honor of the McCormick's daughter, Mary Virginia.

21. Welty-Craig Hall (1891) – built in the name of Rev. William G. Craig, Nettie McCormick's pastor, and friend of the College. In 1998, Craig Hall was renamed Welty-Craig in honor of Stanley R. Welty, a Board of Trustees Chairman and benefactor of the College. Today Welty-Craig Hall is one of Tusculum’s co-ed residential facilities.

H. Customs and Traditions

These are some of the most prominent of Tusculum's traditions and customs. Upperclass students are already familiar with them. First-year students will soon come to know and observe them. Taken together, they bind the College community and give to all students a sense of belonging.

1. School Colors… Orange and Black.


3. College Seal … The words “Sit Lux” on the seal mean “let there be light” and the lamp symbolizes education; 1794 represents the year the College was founded.
4. Special Events... The Arts & Lectures Series brings outstanding educators, performers and lecturers --- musicians, dancers, actors--- to the campus for recitals, concerts, plays, workshops and lectures.

5. Homecoming... At this time, alumni return to their Alma Mater to see old friends and enjoy the parades, receptions, sporting events, and club reunions.

6. Lantern Festival... Began honoring graduating seniors and soon-to-be seniors in the 1950’s. This vesper service was designed to be a service of thanksgiving for blessings received during the years spent on campus.

7. Commencement Weekend... A Baccalaureate service is incorporated into the beginning of the ceremonies and provides an opportunity to give thanks for the blessings bestowed on the community and especially its graduating seniors, and the Commencement ceremony honors the accomplishment and promise of the graduating students.

8. Convocations ...Taking place once per block throughout the academic year, Opening Convocation is scheduled each year in Block 1, while the Honors Convocation is scheduled in Block 5. Other convocations, planned by the Office of Student Affairs, may feature thought-provoking speakers or presentations by individuals or groups within the community.

9. Nettie Fowler McCormick Day ... Celebrated by Tusculum College since 1913, Nettie Fowler McCormick Day is named to honor Mrs. McCormick for her philanthropic support of the College. Activities have evolved through the years and most recently, McCormick Day has been a day of service in the community. Putting our Civic Arts mission into practice, students, faculty and staff provide meaningful service to schools, agencies and organizations as a reflection of Mrs. McCormick's generous example.

10. The Arts, Acts, & Academia Series... In addition to visual art exhibits in the Allison Gallery each block, outstanding artists, including the Knoxville Chamber Orchestra and the National Shakespeare Company, along with other musicians, theatrical productions and dance companies are brought to campus. The Community Concert Association based in the Greeneville community allows attendance by Tusculum students free of charge.

11. Six Lux...Brings the Tusculum College community together to celebrate the Christmas holiday through fellowship, music, and the annual holiday tree lighting.

12. Senior Reception...Where graduating Seniors have an opportunity to present “Golden Lantern” pins to the faculty member who has had the most impact on their experience at Tusculum College.
The Alma Mater

‘Neath oaks that so long have stood watching,
Oh halls of our college, ye stand
Afar on the distant horizon
The Smokies rise, lofty and grand
With beauties of nature surrounded,
A century’s memories thine
And so our college, we love thee,
Close ‘round thee our heart strings entwine.

Oh days in the old Alma Mater
Spent in class room, on campus or track
Each one full of tasks and of pleasure
Once gone, they can never come back!
Then sing while the days are still passing
With voices exultant and free
Fair Tusculum, our college, forever!
All hail, Alma Mater, to thee!

Tusculum Fight Song

Stand up and sing a song of cheer for Tusculum,
Stand up and lead a cheer and fight for Tusculum
For the spirit will never die
While our colors are flying high
And our voice will reach the sky
As our boys go marching by
So stand up and sing a song of cheer for Tusculum
Stand up and lead a cheer and fight for Tusculum
II. College Services

A. Alert Notification Systems

Tusculum College contracts emergency notification services allowing the institution to communicate emergency situation developments to all students, parents, staff, and faculty (and community emergency care providers). While available community member contact information is loaded into the system upon their joining the College, to receive e-mail, phone call, and text messaging alerts as to developing situations, individuals should verify and update their information regularly (you will receive an e-mail with information on how to access your account – if you have questions, please contact the Director of Campus Safety at x5070). The information provided indicates immediate response directions and updates to keep the community informed as the situation resolves. If you have any questions, contact the Office of Student Affairs.

B. Career Development

The Office of Career Development assists currently enrolled students and alumni with career choices and employment skills development. Students are encouraged to begin career development programs upon entering Tusculum and continue them throughout their college experience.

The Office provides instruction in constructing resumes, identifying and acquiring worthwhile internships, developing interviewing skills and securing employment. The office maintains current information about full-time, part-time, and internship opportunities, and it records personal data for a permanent placement file. Employer representatives are invited to campus for interviews with students. A graduate study library (maintained in the office) includes graduate school catalogs, information about standardized examinations, and graduate programs.

C. Information Technology

Information technology services are provided by the Department of Information Systems (IS). IS is responsible for the infrastructure that provides all voice and data services and support to all Tusculum College campuses. The Webmaster is responsible for the posting and maintenance of all Tusculum College website resources.

A central information technology help desk is available to assist students in accessing all information technology resources. Request for assistance can be made on the Tusculum website at URL http://www.tusculum.edu/is/phonerepair.php, by calling the Tusculum IS Help
Desk at (423) 636-7346 (from the halls, ext 4-5346), or by stopping by the IS Help Desk on the 4th floor of Niswonger Commons.

D. Campus Safety

Tusculum College staffs the Residential College with Campus Safety Officers 24 hours a day/365 days a year (423-470-2710). The Department of Campus Safety is located in the Niswonger Commons, but you can engage the Campus Safety Officers throughout the campus as they patrol all areas of the campus both on foot and in vehicles. While special attention is paid to the residence halls, lobby areas and parking lots around the campus, these Officers are always available to provide information or assistance, such as an escort, whenever needed.

Under Tennessee law, Tusculum College makes monthly reports to the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation regarding crimes that have occurred on campus during the past month. The College is also required to make an annual report to the federal government under the Clery Act and publishes an annual security report available through the Campus Safety Office and online. Anyone is welcome to check this report in the Office of Student Affairs.

E. Health and Counseling/Life Coaching Services

The Health & Wellness Center - located in the Niswonger Commons, the Health & Wellness Center is located on the lower level of the facility below the Pioneer Arena.

1. College Health Office (x5499) services include health education/outreach programming, referrals for medical care in coordination with individual insurance plans, and provision of loaned equipment if needed (crutches, ice bags, etc.). All students are encouraged to assure that they have current health and insurance information on file in the College Health Office. The college does not provide direct medical care and students are responsible for all charges related to medical care while in attendance at the College.

The College Health Office does not provide excuses for class absence due to illness or injury. Students are encouraged to contact their instructor before the class is missed to report that they will be absent. If an illness or injury requires leaving campus for treatment involving a prolonged absence, the student should notify the Vice President for Academic Affairs Office.

If an emergency should arise, students are advised to contact 911, then Student Affairs personnel or Campus Safety (x5318).

2. Counseling/Life Coaching Services - Tusculum College provides enrolled students the opportunity to meet with a professional counselor in a confidential atmosphere at no cost to the student for short-term care or
referral. Counseling may help students learn to deal proactively, safely, and successfully with some common issues such as:

- Coping with stress
- Dealing with trauma such as intimate partner violence, abuse or assault
- Substance abuse
- Improving mood to decrease depression
- Ways to manage anxiety
- Coping with grief
- Adjustment to college
- Improving relationships
- Understanding sexual orientation or identity

The Academic Resource Center’s TRIO programs also have a counselor on staff. Students who are eligible for this federally funded program are encouraged to take advantage of this resource.

Other counseling resources are available, including the following:

- Alcoholics Anonymous (423) 638-5578
- Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence (423) 638-5578
- CONTACT Ministries (no charge) (423)-926-0144
- Frontier Health (423) 639-7772
- Horizon Recovery Center (423) 636-2446
- Woodridge Hospital (423)-928-7111
- Nolichuckey Holston Area Mental Health (423) 639-1104

3. Campus Weight Room – Another facet of Tusculum College’s health and wellness program is its weight room, located on the lower level of the Pioneer Arena, which is available to all members of the College community. Hours of operation are posted at the weight room. This facility includes both free weights and cardio-vascular equipment. All users of this facility are expected to consult their physician before beginning a work-out program and be trained in the use of the equipment before undertaking exercise in this area.

**F. Library Services**

The Thomas J. Garland Library and its Knoxville branch play a major role in the academic life of the College. Its holdings include 55,000+ book volumes, 200 print and 27,000+ online periodicals with full-text access to over 50 online research databases, 100,000 electronic books, and over 800 videos and DVDs. The original College Library was built in 1910, and has been renovated to provide state of the art facilities for today’s students. Students have direct and immediate access to most materials since the Library is open to all community members and can be accessed electronically 24/7 at [http://library.tusculum.edu](http://library.tusculum.edu). Librarians and library staff members are always available to assist students.
G. The Academic Resource Center

The Academic Resource Center—(ARC) exists to meet the academic needs of both traditional and graduate and professional college students and faculty. The ARC houses the offices of Academic Advising, Learning Support Services, Disability Services, and the college’s two Student Support Services TRIO Programs.

- Academic Advising provides academic counseling regarding course scheduling and selection of majors. Advising personnel also monitor academically at-risk students to ensure they are accessing services to improve academic performance.
- Learning Support Services include assistance with time management, problem solving, and coordination for tutoring services.
- Disability Services provides assistance to students needing disability-related accommodations.
- The Student Support Services program is a federally-funded entity sponsored by the TRIO Programs division of the United States Department of Education. Tusculum College hosts two Student Support Services programs—one known simply as SSS that exclusively serves residential college students, and one known as ARCHES that serves baccalaureate-level adult-learning Graduate and Professional Studies students. These programs offer participants assistance with academic development through a variety of enrichment activities. Specific services include: tutoring, financial literacy counseling, mentoring, academic advisement, facilitation of graduate school enrollment and cultural enrichment activities.

All the members of the Academic Resource Center are available to assist students with any problems or concerns regarding campus life.

H. The Tutoring Center

The Tusculum College Tutoring Center is a cooperative venture between the College and the Student Support Services program. The mission of the center is to help students hone academic skills to ensure success in their scholarly pursuits. The Tutoring Center offers a variety of free services including course-specific tutoring in mathematics, writing, laboratory sciences, humanities and social sciences. To deliver high quality services, the Tutoring Center employs degreed and peer tutors who are responsible for administering individualized tutoring sessions. Furthermore, the Tutoring Center staff collaborates with faculty members to ensure that services address specific academic challenges so that students successfully master course content. Additionally, the Tutoring Center offers a variety of academic workshops and schedules DSST testing for Tusculum College. The Tutoring Center is located on the top level of the Thomas J. Garland Library and the hours of operation
are Monday-Friday from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Evening sessions take place Monday-
Thursday from 7 p.m.-9 p.m., on the second floor of the Garland Library,
behind the circulation desk.

I. Center for Civic Advancement, Global and Mission Studies

For students interested in service, the Center for Civic Advancement (CCA)
provides information about community needs, volunteer opportunities, and
study/service abroad. It functions as the “home” of service-learning on
campus and also houses the Bonner Leaders, a service-oriented student
leadership program. The CCA is located on the second floor of Rankin Hall.

J. Inclement Weather

The following procedures are used on days when snow, ice or other weather
conditions necessitate the closing or delaying of operations for the College:
1. The office of the Academic Vice President will determine when the
   College is closing or delaying classes.
2. Announcements will be made through Pioneer Alert, the College’s Alert
   Notification System. In Greeneville, announcements will also be carried
   on the College’s website and by local radio stations WSMG 1450 AM,
   WGRV 1340 AM, WQUT 101.5 FM, WXBQ 96.9 FM, and by television
   stations WJHL Channel 11, and WCYB Channel 5. In Knoxville,
   announcements will also be carried by radio stations Star 102, B97.5,
   103.5 WIMZ, 94.3 The X, 95.7 Jack FM and by television on WVLT. In
   Morristown, announcements will be carried on radio station WCRK 1150
   AM.
3. Attempts will be made to open the computer lab, library, and cafeteria
during times when the College is closed.
4. On some occasions, the College might delay the opening of the school
day. This will be announced following the same procedures as listed
above.

K. Change in Address, Name or Telephone Number

Notify the Registrar’s Office whenever you have changes in your address,
telephone number, e-mail address, or name (documentation required) so that
your records will be accurate.

L. Scheduling of Facilities

The Facilities Management Office handles the master calendar for scheduling
of all campus facilities in Greeneville. All clubs and organizations must
reserve rooms for regular meetings and facilities for their events through that
office (ext. 5319) and disclose their faculty/staff representative’s name as a
contact. All schedule changes must be routed through the office, since a
change in one organization’s schedule may affect the facilities available to others. All club and organization events must receive prior approval through the Office of Student Affairs. To schedule facilities at a branch campus, call the main number for that facility. (Knoxville – 865-693-2277, Morristown – 423/581-5002).

M. **Niswonger Commons**

In addition to the campus dining facilities, classroom, faculty offices, and meeting spaces, the Common’s includes the Office of Student Affairs (inclusive of Housing, Behavior Education, Multicultural Affairs, and the Dean of Students), the Student Activities Center (SAC – inclusive of Campus Activities, Residential Life and Intramurals/Recreational Sports), Health & Wellness, Counseling/Life Coaching Services, the Bookstore, Campus Safety, a snack bar, a general lounge, a reception area, and the campus mailroom.

*College Bookstore* - the TC Bookstore and its branches are institutionally owned and operated by Tusculum College. The prime objective of the store is to provide full service to the entire campus community. The inventory includes textbooks and classroom supplies, as well as computer aids, Tusculum apparel, gift items, snacks & drinks. Textbook buy-backs are conducted at least once a semester and advance notice is provided. The Tusculum Bookstore accepts Visa, Mastercard & Discover in addition to cash, and personal checks *with a student ID*. Students also have the option of transferring money to their student account for purchases in the Bookstore.

N. **Campus Religious Life**

Weekly services and special celebrations bring the campus community together to celebrate, recognize and explore their faith. Students are encouraged to engage in the many community worship opportunities on and off-campus and the Campus Chaplain and Director of Religious Life, Church and Community Relations is available to any student looking to find a connection outside of the many outreach programs provided for this purpose.

O. **Lost and Found**

Lost and found items (not including those articles abandoned in residence halls) on the Greeneville campus are stored at the Campus Safety office. Articles may be turned in at any time or claimed between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday by appointment. At all other sites, lost and found items are kept at the front desk. All unclaimed articles are disposed of after the statutory holding period.

P. **Withdrawal, Financial Aid, and Attendance Policy/Procedure**

This commentary supplements the policy information in the College Catalog which maintains control of these policies and procedures. Traditional College students wishing to withdraw from the College must initiate the process with
the Director of Academic Advising in the Academic Resource Center (located in Annie Hogan Byrd Hall). Graduate and Professional Studies students wishing to withdraw from the College must initiate the process with their advisor.

Room charges, fees, summer tuition, and textbooks will not be refunded after the first day of classes for the term (or the year in the case of room charges). Upon the official date of withdrawal being finalized (once all completed paperwork receipted), board/meal charges will be refunded on a pro-rata basis from the next vendor cycle (up to four weeks from the official date of withdrawal). A schedule of regular term tuition refunds may be found in the College Catalog. Students must check out of the residence hall within 24 hours of withdrawing unless they have otherwise received approval for alternative arrangements through the Office of Student Affairs.

Per Department of Education Federal Regulations, Title IV funds (Pell, SEOG, TEACH Grants, Direct Subsidized and Unsubsidized student loans, and Plus loans) are awarded to a student with the expectation that the student will attend the classes for which they enrolled. Part of the awarding criteria for Financial Aid is the number of credit hours a student is enrolled for (enrollment status) along with the duration of enrollment (semester).

When a student changes his or her class schedule by dropping a course, or by dropping more credit hours than what is added back (i.e. drop 3 credit hour course but only add a 1 credit hour course) then the aid must be refigured on the REVISED enrollment status. This could mean a change from full-time to part-time and result in a reduction of the amount of aid that a student can receive for the semester.

When a student withdraws or stops attending classes before completing the semester, the Financial Aid office is required to complete a recalculation, for all Title IV funds, as of the date the student ceased attendance.

State regulations also require a recalculation of state aid such as the Tennessee Student Assistance Award and the HOPE Scholarship if a student withdraws or changes his or her schedule.

Tusculum College is required to monitor student attendance. Instructors must record and report attendance for each class meeting (including online, student teaching, internships, practicum, and so forth). If a student does not complete all of the days in the academic period or semester, the Financial Aid Office must re-evaluate the student’s eligibility for Title IV funds. In many cases, eligibility ceases and funds are required to be returned leaving a balance on the student’s account that must be paid by the student.

In order to remain eligible for all of your financial aid, you must attend classes. Before you make any changes to your class schedule or withdraw from the college, you need to check with the Financial Aid Office.
III. Student Life

A. Student Organizations

1. Student Governance - Student Government Association - The Student Government Association meets weekly, and the meetings are open to all members of the College community. Student Government Association includes members elected from classes, social clubs, residence areas and commuters. The president, vice-president, secretary/treasurer are elected each spring.

The Senate has numerous responsibilities. In addition to serving as a representative board, which solicits and conveys student feedback to appropriate parties, the Senate provides funding for student initiatives, programs and organizations from their funding allocation, and works with the Dean of Students to appoint students to various College committees.

2. Student Programming – Tusculum Activities Board (TAB) is linked with the Student Government Association as the primary student programming entity on the Tusculum College campus. Consisting entirely of students, TAB develops a wide variety of activities for the whole campus community. The selected leaders and volunteers of TAB coordinate such events as: comedians, coffee house entertainment, dances, movies, Casino Night, outdoor recreational activities, and educational speakers, as well as many other student-oriented activities. Student volunteers work in various support capacities to provide quality events for the campus community, and TAB is always looking for new members. Involvement provides a learning laboratory for students to develop their decision-making, leadership, negotiating, production, marketing and analysis skills. The TAB is well known for helping talented people find their niche at Tusculum.

3. President’s Society is an elite student organization dedicated to promote and fortify the mission of the institution. As an ambassador, each member serves as an extension of the undergraduate admission office—to aid in tours and various service projects sponsored by admissions. For more information on how to become a member, contact the residential Office of Admission in person, by phone or e-mail.

4. Academic, Professional, Service and Honor Societies - Tusculum College’s academic clubs and societies promote interest and foster excellence in many disciplines. Departments host organizations for those with an interest in education, music education, physics, and theater; as well as those whose distinctions in academics have been recognized:
a. **Alpha Chi** promotes and recognizes scholarship. Membership is open to juniors and seniors ranking in the top tenth of their class.

b. **Athletic Training Student Society** promotes professionalism and education within the field of athletic training.

c. **Bonner Leaders** is a student-led service learning opportunity. Students who are Work-Study eligible use their placements to serve in the Greeneville community. Students are selected through an application and interview process conducted through the Center for Civic Advancement. The application process opens at the end of the fall and spring semester.

d. **Business Club** promotes enjoyment and understanding of business administration; develops leadership abilities through participating in career education and social activities; assists students in establishing realistic employment objectives; promotes high standards in ethics, workmanship, and scholarship; and develops competent, aggressive leaders in business.

e. **Center for Economic Development and Entrepreneurship (CEDE)** is a group of students devoted to helping small businesses within the community in their business endeavors.

f. **English Students Organization (ESO)** fosters a sense of community and camaraderie among the English Department, other departments and organizations on campus, and members of the surrounding community.

g. **Greene Team** is committed to bringing waste reduction and recycling efforts to campus in an efficient and sustainable manner. To get involved contact the CCA.

h. **History & Museum Studies Student Organization** is an organization of students within the history and museum studies disciplines who are focused on excellence within their field.

i. **Honors Student Organization** is an organization of students who are members of the Honors Program.

j. **Iota Tau Alpha** is a national honor society for Athletic Training Education students. The functions of Iota Tau Alpha are to stimulate interest, scholarly attainment, and investigation in Athletic Training Education and to promote the dissemination of information and new interpretations of the Society’s activities among students of Athletic Training Education.
k. **Military Assistance Group** is established to provide assistance, counsel and direction to student veterans and those students actively serving in the U.S. Armed Forces and their families who are connected to the College and the communities it serves.

l. **National Student Athletic Association** promotes healthy lifestyles for student athletes, provides education in leadership skills, and assists in planning for success during and after college.

m. **Omicron-Psi** is an undergraduate and graduate honor society for students in the Graduate and Professional Studies program. Students who achieve a G.P.A. of 3.50 or better are invited to join.

n. **Physical Education & Sports Studies Club** serves the interests of Physical Education majors and other interested students by providing peer support for developing professionalism in the field of Physical Education.

o. **Π-oneer U** is an organization of devoted math enthusiasts, including both math related majors and non-majors.

p. **Pioneer Frontier (Student News Magazine)** is the news medium at Tusculum College. Students are responsible for all aspects of production and distribution.

q. **Pioneer Student Athletic Advisory Committee (PSAAC)** acts as the voice of the student-athletes and serves as their voice to the athletics administration as they seek to enhance the total student-athlete experience by developing leadership skills, promoting welfare and fostering a positive image to the community.

r. **Psychology Club** serves the interests of psychology majors by providing peer support for developing professionalism in the field of psychology.

s. **Relay for Life** is affiliated with the American Cancer Society Relay for Life program and they work year round to support this program which works toward the support of individuals and families affected by cancer and to find a cure.

t. **Science Club** serves the interest of science majors or students interested in science by providing educational opportunities and opportunities for professional development.

u. **Student Alumni Association** is dedicated to building a body of servant leaders who upon graduation will advance the interests and connectivity of alumni and Tusculum College; establish, foster and
promote relationships among the College community, and further the quality of the institution.

v. **Student Nursing Organization** serves the interests of Nursing majors and other interested students by providing peer support for developing professionalism in the Nursing Sciences.

w. **Student Tennessee Education Association** is an affiliate of NEA and TEA and offers students information and support in their profession. Membership provides liability insurance during practicum experiences and student teaching and three statewide scholarships per year to members. Tusculum College has had two state scholarship recipients in the past two years.

x. **Study Abroad & Global Awareness Club** supports the provision of unique opportunities for Tusculum College community members to accrue knowledge and interest regarding various settings, locations and cultures with the hope that such knowledge will inspire an internationalized campus with a heightened sense of global awareness.

y. **Theatre at Tusculum** provides many opportunities throughout the year for involvement in theatre, through scheduled productions. Students may audition for roles in productions or volunteer to assist backstage.

z. **Tusculum Arts Outreach** provides a variety of opportunities for theatrical or other artistic involvement in the larger community.

aa. **Tusculum Review** is an annual literary journal that publishes fiction, non-fiction and poetry by well-established and emerging writers from around the world. Edited by Tusculum College professors with a volunteer staff made up of students who read and consider submissions as well as help in the design and layout of the review. Students hold positions of responsibility including managing editor, poetry editor, fiction editor and non-fiction editor.

bb. **Voices Against Violence** is comprised of students who advocate on campus against violence against any individuals and groups of people through awareness and education to bring tolerance, concern and celebration of differences.

4. **Greek Life**

While there are no currently operating Greek Letter social organizations at Tusculum College, the institution looks to the possibility of such programs which can integrate with the culture and support the mission of the College. While recognizing that social interaction is a major component of
Greek life, the College holds potential Greek-letter organizations to the ideals upon which they were founded and declines to endorse any fraternity or sorority that wishes to function merely as a “social club.” Founded upon Christian ideals, and inspired to support scholarship, community service, and the notions of wholesome brotherhood and sisterhood, Tusculum College looks to Greek-letter organizations for their potential to promote leadership development as well as social and moral growth. Sororities and fraternities would share responsibility with the College for facilitating the learning process for students and for cultivating an environment that enriches the campus and the educational experience. In support of its mission, Tusculum College is dedicated to principles that provide direction for the Greek Community:

- Promoting the intellectual, social, recreational, and moral development of students;
- Providing training in leadership skills and other personal and social skills;
- Promoting student involvement in co-curricular activities and community service projects;
- Promoting Greek Life as a productive and viable lifestyle on campus; and,
- Promoting an appreciation for diversity.

Greek Life groups operating at Tusculum College would be required to operate under a delayed rush program where students interested in joining social Greek letter organizations at Tusculum College would be required to have earned a cumulative GPA established by the College annually (currently 2.5) and 12.0 credit hours while enrolled at Tusculum. Therefore, incoming students would not be eligible to rush until the Spring semester.

5. Religious Programs & Organizations

Tusculum College seeks to assist students in their spiritual growth. Every student is given opportunities not only for academic study of the Christian faith and of other world religions, but also, for participation in extracurricular programs and groups provided to stimulate intelligent reflection upon, and develop mature understanding of, the Christian faith. Many groups meet on a weekly basis for discussion, study, fellowship and fun and the Center for Civic Advancement can provide information on worship services in Greeneville and neighboring communities.

- **Baptist Student Union (BSU)** provides a time of Christian fellowship and worship for all students. BSU is open to all denominations.

- **Fellowship of Christian Athletes (F.C.A.)** is a student led non-denominational organization that promotes Christian principles among
student athletes and the general student body. FCA is open to all students and not just athletes.

c. **The Gathering** is a collective effort of Tusculum College faculty, students, and surrounding community members focused on bringing people together to participate in contemporary Christian worship.

6. **General Interest**

a. **Black United Students (Black United Students)** promotes awareness and understanding of the various ethnic groups represented on campus.

b. **College Democrats** is an organization for students supporting the Democratic party and sponsoring events to raise awareness about civic engagement and social responsibility.

c. **College Republicans** is an organization for students supporting the Republican party and sponsoring events to raise awareness about civic engagement and social responsibility.

d. **Community Chorus** is open to all community members. No auditions are required. Academic credit may be earned.

e. **Fishing Club at TC** is open to all Tusculum College students interested in learning more about fishing and participating in fishing trips.

f. **Hall Councils** are boards of elected students to represent each residence hall. They function primarily to govern the halls and provide educational and social programming.

g. **Herstory** is a group of women focusing on minority women’s issues in the professions, which encourages the exploration of career opportunities, the development of support networks and the attainment of leadership skills.

h. **International and Multicultural Society** provides an opportunity for international students to fellowship and develop programs to educate the greater college community about their culture and history.

i. **Latin Link** is a group of students devoted to appreciating the Hispanic culture. The organization is open to all interested students.

j. **Magic The Gathering Club** has been established to imbue its membership with a sense of companionship, entertainment and social
enrichment based around a common interest in the card game Magic the Gathering.

k. **Open Door Society** is a group of individuals focused on providing a safe, welcoming environment of support to homosexual, bisexual and transgendered individuals while providing education about issues to the college community and providing a commitment to service.

l. **Orange Crush** is a dedicated and energetic organization comprised of students in support of Pioneer athletics.

m. **Pioneer Anime Club** exists for the purpose of giving fans of Japanese animation a place to view new productions and share interests with like-minded individuals.

n. **Pioneer Band** is established to provide a variety of musical cultural expressions to the community and provide an outlet for the musically inclined to express themselves and achieve the highest levels of musicianship.

o. **Pioneer Gaming Club** is a group of students from all across campus who enjoy all types of video gaming—PC, Xbox, Playstation, etc. They host bi-annual marathon gaming programs and weekly gaming meetings.

p. **Tennessee Intercollegiate State Legislature (TISL)** is a group of students interested in the inner working of state government. These students come from all majors. They compete at a state level annually in a mock legislature that takes place in the state capitol.

q. **Track & Field Club** exists to promote and provide an opportunity for individuals to participate in intercollegiate and open track and field meets and events as well as road races.

r. **Venturing Crew** is a program of exciting and meaningful outdoor activities such as ropes, climbing, hiking and camping. The purpose is to help students pursue their special interests, to grow, to develop leadership skills and to become good citizens. Membership is open to all students.

**B. Student Sports Programs**

1. **Intercollegiate Athletics**

   Tusculum College is a Division II member of the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA). The following varsity sports are offered
for men: baseball, basketball, cross country, football, golf, lacrosse, soccer, and tennis. The following varsity sports are offered for women: basketball, cross-country, golf, lacrosse, soccer, softball, tennis, and volleyball. Both men and women have the opportunity to try out for the cheerleading squad. Students interested in participating in the Intercollegiate Athletics program should contact the Athletic Director, or the head coach.

2. Intramurals & Recreational Sports

The purpose of the Intramural program is to provide the College community with enjoyable and invigorating experiences in sport while in a non-threatening environment.

Unsportsmanlike conduct of any type will not be tolerated. Such conduct will result in removal from the event and suspension from participation in further intramural events. All College policies apply during intramural sponsored activities and violations will be pursued.

Recreational Sports

The purpose of the recreational sports program is to provide the College community with a variety of opportunities to promote a healthier lifestyle. Whether through individual or group activities, the recreation sports program provides on and off-campus experiences for community members that can be pursued indoors and outdoors throughout the year to achieve and maintain health and wellness.

Students, faculty and staff are invited to explore indoor activities from table tennis to swimming and pick-up basketball, as well as outside adventure such as hiking, skiing, white water rafting, canoeing, camping, and mountain biking. Also incorporated into this program are trips to various areas of attraction, such as: Ruby Falls, Rock City, Grandfather Mountain, and the Smoky Mountains. These trips are offered to students, faculty and staff for free or at a nominal fee. Please see Student Affairs for details.
IV. Code of Student Conduct - Behavior Education

A. Authority, Scope, & Jurisdiction

A student who applies to Tusculum College accepts the authority of the College to establish policies and regulations regarding community members’ behavior. This section contains the rules and expectations of conduct to be followed, whether traditional or non-traditional student. Failure to comply with the established rules and expectations set forth in this Student Handbook will result in discipline, up to and including expulsion.

Ultimate authority for student discipline is vested in the Board of Trustees of the College. Operational authority is delegated through the President of the College and the Vice President for Enrollment Management to the Dean of Students for matters falling under the Code of Student Conduct. The Dean of Students charges the professional Student Affairs staff and other designated faculty and staff to exercise some of these duties. The Vice President for Academic Affairs has been delegated authority for academic related matters. The College hopes and expects that students and organizations will manage their individual and group behaviors pursuant to Tusculum College policies, rules and expectations. If students and/or student groups fail to do so, the College will enforce such policies, rules and expectations and determine appropriate penalties in accordance with the Student Handbook.

Jurisdiction and discipline of the College will apply to student (individual) and corporate (group or organization) conduct on College premises (whether owned, leased or managed) and at College events. It also applies to behavior occurring off-campus that indicates that the student may present a risk to the health or safety of her/himself or others, or otherwise adversely affect the College and/or the educational mission of the institution whether during periods of academic coursework or not. Examples of the College’s jurisdiction include, but are not limited to, College athletic teams traveling to and participating in events off campus, recognized student organizations engaging in an event or activity off campus, off-campus internships, off-campus work-study assignments, off-campus learning team meetings, community service and study abroad. Any exceptions to the Code must be approved by the Dean of Students and explicitly communicated by the faculty or staff in charge.

In addition to the procedures and penalties discussed in the Student Handbook for violation of Tusculum College policies, a student’s misconduct may subject him/her to civil or criminal penalties if such conduct constitutes a violation of local, state or federal law. In such cases, the College may conduct its own disciplinary procedure and impose appropriate sanctions before, during, or after any criminal or civil proceedings as deemed appropriate by the Dean of Students or his/her designee.
B. Standards for Personal & Community Conduct

Tusculum College places emphasis on education, and it seeks increased development and integration of the "whole person" in the intellectual, spiritual, social, and physical aspects of life. As an educational community, it respects and encourages the development of individual virtues such as integrity, rationality, compassion, self-discipline, and personal responsibility. The College also places special emphasis upon certain community ideals such as tolerance, civility, and respect for the person and conscience of others. Additionally, students are expected to participate in the building of a mutually supportive, responsible, and accountable community in which persons are expected to refrain from actions which are directly or indirectly injurious to other persons or to the community as a whole. Students are expected to actively participate in the process of deterring injurious conduct, through counseling others, and where other means fail or are inappropriate, reporting cases to the proper authorities. As a college related to the Presbyterian Church, it holds additional values such as honesty, the value and worth of each individual, the seriousness and inevitability of human shortcomings, and the hope for redemptive behavior. Such a community must depend upon the respect for certain principles and patterns of behavior by its members in order to function effectively.

Most policies concerning academics can be found in the College Catalog and provide the definitions, and operational structure for activities associated directly with academic coursework. The policies in this Code of Student Conduct provide the definitions and operational structure for life together on campus. Adherence to these Codes will be considered an understood prerequisite for acceptance to and ongoing membership in the College community.

C. Illustrative Regulations

The following sections set out specific standards and expectations as examples, though they are not intended to be exhaustive in scope nor detail:

1. General Behavior

   a. Any conduct which has or presents a reasonable threat of a negative impact on the health, safety, rights, and property of the College, community members, or visitors;

   b. Any conduct which is or could reasonably be concluded to be an attempt to commit acts prohibited by this Code may be punished to the same extent as if the act had been completed;

   c. Aiding or encouraging others in the commission of an act prohibited under this Code including knowing presence during or subsequent to a
violation of a standard of this Code (e.g. a student may be held responsible for any and all violations occurring when present in a room or area where a violation of College standards is taking place);

d. Violation of established policies, rules or regulations promulgated through the official communications of Tusculum College (including but not limited to those policies covered in the Code of Student Conduct and applicable Student Handbook or College Catalogue).

e. Any conduct which has or could reasonably be concluded to have a negative impact on the good name or operation of the College; and

f. Violations of expectations established under local, state, or federal law (as interpreted by the College and not dependent upon the outcome of external hearing bodies or subject to challenge on the ground that criminal charges involving the same incident have been reduced or dismissed);

2. **Abuse of Self or Others**

   a. Inflicting mental or bodily harm upon any person (including one's self);

   b. Engaging in any intentional or reckless action from which mental or bodily harm could result (including to one's self);

   c. Causing a person to reasonably believe that the offender may cause mental or bodily harm;

   d. Harassing behavior, including, but not limited to, violation of the standards set forth in the Tusculum College Peer Harassment and Sexual Harassment Policies; and

   e. Discrimination against a person on the basis of race, religion, age, sex, national origin, sexual orientation, military or veteran status, disability, or genetic information except where such differentiation is sanctioned for cause in advance (e.g. organizations established to promote the interests of a specific segment of the community and are therefore restrictive in their membership).

3. **Alcohol and Controlled Substances**

   Note - Being under the influence of alcohol or other drugs does not diminish individual or corporate responsibility for a violation of the Code of Student Conduct; and offenses under this section should reflect the sanction guidelines established in the Alcohol and Controlled Substance Policy Enforcement Procedures.
a. Unauthorized possession (including constructive possession), distribution or consumption of alcoholic beverages or paraphernalia as established through the Tusculum College Alcohol Policy;

b. Public intoxication, presenting a threat to oneself or others, or engaging in disruptive behavior due to being under the influence of alcoholic beverages;

c. Possession (including constructive possession), use, or trafficking in controlled substances or other violations of the Tusculum College Controlled Substance Policy;

d. Use of cigars, incense, flavored or scented cigarettes, candles, smudge sticks of other substances which cause a scent perceivable as marijuana or masking the use of same will provide sufficient indicia to justify a search of any items on College property and can result in the student being found responsible for a violation of the Controlled Substances Policy as olfactory (smell) evidence is sufficient evidence to support a finding of responsibility;

e. Smoking of any substance outside of a designated smoking area (see Smoking Policy herein - there is no smoking permitted in any building on a Tusculum campus or in vehicles of the College); and

f. In addition to the foregoing regulations in this section, inhaling or ingesting any substance(s) that can or does have the effect of altering one's mental state (unless in compliance with a legal prescription).

4. Computer Usage

a. Improper access or other usage of the Tusculum College network as outlined in the Information Technology Appropriate Use Policy.

5. Disorderly or Disruptive Behavior

a. Intentional or reckless obstruction or disruption of teaching, research, administration, disciplinary proceedings, College events or activities, including violation of the Freedom of Expression Policy;

b. Obstruction or disruption which reasonably or unreasonably interferes with freedom of movement, either pedestrian or vehicular, on campus;

c. Failure to comply with the directions of College officials acting in their official capacity, including administrators, staff, faculty, and para-professional staff (including, but not limited to, refusing to furnish identification or failing to stop engaging in behavior when requested to do so or restricting access to any person, item, or venue to Student Affairs or Campus Safety personnel). Verbal and/or physical abuse directed toward any College official will not be tolerated and will constitute a serious violation;
6. Facilities and Property

a. Unauthorized entry to or upon, or use of College property, equipment or resources, including but not limited to the telephone system, mail system, computer system, vehicle keys, buildings and furnishings, ledges, roofs or fire escapes of College-owned or operated buildings and service tunnels, or the duplication or use of keys ($250 minimum fine);

b. Theft, attempted theft, conversion of any property or services of the College, community members or guests (e.g. possession of stolen property, unauthorized sale of another’s books, etc.); and

c. Destruction, damage or defacement (including littering), misuse or tampering with any property or services of the College, community members or guests (e.g. possession of stolen property, unauthorized sale of another’s books, vandalism, etc.).
7. Health and Safety

a. Unauthorized storage, use or possession (or constructive possession) on any campus property (including items in vehicles) of weapons (as defined by local, state and federal law, and including any object or substance designed to inflict a wound or cause injury); explosives; projectiles; flammable materials (including solvents); biohazardous, volatile, or poisonous materials of any kind; or other items which may be hazardous to the health or safety of others. Items prohibited under this section include, but are not limited to, handheld guns (which includes pistols, stun, paint, pellet, dart, cap, BB, starter or water or toy guns which may be perceived to be actual weapons), long arms (such as rifles, shotguns, air rifles), bows, arrows, axes, knives or blades of any type, numchucks, throwing stars, sling shots, firecrackers and fireworks.

Additionally, items which may not generally considered to be weapons, but which are wielded in a manner such that harm or the threat of harm is indicated, will be considered as a weapon under this policy (e.g. waving a baseball bat or knitting needle at another in a threatening manner). In addition to other sanctions, an automatic minimum fine of $500 will be assessed under this policy, and suspension or expulsion from the College will be examined.

(Note Tennessee State Law [T.C.A. 39-17-1309] prescribes a maximum penalty of six [6] years imprisonment and a fine not to exceed three thousand dollars [$3,000] for carrying weapons on school property);

b. Setting or causing to be set, any unauthorized fire in or on College premises (including grills or barbeques on a campus facility balcony or porch or under the eaves or overhangs) or storage of combustible engines or flammable materials in the aforementioned areas or inside a residential area. Ground fires in any form are not permitted on campus without permission obtained through the Office of Student Affairs on the residential campus or through the appropriate GPS student service staff;

c. Intentionally initiating or causing to be initiated any false report, warning, or threat of fire, explosion, crime, or other emergency on College premises or at College sponsored events or tampering with fire alarms (e.g. battery removal, wire disconnection or shielded air passageways, etc.), extinguishers, or other fire equipment (in addition to other sanctions, an automatic minimum fine of $250 will be assessed);
d. Failure to comply with the directions of emergency (e.g. Fire or Police Department) personnel or College officials acting in their official capacity, including administrators, staff, faculty, and para-professional staff; or failure to comply with mechanical or electronic evacuation alarms or systems or otherwise evacuate or properly report hazardous or threatening incidents (in addition to other sanctions, an automatic minimum fine of $100 will be assessed);

e. Tampering with fire or safety signage (include exit floor plans or doorway signage) or breaching College security (e.g. propping open residence hall doors or loaning keys) (in addition to other sanctions, an automatic minimum fine of $100 and related replacement/repair/cleaning costs will be assessed);

f. Failure to observe fire regulations requiring that halls, stairways, entrances, porches, evacuation routes, and balconies be kept clear of obstacles at all times;

g. Rough play on College premises, or use of outdoor recreation equipment in any facility other than facilities where such activity is explicitly permitted (e.g. gymnasium); and

8. Honesty/Identification

All forms of dishonesty and misconduct including, but not limited to the following:

a. cheating, plagiarism, or other forms of academic dishonesty (these cases are adjudicated through processes administered by the Vice-President for Academic Affairs);

b. tampering with the election of any recognized or charted student organization;

c. Forgery, alteration, tampering or unauthorized use of any College document, record, or instrument of identification (e.g. use of another’s ID or PIN number);

d. Transferring, lending, or borrowing College identification; and

e. Failing to provide identification or furnishing false information to authorized College officials, offices, or judicial boards (including, but not limited to, being party to falsification; giving or providing false statements, written or oral; and/or providing false information during any College proceeding or to any College official).
9. Process & Responsibility

a. Failure to escort or manage guest’s behaviors at all times while on, in, or at any campus property, facility or event (minor children must be accompanied [and may not stay in residence halls overnight] due to liability issues and unescorted non-students generally have no rights to be present on, in, or at any campus property or facility, beyond that specifically extended by an authorized agent of the institution [e.g. intercollegiate athletic events open to the general community]). Students are expected to inform their guests of all applicable College regulations and see that their guests act accordingly (e.g. payment for meals at Dining Halls, possession of alcoholic beverages, etc.);

b. Abuse or misuse of College disciplinary process, including falsifying, distorting, or misrepresenting information in a College investigation or proceeding; disruption of or interference with an investigation or proceeding; attempting to intimidate, harass, or exert undue influence over a member of a hearing panel, witness, or party prior to or during a judicial proceeding; attempting to discourage an individual’s proper participation in or use of, the judicial process; and

c. Failure to comply with disciplinary sanctions imposed, including violation of the Code of Student Conduct while on probation or deferred suspension (Note - failure to complete sanctions is considered a serious offense which will result in a minimum $100 fine and consideration of suspension).

D. Alcohol & Controlled Substance Policy

1. Alcohol

Tusculum College recognizes that the use of alcohol tends to have a deleterious effect on educational attainment and that students may deal with issues involving chemical dependency. Therefore, the College strives to provide education and assistance to students. Chemical dependency is a serious illness which can be treated successfully if identified early, if appropriate referral to community agencies is made, and if adequate support is afforded to those in the recovery process.

Possession or manufacture, sale, use, consumption, or delivery of alcoholic beverages or paraphernalia associated with the use of alcohol on College property or at College sponsored events is prohibited unless specifically provided for by the President of the College. Paraphernalia includes, but is not limited to: the public display of signs, posters or other objects with references to alcohol, accumulations of containers (i.e., bottles, cans, kegs, and boxes), bongs for drinking; “bar-like” structures, taps, kegs, or waste containers in excess of 5 gallons.
The entire campus community is expected to promote and enforce a sense of personal responsibility and exhibit responsible behavior toward the consumption of alcohol. In addition to seeking to support student treatment and education, the College reserves the right to initiate disciplinary procedures to maintain a healthy educational environment.

2. Controlled Substances

As an institution within the State of Tennessee, Tusculum College is committed to encouraging compliance with all state and local laws. Tusculum College is unalterably opposed to the illegal possession and/or improper use of hallucinogens, drugs, and narcotics by all members of the College community. In keeping with Tennessee and federal laws which prohibit the use, possession, sale or offering for sale of narcotics and hallucinogens, including marijuana, and Tennessee laws prohibiting improper possession, use and sale of drugs (e.g. amphetamines and barbiturates), Tusculum College will encourage and cooperate in the enforcement of these laws which may include actively engaging in prosecution of any community member by local law enforcement agencies.

Any chemical substance that is not for human consumption, but which is consumed by a person for purposes of producing a stimulant, depressive, hallucinogenic, or narcotic effect in that person is considered an illegal drug in those circumstances. In addition, any chemical "substantially similar" to a controlled substance listed in Schedule I or II (of the US Controlled Substances Act) is to be treated as if it were also listed in those schedules, for the purposes of this policy. Any substance that the Attorney General temporarily places on a Schedule to avoid an imminent hazard to the public safety, shall be treated as if it were also listed in that schedule, for the purposes of this policy. Finally, any recommendation by the World Health Organization for the placing of substances on a schedule of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs or the Convention on Psychotropic Substances, shall be treated as binding until such time as this decision is ratified by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs.

The College reserves the right to inspect any and all parcels brought onto campus, to confiscate alcoholic beverages or other controlled substances and to initiate disciplinary procedures. Tusculum respects each student’s right to privacy, but reserves the right to inspect students’ rooms and packages as outlined in the housing agreement.

The following constitute violation of College policy:

a. Use of non-prescribed hallucinogens, drugs, or narcotics - including those prescribed to others (note- olfactory evidence is permissible evidence in a drug hearing and is sufficient to establish a violation);
b. Possession of any materials as outlined above as well as possession of drug-related paraphernalia - including constructive possession of the aforementioned (constructive possession provides that being in close proximity to prohibited items is enough to justify accountability as a hearing could conclude that the prohibited items could have belonged to them. Accountability based on constructive possession often results when prohibited items are found in a residence or in a room within a residence, and more than one person is present who could arguably be the owner of the prohibited items. This approach prevents students in violation from merely removing prohibited items from their personal possession upon imminent confrontation by College officials. Practically speaking, as it relates to College students, constructive possession means that students should be aware of their surroundings and avoid situations where prohibited items may be present, even if the student does not actually intend to use or handle the prohibited items personally. Assuming or trusting that a friend or acquaintance will take the responsibility for any prohibited items found has proven to be a critical mistake for many students);

c. Improper use of prescription medications.

d. Trafficking in these items, described in paragraphs 1, 2, and 3 above, whether procuring, giving, selling, or causing to be procured, shared, given or sold.

3. Enforcement

It is the responsibility of each member of the Tusculum College community to uphold the standards and regulations of the College. Each individual is responsible for creating and keeping an academic and social environment which provides a comfortable atmosphere and which encourages good will and trust among all members of the campus community. To prevent the abuse of the standing alcohol and drug policy, the following enforcement procedures are maintained. Violations of the College alcohol policy may result in the following minimum sanctions:

a. Individual Non-Disruptive Alcohol Violations

i. First Offense
For students under the age of 21, a parental contact letter detailing incident written by student for file and future delivery upon subsequent offense;

A monetary fine of $100; and
--- alcohol education module completion and 5 hours community service project to be determined and monitored by the Office of Student Affairs; or

--- 2 page typed reflection paper and 10 hours community service project to be determined and monitored by the Office of Student Affairs.

If the violation took place at social event, see organization and event violations policy later in this subsection.

ii. Second Offense
Monetary fine of $200, six month probation, parental contact letter for student under the age of 21 detailing incident written by student for file and future delivery upon subsequent offense, and Alcohol Education/ Counseling Assessment ($10 administrative fee).

b. Individual Disruptive or Repetitive (3rd or Greater) Alcohol Violation
Monetary fine of $300, participation in substance abuse counseling class and/or assessment (includes a $50 administrative fee), 25 community service hours, parental contact letter sent for students under the age of 21, and minimum of 6 month suspension (may be deferred upon consideration of potential for remediation). If the violation took place at social event, see organization and event violations policy later in this subsection.

c. Controlled Substance Policy Violation
All violations of the Controlled Substance Policy will result in referral to the appropriate judicial board for adjudication and recommendation of sanction, but standard benchmark should include monetary fine of $500, participation in substance abuse counseling assessment (includes a $50 administrative fee), follow-up substance abuse treatment plan inclusive of individual and group therapy (NA) methodologies as determined appropriate; 50 community service hours, parental contact letter sent for student under the age of 21, and minimum of 6 month suspension (may be recommended for deferral upon consideration of potential for remediation).

d. Organization and Event Violations
If an individual is in violation of the alcohol or controlled substance policies at a social event, that individual will face sanctions in accordance with the guidelines above as well as being prohibited from attending another social event for a minimum of 90 academic school year days.
Sanctions for a recognized student organization or group that is found to be responsible for hosting an event that violates the alcohol or controlled substance policy will be assessed a minimum of a $300.00 fine and a period of social probation during which the organization or group may not host a social event for a minimum of 90 academic school year days.

Sanctions for an unregistered event or for subsequent registered event offenses during a calendar year or while on probation, may result in suspension or revocation of the group’s charter, a $500 fine and they may be prevented from hosting an event on campus for a minimum of six months to be served immediately during the current or subsequent academic year, as appropriate. Sanctions are to be served during months which are in the academic year and may be carried over to the following academic year. (For example, a sanction of three months set in April will apply for 90 school days in April, May, August and September.)

4. Alcohol & Drug Risk Information

The general health risks related to alcohol and other drug abuse may be immediate or build for some time. Some of the physical effects of alcohol/other drug abuse can include: damage to the liver, heart and pancreas; digestive irritations; malnutrition; sexual problems; high blood pressure; brain damage and mental impairments (including negative effects on perception, information processing, learning, judgment, reaction time, sound processing and peripheral vision); increased risk of cancer, heart attack and stroke; and infections in general. Alcohol is the drug of choice for many of those students who abuse drugs. Alcohol is a central nervous system depressant which slows down respiration. Alcohol abuse/dependence can ultimately rob a person of self-control which eventually can lead to broken relationships, loss of jobs, self-esteem, self-respect and even suicide. Alcohol problems can also lead to legal problems such as domestic violence and even criminal offenses and incarceration. Pregnant women who drink may produce a fetus with fetal alcohol syndrome who is small, mentally retarded or has defects of the heart or other organs.

College students who engage in alcohol/other drug abuse also report experiencing a continuum of other unpleasant consequences and behaviors including hangovers, vomiting, accidents and injuries, blackouts, fights, missing classes, lower grades, damaging property, pulling fire alarms and other disciplinary problems which can result in suspension from school. Thus, alcohol/other drug abuse can contribute to academic failure and misconduct.
A major consequence of alcohol or other drug abuse may cause the development of an addiction. While almost anyone may develop an addiction, some students are more vulnerable than others due to inherited biological factors. In particular, students whose parents or grandparents had an alcohol or other drug problem, may develop an addiction more quickly and easily than other students. Alcohol or drug addicted students may cease growing intellectually and emotionally and may never learn to cope with problems constructively, but attempt instead to avoid and compound problems by getting “high”. Combinations of various drugs cause make the effects of each stronger (potentiation) and can be fatal.

Tusculum College is committed to increasing awareness about alcohol/drug issues, to prevention strategies that discourage irresponsible and illegal use, and to providing ongoing support for those individuals who have decided not to use alcohol and illegal drugs.

**Medical Amnesty**

Tusculum College is dedicated to creating a community of educated individuals focused on personal responsibility and sound decision-making. As a part of this process, the College community is committed to providing guidance so that students can learn to develop a responsible approach to social challenges. The College recognizes that there may be times when students face medical emergencies involving excessive drinking and/or drug use. In such cases, if an individual seeks assistance due to a medical emergency, Tusculum College will not pursue disciplinary sanctions against the student for consumption or possession of alcohol or drugs.

Medical Amnesty applies only to the possession or consumption of alcohol and drugs. It does not preclude disciplinary sanctions due to any other violation of the Code of Student Conduct. Other such violations include, but are not limited to, assault, property damage or distribution of illicit substances (including possession of an amount appropriate for distribution). Additionally, the Policy does not prevent action by police, other law enforcement personnel, or other third parties.

Tusculum College Medical Amnesty Policy is applicable to:

- A student requesting medical assistance for oneself; or
- A student(s) seeking medical assistance for another person

If a student/group calls on behalf of another student, that student/group is required to remain with the student experiencing the emergency until medical attention arrives.
Please note that Medical Amnesty will not be granted to students who do not seek medical assistance, and that students who are confronted by College staff or another third party will be referred to the Office of Student Affairs for disciplinary action. The student needing medical assistance will be required to meet with student conduct personnel and in lieu of disciplinary sanctions, may be expected to complete the following:

- A mandatory meeting with the Director of Health Education or other educational referrals
- Responsibility for costs associated with hospital transportation, treatment, assessment, or damage
- Parental notification

Please note that the referring student may also be required to meet with the Office of Student Affairs.

As long as the student seeking Medical Amnesty complies with all directives from the Dean of Students or his/her designee, there will be no disciplinary action taken related to a violation of possession or consumption of alcohol or drugs. Medical Amnesty is not intended to shield students or organizations in cases of extreme, flagrant, and repeated incidents. In cases where extreme, flagrant or repeated violations of the Code of Student Conduct occur, the College reserves the right to take disciplinary action on a case-by-case basis regardless of the manner in which the incident was reported. In each case, the Dean of Students or his/her designee will make the final determination as to the applicability of this provision. In the case of any emergency involving alcohol or other drugs, call Campus Safety at 423.470.2710 immediately for emergency medical assistance.

E. AIDS Policy Statement

This policy is based on current knowledge of the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV), the virus that causes Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS). This policy may be revised as new medical information develops.

Persons with any form of HIV infection, including AIDS, do not pose a health risk to others through ordinary, casual contact. HIV is transmitted perinatally, by sexual intercourse, and by exposure to contaminated blood. Although HIV may be found in the body fluids and secretions of infected persons, current medical knowledge indicates that the virus is transmitted only by means of contact with the blood, semen, or female genital secretions of infected persons. There has been no confirmed case of HIV transmission within any household or school as a result of casual contact. Therefore, there is no basis for routinely excluding or dismissing students or employees because they have AIDS or an asymptomatic HIV infection.
The College has adopted the following procedures with respect to HIV infection:

1. No consideration will be given to the existence of any form of HIV infection when the College decides whether to admit a student.

2. Students who are infected with HIV will be allowed to attend class without any restrictions, as long as they are physically and mentally capable.

3. Tusculum College does not require mandatory testing for HIV. Under Tennessee law, the College is obligated to report to state or local health departments any known cases of HIV. Otherwise, these reports are treated as confidential medical information, and cannot, without the written consent of the individual, be released to any other person, group, agency or insurer.

4. The National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) with which Tusculum College is affiliated has additional policies and information regarding the relationship of athletic participation and HIV. Contact the office of the Head Athletic Trainer on the residential college for details.

F. Amorous Relations Policy

The College’s Amorous Relations policy generally prohibits employee-student or supervisor-supervisee romantic and/or sexual relationships, even mutually consenting ones, as they present a real or perceived impropriety where the supervisor has, or is perceived to have, any professional responsibility for the academic performance or professional future of the student or other employee. There are extremely limited exceptions to this general prohibition (e.g. spouses, previously existing relationships) in which a relationship may be permitted. Under this policy, students have a duty to disclose any romantic and/or sexual employee-student or supervisor-supervisee relationships, even mutually consenting ones, to the Dean of Students (ext 5315) or the Director of Personnel Services (ext 5345) to avoid any violations of code, appearance of impropriety, or disruption of the College environment.

G. Confiscation Policy

Certain items are prohibited on College property, in College facilities, or at College events, because of health, fire or safety reasons; local, state or federal law; or College policy (e.g. drugs, weapons, and appliances and pets in the residence halls).

When these items are encountered or discovered by College officials, they are subject to confiscation, and the College, its employees, agents, and officers
will not be responsible for any incidental loss or harm. Residential students may request permission to retrieve pets which have not been turned over to animal control and which are still in the custody of Campus Safety upon their agreement to immediately remove the animal from College property and not return it to campus. Similarly, appliances may be retrieved by the residential student owner with the same caveat that it be immediately removed and not returned to the premises.

Unless there is a perceived need by the College authority to retain beverage alcohol for evidence in an incident, it will be disposed of upon confiscation (preferably by the student owning or exercising control over the container(s)). Weapons, controlled substances, and drug paraphernalia will be secured by Campus Safety or appropriate law enforcement personnel and will not be returned. Any releasable items which are not claimed by their rightful owner within six months become the property of Tusculum College and will be disposed of without recourse by the previous owner.

H. Freedom of Expression Policy

Tusculum College is committed to an environment in which a variety of ideas can be reasonably proposed and critically examined. It is often tolerant of the expression of ideas that are brought forth in a manner that would be considered less than reasonable and with little focus on the application of reflective examination. However, the College community recognizes that the freedom of inquiry and expression which is important to intellectual development and character maturation sometimes produces conflicts of belief and include ideas with which many, including the College in its official capacity, would take extreme exception.

However, when possible, the College seeks to apply the remedy of meeting speech which may be judged offensive or hurtful (that which may be deemed “poor” in that it is found deeply wanting when subjected to the mission and values of the institution) with more speech that seeks to illuminate and educate as a natural extension of its educational mission. Though this approach may be found to be burdensome to many who would prefer to limit the expression of perspectives which are deemed distasteful or even reprehensible by the majority on the grounds that they are harmful to diversity, civility, etc., the development of those very constructs in their common understanding relied upon a society which tolerated the open and permissive exchange of ideas which were often offensive to the majority perspective and hurtful to the sensibilities of many who were in the majority in various communities.

In these situations, it is the College’s role to encourage meaningful dialogue about ideas which evoke and even inflame passions as these are often the areas which are central to identity formation and vision development. Though the College may seek to provide what it considers to be an enlightened
perspective, it will also seek to provide a forum for all to be able to consider and articulate their perspective such that it may be fairly considered and weighed on its merits.

While supporting the internal consideration of viewpoints, the College will not, however, seek to provide equal time or support for other communications in clarifying the official position of the institution on a given issue or topic. Neither will the College permit speech or conduct which amounts to harassment or which exposes minors, College guests, etc. to an environment which diminishes the good name and standing of the institution.

Also implicit in the discussion of freedom of expression generally is the more specific right to dissent and demonstrate in a peaceful and non-disruptive manner without unreasonable obstruction or hindrance. The College expects those who enjoy these freedoms must also accept responsibility for order and discipline. The use of College premises to dissent, demonstrate or otherwise express oneself shall be limited to students which must register the activity with the College through the Dean of Students (such registration shall provide a viewpoint neutral evaluation of the proposal and work to establish a time, place and manner which satisfies the interests of those in dissent to express themselves without interference due to: 1. the potential of being found a disruption to the operations of the College, and 2. external threats to the expression evoked by passions aroused by the activity).

Permissible speech does not include unlawful activity which may threaten or endanger the safety of any community member, destruction of property, or obstruction of the normal operations of the College. Expression that is obscene, and that which amounts to harassment on matters of race, ethnicity, religion, gender or sexual orientation will not be tolerated.

The following definitions are provided:

- **Speech** - leafleting, picketing, speeches, demonstrating, petition circulation, fund raising, lawn signs, sandwich boards, tables, gatherings, posters, pamphlets, and similar speech related activities.

- **Dissent** - individual or group activity which expresses grievances held against, or changes desired of, society or campus or both. Dissent may be more general than a simple grievance or remedy and may have an ideological base. It often includes proposed solutions as well as complaints.

- **Disruption** - activity which disrupts or interferes with the operations of the College, reacts to the expression of peaceful dissent of others by attempting to deny their rights, or threatens the safety of any person on the campus and/or results in the destruction or defacing of property. Persons planning a demonstration should meet with the Dean of Students or
designee to discuss arrangements for the event. Participants in demonstrations are not permitted to act, aid, abet, or procure another person to engage in the following on College premises or at functions sponsored by, or participated in by the College:

- Gather in such a fashion as to physically hinder entrances to, exits from or passageways within any College facility, or to hinder the normal flow of pedestrian or vehicular traffic on or through the campus (site managers may restrict speech activity to a reasonable distance from any exit, entrance, staircase, parking lot or roadway to allow appropriate access/flow),
- Assemble so as to intentionally or recklessly obstruct or disrupt teaching, research, administration, disciplinary proceedings, College events or activities, including participation in a campus demonstration which disrupts the normal operations of the College,
- Create a volume of noise that prevents members of the College from carrying out their normal duties (especially disruption of teaching activities),
- Employ force or violence, or constitute an immediate threat of force or violence against persons or property,
- Otherwise violate the College Posting & Distribution Policy, or
- Fail to observe established closing hours of buildings.

Any person may request from the Dean of Students an interpretation of any provision of these regulations which he or she finds unclear or believes to have been misapplied. The Dean of Students may authorize speech activities which are determined not to cause disruption of campus activities despite a literal violation of these regulations. Persons in violation of these rules are subject to: institutional disciplinary proceedings, if a student or employee; an order to leave the immediate premises or property owned or controlled by the College issued by the Dean of Students or his/her designee; and persons failing to comply with such an order to leave or to remain off the immediate premises or property owned or controlled by the College are subject to arrest for criminal trespass.

I. Hazing Policy

Tusculum College is opposed to any and all forms of hazing under whatever name or form it may occur. Decisive action will be taken to prevent it in keeping with the following declared policy:

Any organization chartered or sanctioned by Tusculum College may have its right to function revoked if it is found responsible for hazing. Similarly, an individual found responsible of hazing may be separated from the College.

1. **Definition** - An **act of hazing** will include all conditions described by Tennessee statutes or any knowing, intentional or reckless act or behavior
for the purpose of pledging, being initiated into, affiliating with, holding
office in or maintaining membership in any group or organization,
whether such behavior is on campus or off campus, or by one person or in
concert with others, which, regardless of intent or consent of the
participants:
1) produces or is reasonably likely to produce, bodily harm or danger,
mental or physical discomfort, embarrassment, harassment, fright, stress,
humiliation, ridicule, fear of ostracism, or otherwise compromises the
dignity of an individual; 2) compels an individual to participate in any
activity which is unlawful and/or contrary to the rules, policies and
regulations of the College; or 3) will, unreasonably or unusually, impair an
individual's academic efforts.

2. Behavioral Concerns (As an aid to the organizations and groups on our
campus, the following illustrative, but not exhaustive list of "traditional"
pledging activities are deemed to be inappropriate by Tusculum College
[and may well be illegal]. If you are uncertain, you should not engage in
the activity without consulting in advance with the Office of Student
Affairs):

a. Paddling in any form, shoving or otherwise striking individuals, or
corporal punishment of any kind, or creating a fear of similar
behavior;

b. Compelling physically demanding activity of any kind including,
but not limited to, calisthenics, running, or other types of required
strenuous activity;

c. Compelling an individual to be shaved, branded, tattooed, pierced,
etc.;

d. Compelling physical acts, such as walking backwards or
confinement in a small space, which create the potential for
physical or mental injury;

e. Compelling individuals to engage in sexual behaviors, sexual or
racial harassment or slurs, or exhibitionism;

f. "Line-ups" in which pledges are verbally harassed, intimidated, or
abused;

g. Compelling an individual to engage in acts of personal servitude;

h. Compelling an individual to forego opportunity for sufficient
sleep, consumption of decent edible meals or access to or use of
personal hygiene;

i. Excluding an individual from social contact for prolonged periods
of time;
j. Compelling individuals to consume alcohol or drugs or any other substances (e.g. undue amounts or odd preparations of food or drink);

k. Having substances thrown at, poured on or otherwise applied to the bodies of individuals;

l. Compelling individuals to wear or carry unusual, uncomfortable, degrading/ provocative or physically burdensome articles or apparel; or causing an individual to be indecently exposed or exposed to the elements
(Note - The wearing of small pledge pins or small ribbons is allowed, however, any non-apparel items worn with the intent or effect of degradation, humiliation, or bringing undue attention to a pledge is not permitted);

m. Compelling individuals to participate in pranks or scavenger hunts
(Note - Scavenger Hunts may only be permitted upon prior written approval of the Dean of Students or his/her designee. Scavenger hunt items must be approved at least two weeks in advance and any lewd or inappropriate items will not be permitted. Furthermore, scavenger hunts will not be permissible at any time in the Residence Halls or Academic buildings or during academic hours [outside of College orientation programs]);

n. Engaging in activities which impair an individual's academic efforts by causing exhaustion, loss of sleep or reasonable study time, or by preventing an individual from attending class (e.g., late night or early morning house duties);

o. Transporting individuals against their will, abandoning individuals at distant locations, or conducting any "kidnap," "ditch" or "road trip" that may in any way endanger or compromise the health, safety or comfort of any individual;

3. Consent Is No Defense - Any of the activities described or reasonably related to above, upon which the initiation or admission into, or affiliation with, or continued membership in an organization, is directly conditioned, will be presumed to be "compelled activities," the willingness of an individual to participate notwithstanding.

4. Applicability of Community Standards - The terms and concepts cited in this policy will be interpreted by College boards or officials in relation to acceptable and applicable community standards.

5. Accountability Expectation - All membership-related activities must be approved by the president, chair or leader of the group and the adviser to
the group prior to the activity. The activity must not interfere with the rights and activities of others and will reflect the best interests of the members of the organization it represents as well as the College community as a whole.

6. **Enforcement** - The president, chair or leader of each group or student organization is responsible for informing the members (pledges, associate members, initiated members, affiliates, etc.) of the organization of the policy regarding hazing. It is suggested that the policy be read and distribute to each member of the organization during the first meeting of each semester.

The president, chair or leader of each group or student organization is responsible for informing guests and alumni members of this policy and is additionally responsible for controlling the actions of guests and alumni members relative to this policy. Officers of organizations violating hazing policies may be held individually, jointly, and severally responsible for the group's actions, in addition to whatever organization accountability may be established.

It is the responsibility of any and all individuals who have firsthand knowledge of the planning or actual occurrence of a hazing activity to promptly report said knowledge to the Dean of Students or his/her designee.

**J. Health Information Policy**

Although not a covered entity under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), the College is committed to implementing the best practices associated with privacy and security of health information for the protection of its students, faculty, and staff. Therefore, to safeguard the privacy of individuals, the College requires its faculty, staff, and students to apply the “minimum necessary” standard as described in HIPAA. The minimum necessary standard stipulates that the amount of individually identifiable health information used, obtained, or disclosed to others is restricted to the minimum amount necessary to achieve the specific purpose of that use, request, or disclosure.

**K. Information Systems Appropriate Use Policy**

Information technology (“IT”), encompasses a vast and growing array of computing and electronic communications facilities and services. These facilities and services provide the means for Tusculum College students, faculty and staff to meet their daily requirements in meeting the overall mission of the College.
Users of these IT resources have a responsibility not to abuse those resources and to respect the rights of the members of the community as well as the College itself.

This IT Appropriate Use Policy (the “Policy” or “AUP”) provides guidelines for the appropriate use of Tusculum College IT resources as well as for the College’s access to information about and oversight of these resources.

Most IT use parallels familiar activity in other media and formats, making existing College policies important in determining what use is appropriate. Using electronic mail (“email”) instead of standard written correspondence, for example, does not fundamentally alter the nature of the communication, nor does it alter the guiding policies.

College policies that already govern freedom of expression and related matters in the context of standard written expression govern electronic expression as well. This Policy addresses circumstances that are particular to the IT arena and is intended to augment but not to supersede other relevant College policies.

1. **Definitions** - The following definitions apply to the Tusculum College Appropriate Use Policy:

   a. **IT Systems** – These are the computers, terminals, phones, switches/hubs, printers, networks, modem banks, online and offline storage media and related equipment, software, and data files that are owned, managed, or maintained by students, faculty and staff of Tusculum College. For example, IT Systems include institutional and departmental information systems, faculty research systems, desktop computers, the College’s campus network, and College general access computer clusters.

   b. **Users** – A “User” is any person, whether authorized or not, who makes any use of any Tusculum College IT System from any location.

   c. **Systems Authority** – While Tusculum College is the legal owner or operator of all IT Systems, it sometimes delegates oversight of particular systems to other departments or to a specific individual. That department of individual would then be responsible and would have “Systems Authority” for that particular system.

   d. **Systems Administrator** – Systems Authorities may designate another person as “Systems Administrator” to manage the particular system assigned to him or her. Systems Administrators oversee the day-to-day operation of the system and are authorized to determine who is permitted access to particular IT resources.
2. **Purpose** - The purpose of this Policy is to ensure an information technology infrastructure that promotes the basic missions of the College in teaching, learning, research, and administration. In particular, this Policy aims to promote the following goals:

a. To ensure the integrity, reliability, availability, and superior performance of IT Systems;

b. To ensure that use of IT Systems is consistent with the principles and values that govern use of other College facilities and services;

c. To ensure that IT Systems are used for their intended purposes; and

d. To establish processes for addressing policy violations and sanctions for violators.

3. **Scope** – This Policy applies to all Users of IT Systems, including but not limited to College students, faculty, and staff. It applies to the use of all IT Systems. These include systems, networks, and facilities administered by the Tusculum College Department of Information Systems (TCDIS), as well as those administered by individual schools, departments, College laboratories, and other College-based entities. Use of IT Systems, even when carried out on a privately owned computer that is not managed or maintained by Tusculum College, is governed by this policy.

4. **Use of IT Systems** - Although this Policy sets forth the general parameters of appropriate use of IT Systems, faculty, students, and staff should consult their respective governing policy manuals for more detailed statements on permitted use and the extent of use that the College considers appropriate in light of their varying roles within the community. In the event of conflict between IT policies, this Appropriate Use Policy will prevail.

a. **Appropriate Use** – IT Systems may be used only for their authorized purposes — that is, to support the research, education, clinical, administrative, and other functions of Tusculum College. The particular purposes of any IT System as well as the nature and scope of
authorized, incidental personal use may vary according to the duties and responsibilities of the User.

b. Proper Authorization – Users are entitled to access only those elements of IT Systems that are consistent with their authorization.

c. Specific Proscriptions on Use – The following categories of use are inappropriate and prohibited:

1) Use that impedes, interferes with, impairs, or otherwise causes harm to the activities of others. Users must not deny or interfere with or attempt to deny or interfere with service to other users in any way, including by “resource hogging,” misusing mailing lists, propagating “chain letters” or virus hoaxes, “spamming” (spreading email or postings widely and without good purpose), or “bombing” (flooding an individual, group, or system with numerous or large email messages). Knowing or reckless distribution of unwanted mail or other unwanted messages is prohibited. Other behavior that may cause excessive network traffic or computing load is also prohibited.

2) Use that is inconsistent with Tusculum College’s non-profit status. The College is a non-profit, tax-exempt organization and, as such, is subject to specific federal, state, and local laws regarding sources of income, political activities, use of property, and similar matters. As a result, commercial use of IT Systems for non-College purposes is generally prohibited, except if specifically authorized and permitted under College conflict-of-interest, outside employment, and other related policies. Prohibited commercial use does not include communications and exchange of data that furthers the College’s educational, administrative, research, clinical, and other roles, regardless of whether it has an incidental financial or other benefit to an external organization. Use of IT Systems in a way that suggests College endorsement of any political candidate or ballot initiative is also prohibited. Users must refrain from using IT Systems for the purpose of lobbying that connotes College involvement, except for authorized lobbying through or in consultation with the College’s Administrative Offices.

3) Harassing or threatening use. This category includes, for example, display of offensive, sexual material in the workplace and repeated unwelcome contacts with another.

4) Use damaging the integrity of College or other IT Systems. This category includes, but is not limited to, the following six activities:

   i. Attempts to defeat system security. Users must not defeat or attempt to defeat any IT System’s security — for example, by “cracking” or guessing and applying the identification or
password of another User, or compromising room locks or alarm systems. (This provision does not prohibit, however, ITS or Systems Administrators from using security scan programs within the scope of their Systems Authority.)

ii. Unauthorized access or use. The College recognizes the importance of preserving the privacy of Users and data stored in IT systems. Users must honor this principle by neither seeking to obtain unauthorized access to IT Systems, nor permitting or assisting any others in doing the same. For example, a non-College organization or individual may not use non-public IT Systems without specific authorization. Privately owned computers may be used to provide public information resources, but such computers may not host sites or services for non-College organizations or individuals across the College network without specific authorization. Similarly, Users are prohibited from accessing or attempting to access data on IT Systems that they are not authorized to access. Furthermore, Users must not make or attempt to make any deliberate, unauthorized changes to data on an IT System. Users must not intercept or attempt to intercept or access data communications not intended for that user.

iii. Disguised use. Users must not conceal their identity when using IT Systems, except when the option of anonymous access is explicitly authorized. Users are also prohibited from masquerading as or impersonating others or otherwise using a false identity.

iv. Distributing computer viruses. Users must not knowingly distribute or launch computer viruses, worms, or other rogue programs.

v. Modification or removal of data or equipment. Without specific authorization, Users may not remove or modify any College-owned or administered equipment or data from IT Systems. This includes the loading of “pirated” software.

vi. Use of unauthorized devices. Without specific authorization, Users must not physically or electrically attach any additional device (such as an external disk, printer, or video system) to IT Systems.

5) Use in violation of law. Illegal use of IT Systems — that is, use in violation of civil or criminal law at the federal, state, or local levels — is prohibited. Examples of such uses are: promoting a pyramid scheme; distributing illegal obscenity; receiving, transmitting, or possessing child pornography; infringing copyrights; and making bomb threats. With respect to copyright infringement, Users should
be aware that copyright law governs (among other activities) the copying, display, and use of software and other works in digital form (text, sound, images, and other multimedia). The law permits use of copyrighted material without authorization from the copyright holder for some educational purposes (protecting certain classroom practices and “fair use,” for example), but an educational purpose does not automatically mean that the use is permitted without authorization.

6) Use in violation of College contracts. All use of IT Systems must be consistent with the College’s contractual obligations, including limitations defined in software and other licensing agreements.

7) Use in violation of College policy. Use in violation of other College policies also violates this AUP. Relevant College policies include, but are not limited to, those regarding sexual harassment and racial and ethnic harassment, as well as College, departmental, and work-unit policies and guidelines regarding incidental personal use of IT Systems.

8) Use in violation of external data network policies. Users must observe all applicable policies of external data networks when using such networks.

d. Free Inquiry and Expression – Users of IT Systems may exercise rights of free inquiry and expression consistent with the limits of the law.

e. Personal Account Responsibility – Users are responsible for maintaining the security of their own IT Systems accounts and passwords. Any User changes of password must follow published guidelines for passwords. Accounts and passwords are normally assigned to single Users and are not to be shared with any other person without authorization by the applicable Systems Administrator. Users are presumed to be responsible for any activity carried out under their IT Systems accounts or posted on their personal web pages.

f. Encryption of Data – Users are encouraged to encrypt files, documents, and messages for protection against inadvertent or unauthorized disclosure while in storage or in transit over data networks. Users encrypting information are encouraged to use only endorsed software and protocols. Users who elect not to use endorsed encryption software and protocols on IT Systems are expected to decrypt information upon official, authorized request. (See Section V, “Conditions of College Access,” below.) A staff member may only encrypt with the permission of his or her supervisor.
g. Responsibility for Content – Official College information may be published in a variety of electronic forms. The Certifying Authority under whose auspices the information is published is responsible for the content of the published document. Users also are able to publish information on IT Systems or over Tusculum College’s networks. Neither the College nor individual Systems Administrators can screen such privately published material nor can they ensure its accuracy or assume any responsibility for its content. The College will treat any electronic publication provided on or over IT Systems that lacks a Certifying Authority as the private speech of an individual user.

h. Personal Identification – Upon request by a Systems Administrator or other College authority, Users must produce valid College identification.

5. Computer Resources Code of Ethics

a. Ethical and Responsible Use – All Users of any institutionally maintained electronic data, data files, software, and networks are expected to handle the resource in a responsible and ethical manner. A User’s access to IT resources ceases when it invades the right of personal and/or institutional privacy; results in the destruction of personal and/or institutional property; demonstrates a potential for loss, embarrassment, litigation to the individual and/or institution; or causes a limited resource to be used in a wasteful or careless manner.

b. Confidentiality – All information processed through Computer Systems is considered sensitive and/or confidential. The responsibility for the release or discussion of data is assigned to the official custodian of the data file(s). Access to information is based on a legitimate “need to know” and directly related to assigned duties.

c. Examples of Irresponsible Use – The following examples attempt to convey the intent of irresponsible and/or unethical use: violation of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974; use of the resource for obscene material; deliberate wasteful use of the resource; unauthorized altering of hardware, software, or data; piracy of data or software belonging to another person; or careless use of the resource which may result in the release of restricted information.

6. Code for Computer Resource Use

a. Ethical and Responsible Use – Computer resources at Tusculum College are available to authorized students, faculty, staff and off-campus constituents. Access to these resources is obtained from the Systems Administrator and is granted with the understanding that they will be used as stated in the request and in keeping with the idea that
one’s interest ceases when it invades the right of personal and/or institutional privacy, results in the destruction of personal and/or institutional property, demonstrates a potential for loss, embarrassment, litigation to the individual and/or institution, or because of an otherwise irresponsible use of a limited resource. It is the policy of the office to avail these resources to as many users as possible and, to the extent possible, keep the number of restraints and restrictions on the individuals to a minimum with the ability to provide service to all who request use.

b. Ethical and Responsible Use – For such a policy to work, it is essential that users observe responsible and ethical behavior in the use of the resources. In an effort to assist the user community in effective use of the limited computer resources, it seems reasonable to highlight some specific responsibilities and type of behavior that represent abuse of a User’s privileges. The examples do not constitute a complete list but are intended to convey the intent of the code.

1) Users should not damage or attempt to damage equipment or to modify or attempt to modify equipment so that it does not function as originally intended. It is equally wrong to damage or modify or attempt to damage or modify the software components: operating system, compilers, utility routines, etc.

2) Users should not use or attempt to use an account without authorization from the owner of the account. Users have the responsibility of protecting their accounts through the proper use of passwords, but the fact that an account is unprotected does not imply permission for an unauthorized person to use it. Further, accounts are to be used only for the purposed for which they have been established. Additionally, it is wrong to use a college-sponsored account for funded research, personal business, or consulting activities. There are special accounts for such purposes.

3) Users should not use private files without authorization. Owners of such files should take precautions and use security mechanisms available. However, the fact that a file is not protected does not make it right for anyone to access it, unless it is specifically designated as a public access file. It is equally wrong for anyone to change or delete a file that belongs to anyone else without authorization. Violation or property rights and copyrights covering data, computer programs, and documentation is also wrong. In the event of accidental access of private files, confidentiality of those files must be maintained.

4) Any deliberate wasteful use of resources is irresponsible; it encroaches on others’ use of facilities and deprives them of
resources. Printing of large unnecessary listing and the playing of games solely for entertainment are examples of such abuse. Users are expected to be aware of the resources they are using and to make reasonable efforts to use these resources efficiently.

5) Administrators, faculty, staff of the Office of Computer Systems, and others in positions of trust within the Tusculum College community have a professional responsibility to insure that the equipment, software, and services provide the most efficient levels of support and consider the needs of the total user community. Such persons in positions of trust who misuse computing resources or take advantage of their positions to access data not required in the performance of their duties are displaying unprofessional behavior.

6) All state and federal copyright laws will be abided by at all times. Users must not copy any part of a copyrighted program or its documentation that would be in violation of the law or the licensing agreement without the written and specific permission of the copyright holder.

7. **Conditions of College Access** - The College places a high value on privacy and recognizes its critical importance in an academic setting. There are nonetheless circumstances in which, following carefully prescribed processes, the College may determine that certain broad concerns outweigh the value of a User’s expectation of privacy and warrant College access to relevant IT Systems without the consent of the User. Those circumstances are discussed below, together with the procedural safeguards established to ensure access is gained only when appropriate.

a. **Conditions** – In accordance with state and federal law, the College may access all aspects of IT Systems, without the consent of the User, in the following circumstances:

1) When necessary to identify or diagnose systems or security vulnerabilities and problems, or otherwise preserve the integrity of the IT Systems; or

2) When required by federal, state, or local law or administrative rules; or

3) When there are reasonable grounds to believe that a violation of law or a significant breach of College policy may have taken place and access and inspection or monitoring may produce evidence related to the misconduct; or
4) When such access to IT Systems is required to carry out essential business functions of the College; or

5) When required to preserve public health and safety

b. Process – Consistent with the privacy interests of Users, College access without the consent of the User will occur only with the approval of the Provost (for faculty users), the Provost/Vice Presidents (for staff users), the Dean of Students (for student users), except when an emergency entry is necessary to preserve the integrity of facilities or to preserve public health and safety. The College, through the Systems Administrators, will log all instances of access without consent. Systems Administrators will also log any emergency entry within their control for subsequent review by appropriate College authority. A User will be notified of College access to relevant IT Systems without consent, pursuant to Section V. A. (1-5); depending on the circumstances, such notification will occur before, during, or after the access, at the College’s discretion.

1) NOTICE TO USERS: It is the policy of Tusculum College to protect all institutional computing resources including, but not limited to, hardware and software, consisting of the actual equipment being supplied by the college as well as the programs and related materials used in conjunction therewith. In accordance with local, state, and federal law, indiscriminate examination of individual’s files is not permitted, nonetheless as a means of maintaining the integrity and security of those aforementioned resources.

2) Tusculum College retains the right to inspect accounts and files stored on any system owned, maintained and/or leased by said College. While no prior authorization by individual users is required to inspect those files and accounts, you are, by virtue of accepting the account offered by Tusculum College and “logging” on to its computing equipment, granting to the college prior unrestricted permission, subject to college policy, to review, examine and/or otherwise view, by any method a e sole discretion of the College and without any additional advance notice to said user, any account and/or file stored on college computer resources.

3) Should such a review take place, you will be given notice, as a courtesy only, of the results of said review within a reasonable time after the review is completed. While use of college computing resources for personal use is strictly forbidden, should you have materials for which you have reasonable expectation of privacy or which you consider to be confidential for any reason, you should retain those materials on a disk which can be secured as you would
any other personal items or materials which you consider private in nature.

c. User access deactivations – In addition to accessing the IT Systems, the College, through the appropriate Systems Administrator, may deactivate a User’s IT privileges, whether or not the User is suspected of any violation of this policy, when necessary to preserve the integrity of facilities, user services, or data. The Systems Administrator will attempt to notify the User of any such action.

Use of security scanning systems – By attaching privately owned personal computers or other IT resources to the College’s network, Users consent to College use of scanning programs for security purposes on those resources while attached to the network.

d. Logs – Most IT systems routinely log user actions in order to facilitate recovery from system malfunctions and for other management purposes. All Systems Administrators are required to establish and post policies and procedures concerning logging of User actions, including the extent of individually-identifiable data collection, data security, and data retention.

e. Encrypted material – Encrypted files, documents, and messages may be accessed by the College under the above guidelines.

8. Enforcement Procedures

a. Complaints of Alleged Violations – An individual who believes that he or she has been harmed by an alleged violation of this Policy may file a complaint in accordance with established College Grievance Procedures (including, where relevant, those procedures for filing complaints of sexual harassment or of racial or ethnic harassment) for students, faculty, and staff. The individual is also encouraged to report the alleged violation to the Systems Authority overseeing the facility most directly involved, or to the TCDIS, which must investigate the allegation and (if appropriate) refer the matter to College disciplinary and/or law enforcement authorities.

b. Reporting Observed Violations – If an individual has observed or otherwise is aware of a violation of this Policy, but has not been harmed by the alleged violation, he or she may report any evidence to the Systems Authority overseeing the facility most directly involved, or to the TCDIS, which must investigate the allegation and (if appropriate) refer the matter to College disciplinary and/or law enforcement authorities.
c. Disciplinary Procedures – Alleged violations of this policy will be pursued in accordance with the appropriate disciplinary procedures for faculty, staff, and students, as outlined in the Faculty Handbook, Staff Personnel Policies, various student regulations, and other applicable materials. Staff members who are members of College-recognized bargaining units will be disciplined for violations of this policy in accordance with the relevant disciplinary provisions set forth in the agreements covering their bargaining units.

d. Penalties – Individuals found to have violated this policy may be subject to penalties provided for in other College’s policies dealing with the underlying conduct. Violators may also face IT-specific penalties, including temporary or permanent reduction or elimination of some or all IT privileges. The appropriate penalties shall be determined by the applicable disciplinary authority in consultation with the Systems Administrator.

e. Legal Liability for Unlawful Use – In addition to College discipline, Users may be subject to criminal prosecution, civil liability, or both for unlawful use of any IT System.

f. Appeals – Users found in violation of this policy may appeal or request reconsideration of any imposed disciplinary action in accordance with the appeals provisions of the relevant disciplinary procedures.

9. Policy Development – This Policy may be periodically reviewed and modified by the TCDIS and IT staffs, who may consult with relevant College committees, faculty, students, and staff.

L. Pet Policy

PETS
Tusculum College only permits fish as pets on its campus. Under very limited circumstances students may have medical cause to require an emotional support animal (ESA) or a service animal.

ESAs & Service Animals (SAs)
This policy is to ensure that persons with disabilities who require the assistance or service or comfort animals as a reasonable accommodation, receive the benefit of the work or tasks performed by such animals. Outlined below is the policy and requirement concerning such animals and protocols and expectations of such animals.
DOCUMENTATION & REQUEST FOR ESA & SA

Students who require an ESA or Service Animal must present all required paperwork to The Office of Student Success (Student Affairs) to be reviewed by the ESA Committee no less than 30 days in advance of the start of the semester the service animal is due to arrive on campus. The student must first complete a Disability Information Release and Accommodation Request Form. This application should be submitted along with housing applications annually.

All requests will be reviewed on a case by case basis. These are reviewed to consider the need of the student weighed against the impact of the community. Tusculum College is not required to permit an SA or ESA where the animal proposes a significant disruption or threat to the health or safety of our campus, or when the animal constitutes a substantial programmatic alteration. Once the documentation is received, the ESA committee will meet to review the application and make a determination. The students conduct file will be reviewed for issues that may indicate concern for the student’s ability to control and care for an animal. The student must be able to provide ready access to training, food, supplies, and veterinary care for the animal. Upon the conclusion of this meeting and approval, the student will receive a notice in writing of the outcome of the decision. Students have the right to appeal the denial of a request within five business days to the Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs.

Approval is specific to the animal and is non-transferrable to another animal without an additional request to review application.

If the request is approved, we will make reasonable effort to notify other residents that an approved animal will be residing in the room. Any residents with medical conditions that may be affected by animals can contact Disability Services.

Definitions:

SERVICE ANIMALS- The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) defines a Service Animal (SA) as a dog trained to provide assistance to an individual with a disability, including a physical, sensory, psychiatric, intellectual, or other mental disability. (In rare cases, a miniature horse has also met the definition of a service animal.) Examples of such work or tasks include guiding people who are blind, alerting people who are deaf, alerting and protecting a person who has a seizure disorder, calming a person with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), etc. Service dogs are working animals, not pets. The work or task the animal has been trained to provide must be directly related to the person’s disability. Service dogs are generally allowed to assist their owners in residence halls, public buildings, and at events on campus provided certain conditions are met. Documentation Guidelines for
Service Animal Accommodation: When the need for a service animal is not readily apparent, students requesting the accommodation of a service animal have the responsibility of submitting documentation that meets the following guidelines:

- Documentation must be current, within the previous six months and should contain information that (a) the service animal is required due to the functional limitations of the requesting student’s disability and (b) specify what work or task the animal is trained to perform.
- Documentation must be current, dated within the previous six months and should contain verification of the individual’s disability from a qualified professional health provider such as a physician, psychiatrist, or licensed mental health professional.
- Documentation must be typed on official letterhead and must include the names, titles, and professional credentials of the evaluators.

In addition to failure to provide the above-referenced documentation where applicable, a request for Service Animal may be denied (or the animal removed if already approved) if:

- The animal is out of control and its handler does not take effective action to control it;
- The animal is not housebroken (i.e. trained so that, absent illness or accident, the animal controls its waste elimination);
- The requested animal (based on objective evidence) poses a direct threat to the health or safety of others that cannot be reduced or eliminated by a reasonable modification to policies or procedures (e.g. medical facilities, food preparation areas, mechanical rooms, etc.).

Upon approval, the Service Animal may accompany the student at all times, in any outdoor or indoor area of the Tusculum College campus, except where expressly prohibited. Due to sanitation concerns, Service Animals are prohibited from the Niswonger Commons kitchen facility and the food preparation area in the Meen Center.

**Emotional Support Animals (ESA):**

Emotional Support Animal (ESA) – An ESA (also referred to as Assistance, Therapy or Companion Animal) is an animal, trained or untrained, that has been recommended by a licensed healthcare or mental health professional to provide emotional support (i.e. well-being, comfort, companionship, or a crime deterrent effect) for an individual with a disability. These services do not constitute “work” or “tasks” and so these animals are not considered Service Animals.
Tusculum College may require information and documentation to determine whether the animal qualifies as an ESA.

- Documentation must be current (within the last six months) and from a licensed physician, psychiatrist, social worker, or other mental health professional.
- In addition to failure to provide the above-referenced documentation where applicable, a request for an ESA may be denied (or the animal removed if already approved) if:
  - Allowing the animal in the student’s residence would impose an undue financial and administrative burden or would fundamentally alter the nature of the housing provider’s services;
  - The requested animal (based on objective evidence) poses a direct threat to the health or safety of others that cannot be reduced or eliminated by another reasonable accommodation (e.g. medical facilities, food preparation areas, mechanical rooms, etc. which are clearly marked); or
  - The requested animal would cause (based on objective evidence) substantial physical damage to the property of others than cannot be reduced or eliminated by another reasonable accommodation.

Upon approval, the ESA may accompany the student in his or her dormitory room. A ESA is not permitted in any other area of the student’s residence hall, or in any other building on the Tusculum College campus.

**Records**

Upon approval of the request to use a Service or Comfort Animal, the student must provide the ARC and Student Affairs with the following:

- a photo of, and information about the animal for our file including
  - name,
  - type of animal (i.e. dog), and
  - description (e.g. color, weight, breed, etc.).

The student will be issued an identification card for the animal by Student Affairs.

Tusculum College reserves the right to request updated health records on demand. Health records will be maintained in the Office of Student Success with a copy in Disability Services.

**GENERAL GUIDELINES**

Safety and consideration for all residents in the living community will be considered in the approval of a SA/ESA.
- Dogs and cats must be at least 6 months in age and preferably at least a year old in order to minimize issues (ie noise, waste management, chewing, etc.) that impact other residents.
- No animal that is known to be potentially dangerous, venomous, or illegal will be allowed in residence halls.

Care for when Handler must be away from Residence:
- SAs and ESAs (other than cats) must be crated or caged inside the residence if the handler is away for a brief time.
- If the handler must be away for more than a reasonable amount of time, an alternate caregiver must be employed to take care of the animal, or the animal must be removed from campus.

Animal Behavior
Handlers are expected to ensure that the animal does not:
- Sniff people, dining tables, or the personal belongings of others
- Display any behaviors or noises that are disruptive to others, unless the behavior is part of the service provided to the handler.
- Block an aisle or passageway for emergency response egress.

Cleanliness:
- The student is responsible for the cleanliness, grooming, and health of the animal and must take responsibility for the proper disposal of all waste. Waste should be contained in sealed plastic bags and placed in designated trash receptacles.
- An SA/ESA must be clean and well groomed.
- Measures should be taken at all times for flea and odor control. If fleas, ticks, or other pests related to the animal are detected, the housing will be treated using approved fumigation methods. The owner may be billed for the expense of any pest treatment above and beyond normal required pest management.
- The behavior, noise, odor and waste of a service/assistance animal must not exceed reasonable standards and these factors must not create an unreasonable disruption to other residents or staff. Cleaning up after the animal and disposal of any waste is the responsibility of the handler. In the event that the handler is not physically able to clean up after the animal, it is then the responsibility of the handler to employ someone capable of cleaning up after the animal.

The person cleaning up after the animal should abide by the following guidelines:
- Always have equipment/supplies sufficient to clean up the animal’s feces (bags, litter, litter containers, etc).
- Properly dispose of waste and/or litter in designated containers.
- Contact staff if arrangements are needed to assist with cleanup. Any cost incurred for doing so is the responsibility of the handler.
Failure of the student to control or properly care for the animal could result in removal of the animal.

Inappropriate behavior on the part of the animal, i.e., excessive barking, destruction of property, not being house broken, and/or aggressive behavior, could result in the removal of the animal from campus. Handlers are held responsible for any property damage or personal injury. The animal may not interfere with the health and safety of other individuals, and cannot require a fundamental alteration to the nature of a program or service.

Concerns and Complaints
Any complaints against the student or animal will be reviewed by the Dean of Students Office. Conflicting Disabilities: Some individuals may have allergic reactions to animals that are substantial enough to qualify as disabilities. Tusculum will consider the needs of both persons in meeting its obligations to reasonably accommodate all disabilities and will work toward a mutual resolution. Students requesting allergy accommodations should contact the Office of Disability Services.

ESA Walking Areas
Tusculum College maintains two (2) designated areas where animals can eliminate waste. Area A is located at a portion of the Wetlands site near the existing gravel parking lot that is adjacent to the apartment buildings and the Facilities Management building, and on the West side by Gilland Road. Area B is located at the southern edge of campus and is bounded on the Northeast side by the Indoor Practice Facility access road, bounded on the on the South and Southwest sides by the Tusculum College/Walker property lines and bounded on the North side by a 40 foot buffer measured from the edge of Shiloh Road. Please refer to the attached map. All waste must be picked up and disposed of in a plastic bag in the trash can located in the designated area. Plastic bags will not be provided by Tusculum College and so the student is responsible for carrying bags for waste disposal.

• Any damage to persons or Tusculum College property (e.g. furniture, carpet, wall coverings, pest treatment, etc.) caused by the animal.
• Compliance with all state and local laws related to licensing, vaccination and control.

If the student’s disability prevents the ability to perform any of these obligations, the student must notify the ARC at the time of requesting the Service or Comfort Animal.

Campus Safety has the authority to enforce these obligations. Campus Safety may require documentation that the animal has been approved by ARC. Students who cannot provide such documentation upon request will have 72 hours within which to provide verification to Campus Safety that his/her
animal is a Service or ESA. A student permitted to utilize a Service or ESA must sign an Acknowledgement of Responsibilities, acknowledging the above-reference responsibilities. Violation of any of these obligations will be considered a violation of Tusculum College’s Student Code of Conduct, and may result in removal of the animal from Tusculum College premises and disciplinary action (i.e. from fines to suspension depending on the circumstances).

Violations of Pet Policy
When a student is found with an unregistered pet on campus the following sanctions may occur:

- First offense- $500 fine, immediate removal of animal;
- Second offense- $650 fine, immediate removal of animal;
- Third offense- $1000 fine, loss of housing privileges.

Any student who claims their pet is “in the process” of becoming an ESA is also subject to these sanctions as their pet is NOT an ESA and the 30 day review period was not followed.

When a student has an animal in their care (registered or unregistered) and is found neglectful of the animals maintenance or behavior the following sanctions may occur in addition to the standard pet policy violation. These behaviors include, but are not limited to: running off leash, failure to clean up waste, damaging property, aggressive behavior, disruptive pet behavior. then the following sanctions may occur along with costs of any repairs incurred:

- First offense- $150 fine, immediate removal of unregistered animal; referral to Peer Judicial Board for owners of registered ESAs.
- Second offense- $300 fine, immediate removal of unregistered animal; referral to Community Judicial Board for owners of registered ESAs.
- Third offense- $600 fine, immediate removal of unregistered animal; referral to Community Judicial Board for owners of registered ESAs.

EMPLOYEES
Employees and students are not permitted to bring their pets to work / school. Very limited exceptions may exist for employees requiring a Service Animal (see Employee Handbook Policy 10.03 — Disabilities and Reasonable Accommodations. Please note Emotional Support Animals (ESAs) are NOT service animals and are NOT permitted for employees)
PETS VISITING CAMPUS (by non-students)

In rare instances a community member, faculty or staff member brings their pet to campus after normal work hours, the College does permit community pet to walk their pets on campus as set forth below. Animals are not permitted outside these designated areas or inside any Tusculum College building. In an effort to better maintain the campus, pet owners are required to keep their animals within the confines of one of the two (2) designated pet areas on campus (see map below).

Should you choose to bring your pet on campus, the following rules will apply:

- Pets must have up-to-date vaccinations and flea/tick protection.
- Pets must be leashed at all times. Animals must not be permitted to initiate contact with anyone other than the owner, or engage in disruptive or aggressive behavior (e.g. sniffing, jumping up, rubbing, barking, growling, etc.).
- As an owner, it is your responsibility to clean up the animal’s waste. All waste must be picked up and disposed of in a plastic bag in the trash can located in the designated area. Plastic bags will not be provided by Tusculum College – the owner is responsible for carrying bags for waste disposal.

By bringing your pet on campus, you agree that any damage caused by the animal to other individuals or the College’s property is the sole responsibility of you as the pet owner. Campus Safety has the authority to enforce these rules. Failure to abide by these rules will result in fines and/or removal of the animal from campus.

Having a pet-friendly campus and keeping the grounds in good shape is a community effort. If you notice other pet owners who are not following these rules, please report the violation(s) to Campus Safety at 423-636-7318.

The areas shown in red on this map indicate locations that could be designated as exercise areas for dogs on the Tusculum College campus. These areas are a mix of open flat land and wooded terrain that would permit a wide range of exercise opportunities. Those areas are remote from high population density portions of campus to help minimize contact between the animals and the general campus population.

Area A is located at a portion of the Wetlands site that is bounded on the north side by the existing gravel parking lot that is adjacent to the apartment buildings and the Facilities Management building, bounded on the west side by Guild Road, and bounded on the east and south sides by the walking path of the Wetlands area.

Area B is located at the southern edge of campus and is bounded on the northeast side by the Indoor Practice Facility access road, bounded on the south and southwest sides by the Tusculum College/Walker property lines, and bounded on the north side by a 50-foot buffer measured from the edge of Slifth Road.
Should you choose to bring your pet on campus, the following rules will apply:

- Pets must have up-to-date vaccinations and flea/tick protection.
- Pets must be leashed at all times. Animals must not be permitted to initiate contact with anyone other than the owner, or engage in disruptive or aggressive behavior (e.g. sniffing, jumping up, rubbing, barking, growling, etc.).
- As an owner, it is your responsibility to clean up the animal’s waste. All waste must be picked up and disposed of in a plastic bag in the trash can located in the designated area. Plastic bags will not be provided by Tusculum College – the owner is responsible for carrying bags for waste disposal.

By bringing your pet on campus, you agree that any damage caused by the animal to other individuals or the College’s property is the sole responsibility of you as the pet owner. Campus Safety has the authority to enforce these rules. Failure to abide by these rules will result in fines and/or removal of the animal from campus.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Violation Type</th>
<th>Sanction</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First Violation</td>
<td>Warning/Removal from campus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second Violation</td>
<td>$75 fine/Removal from campus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Third Violation</td>
<td>$150 fine/Removal from and prohibition from campus</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Having a pet-friendly campus and keeping the grounds in good shape is a community effort. If you notice other pet owners who are not following these rules, please report the violation(s) to Campus Safety at 423-636-7318.

**M. Support Services for Individuals with Disabilities**

Tusculum College does not discriminate on the basis of disability in admission, employment or access to educational services. It is the policy of the College to comply with all applicable federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination. Tusculum College will make available to qualified students with documented disabilities those reasonable accommodations and/or services as are necessary to provide unrestricted access to the College’s educational programs, activities, services, facilities, etc. The process for requesting such accommodations is described below.

Requests for accommodation and/or questions regarding accommodations, should be directed to the Academic Resource Center (ARC) located in the Annie Hogan Byrd Fine Arts Building. Requests for accommodation will be reviewed on a case by case basis. The office will assess the request for accommodation, approve it if appropriate, and assist the student in working with the faculty/staff to secure and/or implement the approved accommodation.
Procedure for Requesting Accommodations

Students with disabilities who experience or anticipate barriers to their participation in Tusculum College’s educational programs, activities, services, facilities, etc., are encouraged to request an accommodation. The accommodation should be requested as soon as possible so that there is no delay in the student’s participation. The following procedure must be followed:

1. Complete the Application for Disability Accommodations. The form may be obtained by visiting or calling the Academic Resource Center located in Annie Hogan Byrd Fine Arts Building, Room 113. Include a letter stating your disability and how it impacts your learning and/or daily activities. Please be specific in describing your difficulties and what accommodations have helped you in the past to learn course material and/or complete daily activities. All information provided will be kept confidential in accordance with applicable federal and state laws.

2. Provide documentation of your disability and need for accommodation.

   Learning Disabilities – A current (within the last three years) evaluation administered by a licensed and/or certified professional (i.e., physician, psychologist, school psychologist, neurophysiologist, education diagnostician, or student clinicians who are being supervised by a qualified professional) having direct experience with adolescents and adults with learning disabilities, is required. The documentation must clearly state that the student has a disability that substantially limits some major life activity, including learning, and should provide objective evidence to support that diagnosis. Preferable tests are WAIS-R and the WOODCOCK-JOHNSON. The submitted test must include the sub-scores and recommendations from the professional who administered the test. Rationale for each recommended accommodation must be included in the documentation. This information provides the Disabilities Review Committee with accurate information regarding your learning needs.

   Other (i.e. Environmental) Disabilities – A current (within the last three years) evaluation administered by a licensed and/or certified professional (i.e., physician, psychologist, school psychologist, neurophysiologist, education diagnostician, or student clinicians who are being supervised by a qualified professional) is required. The documentation must clearly state that the student has a disability that substantially limits some major life activity, and should provide objective evidence to support that diagnosis. The documentation should include recommendations from the professional with regard to appropriate accommodation(s), and the rationale for each recommended accommodation. This information
provides the Disabilities Review Committee with accurate information regarding your learning needs.

Service or Comfort Animals – See Guidelines Below

3. Meet with Academic Resource Counselor. After receipt of the request for accommodation, the Academic Resource Counselor will meet with the student to discuss the request and the need for accommodation. The Academic Resource Counselor will continue to work with the student throughout the process of obtaining and maintaining the accommodation.

4. Review of Request. The request for accommodation will be reviewed and a determination made with regard to what, if any, accommodation will be granted. In the event additional information or documentation is required, an ARC counselor will notify the student as quickly as possible. The College reserves the right to request reassessment of the student’s disability if questions arise regarding previous assessment or provision of services or accommodations or when the student requests additional services or accommodations above and beyond what has been previously provided to the student.

5. Notification of Accommodations letter. The student will receive a Notification of Accommodations letter stating the accommodations, if any, for which the student has been approved. Any questions regarding the determination should be directed to the ARC.

6. Communication with Professors. Within the first three days of class, the student must initiate and maintain contact with his or her professors to discuss classroom accommodation needs. The student must obtain the professor’s signature on the Notification of Accommodation letter.

7. Maintain contact with ARC. The student should maintain ongoing contact with the ARC counselor throughout the academic year to keep the office informed of his or her progress, need for modification of the accommodation, assistance in working with faculty, etc.

8. Renew request for accommodation. The approval of a request for accommodation is valid for the academic year. You must submit a new request for accommodation at the beginning of each academic year following the process set forth above.

Additional Guidelines for the Request for and Use of Service or Comfort Animals

As a general rule, pets are not permitted inside any campus building. Recognizing the importance of Service and Comfort Animals to individuals with disabilities, an exception is made for those animals to facilitate equal
access to Tusculum College’s educational program, activities, services, facilities, etc.

A student requesting use of a Service or Comfort Animal must follow the procedure set forth above. A request for a Service or Comfort Animal should be made prior to the beginning of classes and/or moving into the residence hall to allow Tusculum College to properly accommodate the student. Below is information regarding the necessary documentation to support requests for a Service or Comfort Animal, as well as Tusculum College’s expectations regarding the student’s responsibilities in the utilization of such animal.

**Service Animal** – A Service Animal is a dog (or under certain circumstances a miniature pony) that is individually trained to perform work or tasks for the benefit of an individual with a disability, including a physical, sensory, psychiatric, intellectual or other mental disability. Examples include guiding people who are blind, alerting people who are deaf, pulling a wheelchair, providing physical support and assistance with balance to individuals with mobility impairments, alerting and protecting a person who is having a seizure, reminding a person to take prescribed medications, calming a person with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) during an anxiety attack, or performing other duties. The work or task a service animal has been trained to provide must be directly related to the person’s disability.

A Service Animal does not have to be licensed or certified. However, the student must disclose (1) whether the service animal is required because of a disability, and (2) what work or task the animal is trained to perform. Where it is not readily apparent that the animal is a Service Animal, Tusculum College may require sufficient information and documentation to determine whether the animal qualifies as a Service Animal. Such documentation must be current (within the last three years) and from a licensed physician or mental health provider. It must allow Tusculum College to determine that the individual has a disability for which the animal is needed, and how the assistance provided by the animal relates to the individual’s disability.

In addition to failure to provide the above-referenced documentation where applicable, a request for Service Animal may be denied (or the animal removed if already approved) if:

- The animal is out of control and its handler does not take effective action to control it;
- The animal is not housebroken (i.e. trained so that, absent illness or accident, the animal controls its waste elimination);
- The requested animal (based on objective evidence) poses a direct threat to the health or safety of others that cannot be reduced or eliminated by a reasonable modification to policies or procedures (e.g. medical facilities, food preparation areas, mechanical rooms, etc.).
Upon approval, the Service Animal may accompany the student at all times, in any outdoor or indoor area of the Tusculum College campus, except where expressly prohibited. Due to sanitation concerns, Service Animals are prohibited from the Niswonger Commons kitchen facility and the food preparation area in the Meen Center.

**Comfort Animal** – A Comfort Animal (also referred to as Assistance, Therapy or Companion Animal) is an animal, trained or untrained, that has been recommended by a healthcare or mental health professional to provide emotional support (i.e. well-being, comfort, companionship, or a crime deterrent effect) for an individual with a disability. These services do not constitute “work” or “tasks” and so these animals are not considered Service Animals.

Where it is not readily apparent that the animal is a Comfort Animal, Tusculum College may require sufficient information and documentation to determine whether the animal qualifies as a Comfort Animal. Such documentation must be current (within the last three years) and from a licensed physician or mental health provider. It must allow Tusculum College to determine that the individual has a disability for which the animal is needed and what assistance the animal provides to alleviate at least one symptom of the disability.

In addition to failure to provide the above-referenced documentation where applicable, a request for Comfort Animal may be denied (or the animal removed if already approved) if:

- Allowing the animal in the student’s residence would impose an undue financial and administrative burden or would fundamentally alter the nature of the housing provider’s services;
- The requested animal (based on objective evidence) poses a direct threat to the health or safety of others that cannot be reduced or eliminated by another reasonable accommodation (e.g. medical facilities, food preparation areas, mechanical rooms, etc. which are clearly marked); or
- The requested animal would cause (based on objective evidence) substantial physical damage to the property of others than cannot be reduced or eliminated by another reasonable accommodation.

Upon approval, the Comfort Animal may accompany the student in his or her dormitory room. A Comfort Animal is not permitted in any other area of the student’s residence hall, or in any other building on the Tusculum College campus.

**Records** – Upon approval of the request to use a Service or Comfort Animal, the student must provide the ARC and Student Affairs with a photo of, and information about, the animal for our file. Such information must include name, type of animal (i.e. dog), and description (e.g. color, weight, breed,
etc.). The student will be issued an identification card for the animal by Student Affairs.

The student must also provide current (within the past year) documentation from a licensed veterinarian stating that the animal is in good health and has been immunized against diseases common to that type of animal. This documentation should be submitted prior to the move-in date each year. Tusculum College reserves the right to request updated health records on demand. Health records will be maintained in the Student Affairs office, with a copy in ARC.

**Owner Responsibilities** – A student utilizing a Service or Comfort Animal, is solely responsible for the animal, including the following:

- The care and well-being of the animal (i.e. feeding, grooming, flea and tick protection, health, vaccinations). Tusculum College may require the animal to be removed from the premises for excessive odor, until the student takes steps to eliminate the odor.
- Confinement of the animal (i.e. in an appropriate sized crate) when the student is not present. This is primarily so that housing personnel may safely enter the room when necessary.
- Maintaining full control of the animal at all times. The animal must be leashed at all times unless the student’s disability prevents this (which must be reported to ARC at the time of requesting use of the animal). The animal must not be permitted to initiate contact with anyone other than the student, or engage in disruptive or aggressive behavior (e.g. sniffing, jumping up, rubbing, blocking passageway, barking, growling, etc.). If the animal engages in this behavior, the student must use proper training techniques to immediately correct the behavior. Tusculum College may require the animal to be removed from the premises if the behavior is not effectively controlled, and bar the animal until significant steps (e.g. additional training) are taken to mitigate the behavior.
- Cleaning up the animal’s waste. Tusculum College maintains two (2) designated areas where animals can eliminate waste. **Area A** is located at a portion of the Wetlands site that is bounded on the North by the existing gravel parking lot that is adjacent to the apartment buildings and the Facilities Management building, bounded on the West side by Gilland Road, and bounded on the East and South sides by the walking path of the Wetlands area. **Area B** is located at the southern edge of campus and is bounded on the Northeast side by the Indoor Practice Facility access road, bounded on the on the South and Southwest sides by the Tusculum College/Walker property lines and bounded on the North side by a 40 foot buffer measured from the edge of Shiloh Road. Please refer to the attached map. All waste must be picked up and disposed of in a plastic bag in the trash can located in the designated area. Plastic bags will not be provided by Tusculum College and so the student is responsible for carrying bags for waste disposal.
• Any damage to persons or Tusculum College property (e.g. furniture, carpet, wall coverings, pest treatment, etc.) caused by the animal.
• Compliance with all state and local laws related to licensing, vaccination and control. The student is responsible for being familiar with such laws.

If the student’s disability prevents the ability to perform any of these obligations, the student must notify the ARC at the time of requesting the Service or Comfort Animal.

Campus Safety has the authority to enforce these obligations. Campus Safety may require documentation that the animal has been approved by ARC. Students who cannot provide such documentation upon request will have 72 hours within which to provide verification to Campus Safety that his/her animal is a Service or Comfort Animal.

A student permitted to utilize a Service or Comfort Animal must sign an Acknowledgement of Responsibilities, acknowledging the above-reference responsibilities. Violation of any of these obligations will be considered a violation of Tusculum College’s Student Code of Conduct, and may result in removal of the animal from Tusculum College premises and disciplinary action (i.e. from fines to suspension depending on the circumstances). Please see the Tusculum College Pet Policy for more information regarding fines and noncompliance.

**Conduct of Other Members of the Tusculum College Community**

Members of the general Tusculum College Community should respect the privacy of an individual and not ask about his or her disability. In addition, please remember that Service or Comfort Animals are not pets. They should not be petted, fed, startled, teased, or separated from the owner / handler. Violation of this policy may result in disciplinary action. For questions about Service or Comfort Animals, contact ARC located in the Annie Hogan Byrd Fine Arts Building.

Should you become aware of violations of this policy, please report the violations to Campus Safety.

**Appeal of a Denial of a Request for Accommodation**

A student must appeal a denial of a request for accommodation in writing to the Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs, within ten (10) business days of notification of the denial. The appeal must contain a detailed description of the basis for the student’s appeal. The appeal will be reviewed by a committee consisting of: the Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs, the Dean of Students and the Director of Personnel Services. The decision of the committee is final.

**Grievance Procedure for Student with Disabilities**
All grievances concerning any aspect of the services or accommodations provided to a student with a disability, except an appeal of denial of an accommodation, should be brought to Academic Resource Counselor, Bobbie Greenway, within ten (10) business days of the incident resulting in the grievance. After consultation with the Academic Resource Counselor, if the student feels the matter is not resolved, the student must submit a written complaint to the Assistant Vice President of Academic Affairs. The grievance must contain a detailed description of the basis for the student’s complaint. The grievance will be reviewed by a committee consisting of: the Academic Resource Counselor, the Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs and the Dean of Students. The decision of the committee is final.

N. Intellectual Property Policy

Tusculum College, like other universities and colleges, has endeavored to create an academic and community environment conducive to the provision of public service and the creation of new information through the development by faculty and learners of many types of Intellectual Property (IP). In support of this environment a policy addressing “ownership of materials, compensation, copyright issues, and the use of revenue derived from the creation and production of all intellectual property” applies to all members of the Tusculum College community and can be found on the Tusculum College website under Resources/ Human Resources/ Human Resources Policies/ Employee Relations – Intellectual Property.

O. Military Deployment Policy

1. Members of the United States military, including reserve forces, may be eligible for a military leave of absence. This policy follows the guidelines established in the HEROES Act of 2003 in determining appropriate accommodations for military service members who are responding to a war, national emergency, or other military operation.

2. In accordance with the HEROES Act, a student who, experiences a disruption in their program due to active military service:

   a. Students who are granted a military leave of absence will be given the option of withdrawing from all their courses, resulting in a grade of Withdrawal (“W”) for each course, or requesting an Incomplete (“I”) grade for any courses in which they were registered when granted the leave. Students who withdraw from their courses as a result of active military service will be given the option of a tuition credit or appropriate refund for the courses they were unable to complete. Students who request an “I” grade must get approval from all their course instructors and be able to complete the required assignments independently, outside of the classroom. Students who request an “I” grade are not issued a tuition credit.
1) Students who are granted a military leave of absence are not required to meet financial obligations to Tusculum while on leave.
2) Time spent on a military leave of absence does not count toward the student’s maximum time to degree completion.

3) Tusculum will provide flexibility and accommodations for administrative deadlines for students on a military leave of absence.

4) “W” grades do not impact a student’s GPA or course completion ratio.

b. Students must coordinate the military leave of absence process through their Professional Academic Advisor and/or the Registrar.

3. Requesting a Military Leave of Absence

a. To request a formal military leave of absence, students must complete and submit the Military Leave of Absence Request Form (obtained from their Professional Academic Advisor and/or Registrar) and the required documentation prior to the start of their military leave. Students must indicate the beginning date of the leave of absence and the anticipated date of return. Students can also request a military leave of absence by calling and/or emailing their Professional Academic Advisor and/or Registrar.

Students must also submit one of the following pieces of documentation to their Professional Academic Advisor and/or Registrar at their earliest convenience:

1) Deployment or mobilization orders, including dates the student will be affected.

2) An official letter from a commanding officer, including dates the student will be affected.

b. Upon receipt of the request, the Registrar will review the request, issue a decision, and notify the student via email.

c. If the student is granted a military leave of absence, Tusculum will report their leave status to the National Student Clearinghouse.

4. Returning from a Military Leave of Absence
a. Their Professional Academic Advisor and/or Registrar will track students’ anticipated dates of return and contact them before they resume their program.

b. Upon returning from a military leave of absence, students are responsible for requesting their return from a military leave of absence by calling and/or emailing their Professional Academic Advisor and/or Registrar.

c. The Professional Academic Advisor and/or Registrar will work with students to determine the next steps for resuming their program.

d. Students returning from a military leave of absence may resume courses only at the beginning of a block.

P. Military Spouse Leave of Absence

1. Criteria

   a. Spouses of members of the United States military, including reserve forces, may be eligible for a military spouse leave of absence. To qualify for a military spouse leave of absence a student must be legally married to the military service member.

   b. Tusculum College provides the following accommodations to students who experience a disruption in their program due to active military service of a spouse:

      1) Students who are granted a military spouse leave of absence will be given the option of withdrawing from all their courses, resulting in a grade of Withdrawn (“W”) for each course, or requesting an Incomplete (“I”) grade for all courses in which they were registered when granted the leave. Students who withdraw from their courses as a result of a military spouse leave of absence will be given the option of a tuition credit or appropriate refund for the courses they were unable to complete. Students who request an “I” grade must get approval from their course instructor and be able to complete the required assignments independently, outside of the classroom. Students who request an “I” grade are not issued a tuition credit.

      2) Students who are granted a military spouse leave of absence are not required to meet financial obligations to Tusculum while on leave.

      3) Time spent during a military spouse leave of absence does not count toward the student’s maximum time to degree completion.
c. Students must coordinate the military spouse leave of absence process through their Professional Academic Advisor and/or Registrar.

2. Requesting a Military Spouse Leave of Absence

a. To request a military spouse leave of absence, students must complete and submit the Military Spouse Leave of Absence Request Form from their Professional Academic Advisor and/or Registrar. Students must indicate the reason for their request, the beginning date of the leave of absence, and the anticipated date of return. Students may also submit the request by calling and/or emailing their Professional Academic Advisor and/or Registrar.

b. Students must also submit one of the following pieces of documentation to their Professional Academic Advisor and/or Registrar at their earliest convenience:

1) Deployment or mobilization orders for the service member, including dates the student will be affected.

2) An official letter from the service member’s commanding officer, including dates the student will be affected.

3) Additional documentation upon request.

c. Upon receipt of the request, the Registrar will review the request, issue a decision, and notify the student via email.

d. If the student is granted a military spouse leave of absence, Tusculum will report their leave status to the National Student Clearinghouse.

e. Students normally request a military spouse leave of absence for no more than two consecutive semesters, or 180 total days in any 12-month period. Financial aid recipients should check with the Financial Aid Office a federal guidelines do not allow for more than 180 day leave of absence without impacting financial aid.

3. Returning from a Military Spouse Leave of Absence

a. The Professional Academic Advisor and/or Registrar will track students’ anticipated dates of return and contact them before they resume their program.

b. Upon returning from a military spouse leave of absence, students are responsible for completing and submitting the Returning from a Military Spouse Leave of Absence Form (obtained from the Registrar).
Students can also request their return by calling and/or emailing their Professional Academic Advisor and/or Registrar.

c. Their Professional Academic Advisor and/or Registrar will work with students to determine the next steps for resuming their program.

d. Students returning from a military spouse leave of absence may resume courses only at the beginning of a block.

**Q. Motor Vehicle Operation and Parking Policy**

The regulations and procedures authorized by the College and enforced by the Campus Safety personnel regarding the use of motor vehicles on Tusculum College residential property are distributed with vehicle registration stickers, and may also be obtained from the Campus Safety Office.

**R. Non-Discrimination Statement**

In compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 and the Age Discrimination Act of 1975 as amended, and with its own policies and philosophy, Tusculum College does not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, age, sex, national origin, sexual orientation, military or veteran status, disability, genetic information, or any other protected discriminatory factor, in its employment practices or in the provision of, or access to, educational programs and services, except where sex, age, or ability represent bona fide educational or employment qualifications.

Students should contact the Director of Personnel Services (ext 5345/McCormick Hall Room 4) with questions or concerns regarding this policy, or with any complaints of discrimination in violation of this policy. Students may also contact the Dean of Students (ext 5493, emergency cell phone number - 423/470-2919, Niswonger Commons Room 225), who serves as the Tusculum College Title IX Coordinator, with any Title IX questions or concerns.

For complaints/grievances relating to Students with Disabilities, Sexual and Other Discriminatory Harassment, and disciplinary action or academic-related decisions not involving alleged discrimination, see the applicable policies covering those topics for the applicable procedure.

**S. Organizations Policy**

1. **General Statement of Purpose**

   The College recognizes (1) the importance of organized student activities as an integral part of the total educational program of the College; (2) that
college learning experiences are enriched by student organizational activity; and (3) that organizations provide a framework for students within which they may develop their own special talents and interests.

Inherent in the relationship between the College and organized student groups is the understanding that the purposes and activities of such groups should be consistent with the main objectives of the College. All student groups are to comply with the procedures and policies regarding registration and operation.

2. Procedure for Registration of New Organizations

a. Permanent Organizations

The group will file an application including its name, statement of purpose, constitution or statement regarding its method of operation, faculty/staff advisor, and the names of its officers or contact persons to the Student Government Association. In cases where a potential faculty/staff advisor is unknown to the group, Student Affairs staff will assist in identifying a College faculty or staff member who may wish to serve as an advisor (organizations are required to have a faculty/staff advisor).

Students may form new organizations by completing an application and submitting it along with an organizational constitution to the Student Government Association. The Student Government Association will meet, review the application and make a determination on the recommendation of the status of the prospective organization to be ratified by the Dean of Students. Organizations not recommended for recognition by the Student Government Association may request a written statement as to the grounds for such lack of endorsement and after responding to questions raised through a second review, the group may appeal to the Dean of Students.

Organizations chartered by the Student Government Association are eligible to petition the Student Government Association for funding and to participate in the annual Student Organization Fair. Assistance in developing new organizations is available in the Office of Student Affairs. New organizations will be given information on how to make purchases, plan and sponsor activities and petition Student Government Association for funding. Should the group not have elected its officers or completed other work connected with its formation at the time they initially see the Student Affairs staff, the Student Affairs staff will make arrangements for them to use College facilities for organizational purposes on a meeting-to-meeting basis until the organizational process is completed and the required information can be filed.
At the time of filing, three officers or contact persons for the organization will sign a statement indicating that they are familiar with and will abide by the aforementioned responsibilities of student organizations. They will also sign the “Annual Statement of Commitment to College Principles” required of all student organizations.

Having ascertained that the group's purpose appears lawful, capable of operating within College regulations, has submitted the required forms and disclaimers, and the group appears to promote/support the mission and goals of the institution, the Student Affairs Advisor to the Student Government Association will endorse the application for a charter to the Dean of Students. Upon approval by the Dean of Students, appropriate College personnel will be notified that the group is then eligible for all of the rights of student organizations and the Student Government Association will be informed that the group may be eligible for student fee funding as per the procedures of the Student Government Association.

Should the Student Affairs Advisor to the Student Government Association feel that the organization does not meet the requirements for registration, a written copy of the decision and reasons will be furnished to the applying organization. The group may seek to satisfy the concerns or appeal the decision to the Dean of Students whose decision on the matter will be final.

b. Registration for a Limited Purpose: Temporary Status
In some cases, groups will organize with some short-term (one which can be accomplished in less than one academic year) goal in mind such as the passage of some particular piece of legislation or the holding of some particular event. The organization's structure will expire on the date indicated on the registration form.

c. Membership Regulations
Registered student organizations have freedom of choice in the selection of members, provided that there is no discrimination on the basis of race, religion, age, sex, national origin, sexual orientation, military or veteran status, disability, or genetic information (except that a waiver of this section may be granted by the Dean of Students if membership restriction is necessary to achieve the stated lawful purpose of the organization – though the group may still be ineligible for funding by the Student Government Association due to their exclusive/restrictive status).

Membership in registered student organizations is restricted to currently enrolled College students, faculty, and staff.
d. Officers Regulations

Student organizations are free to set qualifications and procedures for election and holding office, with the following provisions:

- All officers must be regular members of the organization;
- There is no discrimination on the basis of race, religion, age, sex, national origin, sexual orientation, military or veteran status, disability, or genetic information (except where the organizations lawful and College recognized purpose supports such restriction); and
- Persons not currently enrolled at the College may not hold office or direct organizational activities.

e. Records

All registered student organizations must maintain the following records in the Office of Student Affairs:

- An organizational information form listing the current officers and faculty/staff advisor (if applicable) is due at the beginning of each school year. Any changes during the year, other than membership, are to be recorded within 10 days with the Office of Student Affairs;
- Membership rosters are to be provided at the beginning of each semester; and
- A copy of the organization’s current constitution, or statement of purpose and statement regarding its method of operation, is to be filed with the Office of Student Affairs.

3. Rights and Responsibilities of Registered Student Organizations

Registered student organizations exist on the College campus on the assumption that their activities and programs contribute to the educational, civic and social development of the students involved. Registration of a campus organization does not imply College sanction of the organization or its activities. Registration is simply a charter to exist on the College campus and may be withdrawn by the College if the organization is found in violation of any federal, state or local laws, or College regulation or policy.

a. Use of the College’s Name

Organizations may not use the name of the College or an abbreviation of the name of the College as part of its name, except to designate location or chapter, nor advertise or promote events in a manner which suggests that the function is sponsored or sanctioned by the College unless the event is formally cosponsored with an administrative or academic unit of the College.

b. Rights
Registered Student Organizations may:

- Use general College facilities subject to compliance with pertinent regulations (e.g. receiving approval for off-campus speakers, performers or presenters from Student Affairs), proper scheduling procedures, and the prior needs of the College itself.
- Distribute literature approved by Student Affairs relating to the organization's purpose and activities in those areas authorized by the current posting and handbill policies;
- Sponsor profit-making activities and solicit funds for organizational activities upon approval from Dean of Students in accordance with College regulations; and
- Request funding for an organizational event or program (Subject to the rules and regulations of the appropriate funding entities [e.g. Student Government Association or Student Activities Board].

c. Responsibilities

It is the responsibility of every registered student organization and/or its representatives to:

- Manage itself and carry out its activities within its own constitution, all applicable local, state and federal laws, and all College regulations and policies;
- Anticipate, provide for and promptly meet its legitimate financial obligations;
- Act accordingly in the best interests of its members and the College;
- Take reasonable precautions for the safety and comfort of participants at organization events; and
- Notify the appropriate advisor in the Office of Student Affairs of any and all changes in the organization's officers/contact persons, addresses, telephone numbers or constitution.

4. Conduct of Student Organizations

Student groups and organizations may be charged with alleged violations College policies or the broader issues of interfering with the operation of the College or operating in direct conflict with the mission of the College, or for ceasing to operate as an active organization or in concert with the purpose for which they were chartered by the College. A student group or organization and its officers may be held collectively and/or individually responsible when alleged violations occur either during an event sponsored by the organization or by an individual representing or associated with that organization or group.

Sanctions for group or organization misconduct may include probation, revocation or denial of registration or recognition in addition to any other appropriate sanctions provided herein or in the Code of Student Conduct.
Organizations on probation may continue to hold meetings, but may not sponsor activities. Organizations on suspension may not hold meetings, sponsor or participate in activities.

**T. Peer Harassment and Relationship Policies & Reporting Procedure**

Tusculum College does not condone harassment based on an individual's race, religion, ethnic origin, gender, sexual orientation or physical handicap. The campus community constitutes an environment where any form of harassment is unacceptable. This policy is in keeping with the spirit and intent of federal, state and College guidelines concerning discrimination and harassment. For issues dealing with sexual harassment, the “Sexual Harassment (Including Assault) Policy Statement and Reporting Procedure” should be consulted.

1. **Definition** - Harassment is physical, verbal or any other behavior, including written or pictorial expression, that either recklessly disregards the harmful effect of the behavior on, or that intends to hurt, a specific individual, group of individuals, or campus organization by referring in a derogatory or threatening fashion to that individual's or organization members' race, religion, ethnic origin, gender, sexual orientation or physical handicap.

2. **Reporting Procedures** - The reporting procedures outlined below are designed to provide sufficient flexibility in responding to allegations of harassment. They are intended to be as formal or informal as the allegations dictate.

   Any individual who believes he/she has been harassed (as defined above) should contact the Office of Student Affairs, which will help the individual explore the alternatives available to him/her (including designation of an appropriate case manager for students not engaged in study at the residential campus). Initial contact with the Office of Student Affairs will be kept confidential; no formal records will be kept, and all individuals are assured of anonymity (except as required by law [e.g. anonymous statistical reporting which may be required under the federal Campus Right to Know or Clery Act, or judicial subpoena]). The student may wish to consult someone with special sensitivity or expertise and the Office of Student Affairs will facilitate a referral to such a person if desired. If an individual desires to seek assistance outside the Office of Student Affairs, they are encouraged to approach someone in the counseling, wellness, ministry, human resources, or campus safety areas.

   a. **Informal Reporting Procedure** - An Informal Reporting Procedure may be the first step proposed to resolve an allegation of harassment. Any individual with an honestly perceived complaint will be provided
the option to discuss the issue directly with the alleged harasser in the presence of the Dean of Students or his/her designee. This option is often viewed as beneficial as, should the behavior not be so egregious as to warrant removal from campus, the high likelihood of future interaction (even if only in passing) due to the size of Tusculum College communities, can make an amicable resolution desirable for the complainant. However, if the individual does not desire a face-to-face meeting with the alleged harasser, he/she may write a letter or choose a contact person to mediate on his/her behalf, if they wish to pursue an informal resolution.

b. Formal Reporting Procedure - Formal Reporting Procedure should be used if the individual making the complaint believes the severity of the complaint warrants it. The individual who desires to file a formal complaint of harassment will submit a detailed report of the incident directly to the Dean of Students or his/her designee. Note that any individual bringing forth a complaint of harassment may petition to terminate the proceedings at any stage, however, once a formal investigation is initiated, the Dean of Students will determine whether the College may continue as the complainant due to the dual nature of harassment offenses being both an offense against the individual and an offense against the community.

Evidence of retaliation in response to formal or informal grievance procedures will be itself be regarded as harassment and will result in the filing of allegations to address said retaliatory behavior.

This report will include information about the date, time, place, participants' names and the harassing behavior. The report will be handled in accordance with the resolution procedures of the Code of Student Conduct with possible additional stipulations because of the nature of the allegations as herein indicated or as deemed appropriate by the Dean of Students or his/her designee. In harassment/assault cases, modification of the standard hearing procedures may be implemented by the Dean of Students or his/her designee to comply with legal expectations and to promote a fair and equitable process for the resolution of allegations.

Modifications may include measures such as the presence of an additional faculty or professional staff member, segregation of the alleged victim and alleged policy violator with desired inquiries/examination of the opposite party directed to the Community Standards Board Chair who will determine whether the question is proper and, if so, in what phrasing or manner it is to be posed.

Additionally, in compliance with FERPA and the Clery Act, the complainant and the accused in cases alleging violations analogous to
a legal crime of violence will be informed of the final results, including the original findings and any appeals, in an equal, unconditional, and affirmative way.

3. **Principles**

In investigating complaints of harassment, the following principles will be adhered to:

Each complaint will be handled on an individual, case-by-case basis, considering the complete record and all relevant circumstances.

Investigation will be conducted as promptly as possible, but shall be completed within 60 days unless good cause is presented to the Dean of Students and conveyed by the College to all parties.

In investigating complaints of harassment, confidentiality should be maintained in consideration to both the aggrieved and the alleged harasser (except as mandated by law or subpoena).

The complaint will be resolved in a manner which is consistent with this policy and equitable to all parties concerned.

The purpose of this policy is to end harassment and therefore it may not be used by a complainant to achieve personal goals not in conformity with the purpose of this policy.

**U. Posting & Distribution Policy**

Student clubs and organizations are encouraged to take advantage of all available opportunities to advertise their meetings and activities. Utilization of the campus radio and television stations, and the newspaper are highly effective, as are designing and posting information across campus. Organizations may also send news release material to the campus Communications Office.

1. **Scope and Purpose**
   These regulations are designed to permit the orderly use of College property and resources by Tusculum College students, faculty, staff, and alumni, as individuals and corporate bodies with regard to posting and distribution on, in, or about College property or events.

2. **General Policies**
   Generally, all materials being considered for posting or distribution must be sponsored or co-sponsored by a registered student organization or a College department. All materials must include the
full name of the sponsoring department or student organization, and all content must be printed or translated in English.

The Office of Student Affairs will approve all postings submitted at least three days in advance of posting as follows:
- one copy of posters or handbills (banner facsimile drawn by organization on letter paper) will be stamped, dated and kept by the Office of Student Affairs;
- in the case of handbills, one copy will be stamped, dated and must be in the possession of each person distributing the handbill; and
- in the case of posters and banners all copies for posting must be stamped by Office of Student Affairs.

Materials may not be posted on any undesignated areas, including wood or painted surfaces, doors, glass, walls (tile or cement walls may be permissive, but must be checked with facility manager), car windshields, or over previously posted materials.

Failure to comply with regulations in this policy or any relevant campus policies is grounds for suspension of posting privileges for one semester (15 school weeks). Continuing to post while privileges are revoked is grounds for suspension of the student organization and charter/recognition review.

3. Content Regulations
The College will give careful consideration to the circumstances surrounding the expression in determining whether any restriction is appropriate in accord with the values of the College. However, no materials adjudged obscene or discriminatory, promoting the possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages, promoting gambling, or designed for the purpose of personal or commercial gain (save used book sales or the like) will be approved.

Materials that are misspelled or grammatically incorrect will not be approved for posting and is grounds for removal and disposal due to the poor image this presents of the College as an institution of higher education. Costs of reproduction of corrected materials will be borne solely by the entity responsible for its production. For these reasons, advanced review is strongly recommended for this reason.

4. Special Requirements for Posters, Flyers
A “poster” as used here is any posting 14 inches by 17 inches or smaller;
Posting is permitted on general College bulletin boards or posting strips. Use of departmental or special area boards requires that permission be obtained from the related office;

Only one posting per event, idea or product is allowed per bulletin board;

The College may remove and discard any posters displayed on campus property which are in violation of these policies;

With prior approval from the Office of Student Affairs signs may be posted at designated areas in College residence hall locations. Poster size in the residence halls may not exceed 8-1/2 inches by 14 inches;

Posters may only be displayed up to a maximum of four weeks prior to an event and organizations are responsible for removing posters within seventy-two (72) hours from the day following the event. Failure to remove poster as indicated may result in revocation of poster posting privileges for a semester (15 school weeks);

In case of shortage of bulletin board space, the Office of Student Affairs will assign priority and determine removal date; and

The Dean of Students or his/her designee may, in certain instances, authorize extended posting periods for certain items of an academic or administrative nature. Items approved for extended posting must be stamped by the Office of Student Affairs. These are the only postings that will not automatically be removed on the first and third Friday of each month.

5. **Special Requirements for Banners**

A "banner" as used here is printed or pictorial material displayed equal to or exceeding 24 inches by 36 inches in size;

Banners are only permitted through special permission of the Dean of Students or her/his designee for general areas – Niswonger Commons, etc.; Student Life Coordinators for individual residential areas; or the facility coordinator for other campus facilities;

Banners may only be displayed up to a maximum of two weeks prior to an event and organizations are responsible for removing banners by noon on the day following the event. Failure to remove banner as indicated may result in revocation of banner posting privileges for a semester (15 school weeks);

In case of shortage of space, the Office of Student Affairs will assign priority and determine removal date;
The College does not assume responsibility for loss or destruction of banners; and

The College may remove and discard any unapproved or past due banners.

5. Special Requirements for Handbills

A "handbill" as used here is defined as any printed or pictorial matter distributed by hand on College property.

Handbills may be distributed outside College buildings only. Handbills must not be forced on individuals. Distribution of materials at an event is limited to the organization which has reserved the area for that event.

The responsible organization's members are required to assist in the clean up after the distribution. Failure to do so may result in the assessment of a clean up fee consisting of the labor costs and reasonable overhead as determined by the College. Organizations which cause a litter or nuisance problem may be denied handbill distribution privileges.

7. Special Requirements for Mass Mailing/Mailbox Stuffing

In light of the potential for the campus mail services to be overwhelmed and for students to become inured to important information due to a bulk of unsolicited advertising, registered student organizations may be restricted with regard all-campus mailing each semester. For this reason, students are encouraged to consult with Student Affairs personnel before printing information and assuring that they meet the following criteria as well as any other campus advertising restrictions:

a. the event being sponsored must be open to the entire College community;

b. two sample copies must be provided to the Office of Student Affairs (one will be retained by the Office of Student Affairs if approved and one will be authorized and transmitted with other copies to the Campus Mail Center);

c. the organization must provide a minimum of a sixteen hour Mail Room work day time period for the distribution to take place, therefore, mailings for dated events will need to be submitted sufficiently far in advance for this publicity method to work;
d. identical communications being distributed to the entire student population should not be provided with name labels, but rather set-up as a general mass mailing;

e. full sheets of paper must be either folded in half or thirds;

f. mail smaller than an index card (3” x 5”) will not be distributed through the campus mail center (campus mail envelopes can be utilized for small notes or similar correspondence);

g. the number needed for mass distribution varies each semester (you may obtain the current number of mailboxes being maintained by contacting the Campus Mail Center).

8. Information Channel Announcements - these may be placed on the campus information channel by contacting the Media Services program.

9. Campus Global E-Mail
Registered student organizations sponsoring events adjudged by the designated Office of Student Affairs representative to be of potential interest to the entire student population may have their event information placed within the daily campus activities update distributed to all students. In light of the potential for the campus community to become inured to repetitive information and ignore new communications, information being communicated for the first time will be highlighted at the top of the message, followed by information about events occurring prior to the next e-mail’s delivery timeline, and then information about events which has already been disseminated to students via this process.

To request permission to send a global e-mail message, an organization must write out the message as they wish it to appear and the delivering representative must print and sign the message before providing it to Student Affairs (or the representative may e-mail the message from their Tusculum.edu account to Student Affairs). Student Affairs personnel will review messages between 3:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. and attach the message to the daily e-mail as written or with minor modifications if such will cause the message to be approved and sent. Otherwise the organizational representative will be contacted and informed of the concerns. External requests to utilize the global e-mail messaging system need to be sponsored by a departmental unit or registered student organization to be considered for global/ mass e-mail distribution to the “all students” listserv.

Global/mass e-mail is not to be utilized to send:
- messages whose content is not relevant to the College’s mission of teaching, research, and public service,

- messages which do not comport with legal standards or College policy (e.g. harassment, etc.),

- commercial mailings (mailings promoting the products or services of a person or entity other than the College or its approved contractors and affiliates),

- direct solicitations (while direct solicitations are not permitted, the announcement of fundraising events disseminated via the “composite” e-mail process), or

- personal messages.

V. Review of Applicant Conduct in Admission Process

1. Introduction

In our evolving society, Tusculum College’s concern for the safety of members of the internal and extended college community, as well as the public reputation of the institution compel careful examination and appraisal of the character, personality, and qualifications of its applicants. Therefore, applicants shall be required to furnish related information in order for the institution to make a thorough and proper case-by-case examination of a student’s application for admission, interview, and other processes. Tusculum College may consider any criminal conviction, other than honorable discharge from military service, or disciplinary history from a higher education system, among other criteria, as possible justification for the refusal or revocation of admission when it directly relates to the applicant’s possible performance in or negative impact upon the academic living-learning environment at the institution. The College will conduct its review as soon as possible after the disclosure or discovery of the information using the principles and standards of the College and the Code of Student Conduct to inform its decision making processes.

2. Definitions

Conviction - Conviction shall include a plea of guilty/no contest/nolo contendere/nolo contendere/Alford plea, a finding or verdict of guilt or responsibility, or acceptance of responsibility for the commission of a crime, regardless of whether sentence was imposed by a court, the record has been expunged or the sentence deferred.

3. Statement of Policy
The admissions processes of the institution shall be designed to solicit and review information as to whether applicants present a risk to persons, property or the academic learning and residential living environments conducive to the mission of the College, as well as impacting its reputation within the broader community. This information shall include, but not be limited to any criminal conviction, other than honorable discharge from military service, or disciplinary history from a higher education system in applicant’s backgrounds, and shall establish a foundation for decisions for admissions based on the potential for the applicant’s possible performance in or negative impact upon the academic living-learning environment at the institution. Approval, denial or restriction of admission decisions are managed through this policy. Confidentiality of all institutional agents in this process shall be required and accountability strictly enforced to limit the potential for discrimination and defamation.

4. Procedures

   a. Solicitation of Initial Criminal, Discharge & Disciplinary History Indication

      Application processes for any program of study at the College shall include the following questions designed to solicit information to fulfill the intent of this policy:

      - Do you have any criminal charges pending against you or have you ever been convicted of a crime other than a parking violation (inclusive of pleas of guilty/no contest/nolo contendere/nolo contendere, an Alford plea, a finding or verdict of guilt or responsibility, or acceptance of responsibility for the commission of a crime, regardless of whether sentence was imposed by a court)?

      - Do you have any disciplinary charges pending against you or have you ever been expelled, dismissed, suspended, placed on probation, or otherwise subject to any disciplinary sanction by any school, college, or university?

      - If you have ever served in the military, did you receive any type of discharge other than an honorable discharge?

      - If you answered yes to any of the following, please provide a written statement as to what happened including details about the nature of the conduct, when it occurred, what the consequences were and the status of any sanctions, as well as your status is in relation to the incident. Please note, if you have a conviction,
discharge or educational conduct sanction after submitting your application, you must notify the College.

b. Referral of Indicated Issues for Review Process

If the applicant appears otherwise eligible for admission, information indicating an affirmative response to the foregoing questions has been or should have been disclosed by an applicant for admission to the College shall result in the application being placed on HOLD and the information advanced to the Dean of Students who will direct the file through the process until submission of report/recommendation to the Admission & Standards Committee.

c. Information and Approach to Evaluating Community Membership Propriety

Information/files received for review by the Dean of Students shall initiate a letter to the applicant asking them to provide a full and complete written statement about the nature of the conduct, when it occurred, what the consequences were and the status of any sanctions, as well as their status in relation to the incident (suspension, expulsion, incarceration, probation, parole, treatment programs, etc.). Additionally, the applicant shall be asked to provide contact information for two character references from an individual with whom the applicant has had frequent contact within the past six months and describing their relationship (referees cannot be relatives or family members). An interview (personal or telephonic) to either clarify or verify information may be pursued if perceived beneficial or requested by the student.

The primary criteria to be employed in the review shall be whether substantial evidence exists supporting a finding that the applicant has followed a course of conduct such that if, at the time of the conduct in question, the applicant had been a student at the institution, the course of conduct would have resulted in expulsion, suspension or probation.

If a felony conviction is involved, a letter from the applicant’s probation/parole officer must be provided including the following information: the nature of the crime and where committed, the action of the court, the type of rehabilitation received and currently receiving, and the officer’s assessment of the individual's adjustment and capacity to adjust to the College environment.

Note on evaluation of records/reports - Most convictions (85-90%) do not reflect the underlying behavior due to the utilization of plea bargaining in our criminal justice system resulting in the removal of reference to violence in exchange for pleas of guilt. Therefore, examination of police reports and/or pre-sentence investigative reports (PSI/PSIR) shall be pursued in rendering recommendations. While not
as common, equivalents to plea bargaining are beginning to appear in the military and in higher education, so review of full reports underlying separation decisions in these areas are also strongly recommended. Applicants will be required to provide whatever releases and documentation to enable this review at their expense.

Mitigating factors shall be considered such as: the nature/severity of the conviction, discharge or disciplinary finding; the length of time since the conviction, discharge or disciplinary finding was rendered; the nature of the student relationship (undergraduate/graduate or residential/commuter); employment and/or community service history before and after the conviction, discharge or disciplinary finding; and age at the time of conviction, discharge or disciplinary finding.

After review of all available information, which shall include consultation with the Director of Campus Safety, Campus Counselor, or any other personnel deemed beneficial in evaluation of the application, the Dean of Students will provide a report to the Admission and Standards Committee through the Vice President for Enrollment Management as to whether the disclosed information should effect the admission decision. The recommendation will take the form of a formal, written recommendation including background information of the criminal, less than honorable discharge or disciplinary conduct, the process undertaken in review, factors influencing the recommendation, and the recommendation itself. The recommendation may take any of the following forms:

- allow the student to continue their application for the program of study without restriction;
- reject the applicant’s admission to the program of study, prohibiting the matriculation of the individual as a student; or
- allow the student to continue their application for the program of study with restriction (this is contemplated to be an unlikely situation, but the policy takes this into consideration given the case-by-case evaluation being conducted and the nuances of human behavior and the College’s balance of beliefs between redemption and preservation of a safe and secure living-learning environment).

Upon rendering a determination as to the admission of the applicant, the Admissions & Standards Committee will notify the Office of Admissions and the Dean of Students. Notification will not be provided to the student that they were denied admission based upon review of their criminal, other than honorable discharge, or disciplinary record. If the student inquires into the reason their
admission was denied, the Dean of Students will be notified and prepare a letter for review by the Vice President for Enrollment Management and the Chair of the Admission & Standards Committee within five days of the request to address the inquiry and the possibility of appeal of the decision. Outcomes of recommendations from the Dean of Students and final determinations by the Admissions and Standard Committee shall be tracked by the Dean of Students such that benchmarks can be established and reported with future recommendations. While decisions will be rendered on a case-by-case basis by the Admission & Standards Committee, benchmarks may take the form of standards such as:

- Anyone under any form of incarceration or orders of incarceration (house arrest, halfway house, etc) shall be prohibited from attending the institution; and

- Anyone under any form of probation restricting their access to children shall be prohibited from attending the institution due to the regular hosting of elementary schools, children’s theatre, attendance by students still not of majority age in the regular programs of study, etc.

d. Addressing Instances of Failure to Properly Disclose

A student who is believed to have failed to have provided full and accurate disclosure in compliance with this policy shall be charged with providing false information to a college official and the matter will be reviewed through the appropriate senior student conduct hearing body in accordance with the student conduct allegation resolution hearing process for major violations of college policy. If responsibility is established, the matter will be referred to the Admissions & Standards Committee for determination as to whether a recommendation to revoke admission from the point of application (in which case all academic progress will be nullified with no financial or other recourse to the student beyond the student conduct appeals process) shall enhance any conduct process sanction outcomes.

W. Sexual Harassment (Including Assault) Policy Statement and Reporting Procedures

1. Introduction

Sexual Harassment is considered an unethical and unprofessional activity at Tusculum College as it typically involves persons of unequal power, authority or influence. All members of the College community - students, faculty, staff, administration, vendors and guests are accountable under
this policy for any covered inappropriate behavior. Additionally, recognizing that both men and women are victims of sexual harassment and assault and may commit such offenses, this policy is gender neutral and applies equally to men and women of all sexual orientations. Furthermore, sexual harassment is illegal under Title VII of the 1964 Civil Rights Act and Title IX of the 1972 Educational Amendments.

2. Definitions

The Tennessee Code is the criminal law code for the state of Tennessee. Below are the criminal statutes for sex offenses, domestic offenses, harassment, and stalking.

(a) As used in this section, "domestic abuse victim" means any person who falls within the following categories:
   (1) Adults or minors who are current or former spouses;
   (2) Adults or minors who live together or who have lived together;
   (3) Adults or minors who are dating or who have dated or who have or had a sexual relationship, but does not include fraternization between two (2) individuals in a business or social context;
   (4) Adults or minors related by blood or adoption;
   (5) Adults or minors who are related or were formerly related by marriage; or
   (6) Adult or minor children of a person in a relationship that is described in subdivisions (a)(1)-(5).
(b) A person commits domestic assault who commits an assault as defined in § 39-13-101 against a domestic abuse victim.

As used in §§ 39-13-501-39-13-511, except as specifically provided in § 39-13-505, unless the context otherwise requires:
(1) "Coercion" means threat of kidnapping, extortion, force or violence to be performed immediately or in the future or the use of parental, custodial, or official authority over a child less than fifteen (15) years of age;
(2) "Intimate parts" includes the primary genital area, groin, inner thigh, buttock or breast of a human being;
(3) "Mentally defective" means that a person suffers from a mental disease or defect which renders that person temporarily or permanently incapable of appraising the nature of the person's conduct;
(4) "Mentally incapacitated" means that a person is rendered temporarily incapable of appraising or controlling the person's conduct due to the influence of a narcotic, anesthetic or other substance administered to that person without the person's consent,
or due to any other act committed upon that person without the person's consent;

(5) "Physically helpless" means that a person is unconscious, asleep or for any other reason physically or verbally unable to communicate unwillingness to do an act;

(6) "Sexual contact" includes the intentional touching of the victim's, the defendant's, or any other person's intimate parts, or the intentional touching of the clothing covering the immediate area of the victim's, the defendant's, or any other person's intimate parts, if that intentional touching can be reasonably construed as being for the purpose of sexual arousal or gratification;

(7) "Sexual penetration" means sexual intercourse, cunnilingus, fellatio, anal intercourse, or any other intrusion, however slight, of any part of a person's body or of any object into the genital or anal openings of the victim's, the defendant's, or any other person's body, but emission of semen is not required; and

(8) "Victim" means the person alleged to have been subjected to criminal sexual conduct and includes the spouse of the defendant


(a) Aggravated rape is unlawful sexual penetration of a victim by the defendant or the defendant by a victim accompanied by any of the following circumstances:

(1) Force or coercion is used to accomplish the act and the defendant is armed with a weapon or any article used or fashioned in a manner to lead the victim reasonably to believe it to be a weapon

(2) The defendant causes bodily injury to the victim

(3) The defendant is aided or abetted by one (1) or more other persons; and

(A) Force or coercion is used to accomplish the act; or

(B) The defendant knows or has reason to know that the victim is mentally defective, mentally incapacitated or physically helpless.

(b) Aggravated rape is a Class A felony.


(a) Rape is unlawful sexual penetration of a victim by the defendant or of the defendant by a victim accompanied by any of the following circumstances:

(1) Force or coercion is used to accomplish the act;

(2) The sexual penetration is accomplished without the consent of the victim and the defendant knows or has reason to know at the time of the penetration that the victim did not consent;

(3) The defendant knows or has reason to know that the victim is mentally defective, mentally incapacitated or physically helpless;
or
(4) The sexual penetration is accomplished by fraud.

(b) Rape is a Class B felony.

(a) Aggravated sexual battery is unlawful sexual contact with a victim by the defendant or the defendant by a victim accompanied by any of the following circumstances:
(1) Force or coercion is used to accomplish the act and the defendant is armed with a weapon or any article used or fashioned in a manner to lead the victim reasonably to believe it to be a weapon;
(2) The defendant causes bodily injury to the victim;
(3) The defendant is aided or abetted by one (1) or more other persons; and
   (A) Force or coercion is used to accomplish the act; or
   (B) The defendant knows or has reason to know that the victim is mentally defective, mentally incapacitated or physically helpless; or
(4) The victim is less than thirteen (13) years of age.
(b) Aggravated sexual battery is a Class B felony.

(a) Sexual battery is unlawful sexual contact with a victim by the defendant or the defendant by a victim accompanied by any of the following circumstances:
(1) Force or coercion is used to accomplish the act;
(2) The sexual contact is accomplished without the consent of the victim and the defendant knows or has reason to know at the time of the contact that the victim did not consent;
(3) The defendant knows or has reason to know that the victim is mentally defective, mentally incapacitated or physically helpless; or
(4) The sexual contact is accomplished by fraud.
(b) As used in this section, "coercion" means the threat of kidnapping, extortion, force or violence to be performed immediately or in the future.
(c) Sexual battery is a Class E felony.

§39-17-308. Harassment.
(a) A person commits an offense who intentionally:
(1) Threatens, by telephone, in writing or by electronic communication, including, but not limited to, text messaging, facsimile transmissions, electronic mail or Internet services, to take action known to be unlawful against any person and by this action knowingly annoys or alarms the recipient;
(2) Places one (1) or more telephone calls anonymously, or at an hour or hours known to be inconvenient to the victim, or in an offensively repetitious manner, or without a legitimate purpose of communication, and by this action knowingly annoys or alarms the recipient;

(3) Communicates by telephone to another that a relative or other person has been injured, killed or is ill when the communication is known to be false; or

(4) Communicates with another person or transmits or displays an image without legitimate purpose with the intent that the image is viewed by the victim by any method described in subdivision (a)(1) and the person:
   (A) Maliciously intends the communication to be a threat of harm to the victim; and
   (B) A reasonable person would perceive the communication to be a threat of harm.

(b) (1) A person convicted of a criminal offense commits an offense if, while incarcerated, on pre-trial diversion, probation, community correction or parole, the person intentionally communicates in person with the victim of the person's crime if the communication is:
   (A) Anonymous or threatening or made in an offensively repetitious manner or at hours known to be inconvenient to the victim;
   (B) Made for no legitimate purpose; and
   (C) Made knowing that it will alarm or annoy the victim.

(2) If the victim of the person's offense died as the result of the offense, the provisions of this subsection (b) shall apply to the deceased victim's next-of-kin.

(c) A violation of subsection (a) is a Class A misdemeanor.

§39-17-315. Stalking, aggravated stalking, and especially aggravated stalking.

(a) As used in this section, unless the context otherwise requires:

(1) "Course of conduct" means a pattern of conduct composed of a series of two (2) or more separate noncontinuous acts evidencing a continuity of purpose;

(2) "Emotional distress" means significant mental suffering or distress that may, but does not necessarily, require medical or other professional treatment or counseling;

(3) "Harassment" means conduct directed toward a victim that includes, but is not limited to, repeated or continuing unconsented contact that would cause a reasonable person to suffer emotional distress, and that actually causes the victim to suffer emotional distress. Harassment does not include constitutionally protected activity or conduct that serves a legitimate purpose;
(4) "Stalking" means a willful course of conduct involving repeated or continuing harassment of another individual that would cause a reasonable person to feel terrorized, frightened, intimidated, threatened, harassed, or molested, and that actually causes the victim to feel terrorized, frightened, intimidated, threatened, harassed, or molested; 

(5) "Unconsented contact" means any contact with another person that is initiated or continued without that person's consent, or in disregard of that person's expressed desire that the contact be avoided or discontinued. Unconsented contact includes, but is not limited to, any of the following:
(A) Following or appearing within the sight of that person;
(B) Approaching or confronting that person in a public place or on private property;
(C) Appearing at that person's workplace or residence;
(D) Entering onto or remaining on property owned, leased, or occupied by that person;
(E) Contacting that person by telephone;
(F) Sending mail or electronic communications to that person; or
(G) Placing an object on, or delivering an object to, property owned, leased, or occupied by that person; and

(6) "Victim" means an individual who is the target of a willful course of conduct involving repeated or continuing harassment.

(b) (1) A person commits an offense who intentionally engages in stalking.
(2) Stalking is a Class A misdemeanor.
(3) Stalking is a Class E felony if the defendant, at the time of the offense, was required to or was registered with the Tennessee bureau of investigation as a sexual offender, violent sexual offender or violent juvenile sexual offender, as defined in § 40-39-202.

(c) (1) A person commits aggravated stalking who commits the offense of stalking as prohibited by subsection (b), and:
(A) In the course and furtherance of stalking, displays a deadly weapon;
(B) The victim of the offense was less than eighteen (18) years of age at any time during the person's course of conduct, and the person is five (5) or more years older than the victim;
(C) Has previously been convicted of stalking within seven (7) years of the instant offense;
(D) Makes a credible threat to the victim, the victim's child, sibling, spouse, parent or dependents with the intent to place any such person in reasonable fear of death or bodily injury; or
(E) At the time of the offense, was prohibited from making contact with the victim under a restraining order or injunction for protection, an order of protection, or any other court-imposed prohibition of conduct toward the victim or the victim's property, and the person knowingly violates the injunction, order or court-imposed prohibition.

(2) Aggravated stalking is a Class E felony.

(d) (1) A person commits especially aggravated stalking who:
   (A) Commits the offense of stalking or aggravated stalking, and has previously been convicted of stalking or aggravated stalking involving the same victim of the instant offense; or
   (B) Commits the offense of aggravated stalking, and intentionally or recklessly causes serious bodily injury to the victim of the offense or to the victim's child, sibling, spouse, parent or dependent.

(2) Especially aggravated stalking is a Class C felony.

Tusculum College defines sexual misconduct as any unwelcome sexual advance, request for sexual favor or other physical or expressive behavior of a sexual nature where: (1) submission to such conduct is made either explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of an individual's employment or education; (2) submission to or rejection of such conduct by an individual is used as the basis for employment or academic decisions affecting the individual; or (3) such conduct has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's work or academic performance or creating an intimidating hostile, offensive or demeaning employment or educational environment through egregious, persistent, or repetitive conduct directed at a specific individual or group of individuals that a reasonable person would interpret, in the full context in which the conduct occurs, as harassment of a sexual nature.

Thus defined, sexual misconduct may range in severity from sexist remarks to violent sexual assault. The following illustrative, but not exhaustive list indicates five forms of sexual misconduct, arranged from the least severe to the most severe:

a. Sextist remarks and sexist behavior (e.g. unwelcome sexually explicit statements, stories, or inquiries into an individual's sexual preference or behavior that are not related to employment duties, course content, research, or other College programs or activities);

b. Verbal or physical insults--including lewd, obscene or sexually suggestive remarks directed at a person or group of persons (e.g. repeatedly using sexually degrading words, gestures or sounds to describe a person);
c. Advances without sanctions--including offensive advances (e.g. sexual propositions, or repeated phone calls or e-mail messages from someone where clear indication has been made of no reciprocal interest) or inappropriate behavior (e.g. touching, patting, caressing, or kissing which does not amount to an assault as defined below) without threat of punishment for non-compliance and without promise of reward for compliance;

d. Advances with sanctions--including the previously mentioned types of advances and behavior whenever they are accompanied by implicit or explicit promised rewards or threatened punishment (e.g. impacts on: employment; reputation; advancement; receipt of service; or participation or status in a course, program or activity)

e. Assault--including psychological creation of fear to physical acts of sexual intimacy (from touching intimate parts of the body or the clothing covering those body parts, or touching with intimate parts of the body to penetration) committed by a stranger or acquaintance through force (including, but not limited to use of a weapon, physical battering or overpowering/restraint, or physical manipulation of someone who is mentally or physically incapacitated) or coercion (threat of force or psychological pressuring or threats with or without sanctions).

Assaultive behavior includes, but is not limited to: Stalking Dating Violence, Domestic Violence, Sexual Coercion, and Sexual Assault. Individuals found responsible, after a final determination has been rendered, for engaging in assaultive behaviors under this policy are subject to sanctions up to and including suspension and expulsion from the College.

While Tennessee law does not directly define consent, it does address "coercion", "mental defect", “mental incapacity”, “physical helplessness” under the sexual assault sections §39-13-501 and "unconsented contact" under the stalking statute §39-17-315. The College notes that consent is considered an informed decision, freely given, made through mutually understandable words or actions that indicate a willingness to participate in mutually agreed upon sexual activity. Consent cannot be given by an individual who is asleep; unconscious; or mentally or physically incapacitated, either through the effect of drugs or alcohol or for any other reason; or, is under duress, threat, coercion, or force. Past consent does not imply future consent, nor does silence or an absence of resistance imply consent. Further, consent can be withdrawn at any time.

3. Statement of Policy
The educational mission of Tusculum College is to foster an open working and learning environment. Our ethical and legal obligation to faculty, non-academic employees and students is to insure that they are free from sexual harassment by subordinates, peers, supervisors, teachers and administrators. Tusculum College, therefore, expressly forbids sexual harassment. Allegations of sexual misconduct will be addressed through a prompt, fair, and impartial investigation and resolution. Any student, faculty, staff, or administrator who, after this process of fundamental fairness, is found to have practiced sexual harassment will be subject to prompt disciplinary action.

Confidentiality will be maintained to the extent permitted by law and to the point that information needs to be disclosed to effectively investigate or act to keep the community safe. In instances of sexual assault only, the College is obligated by federal law (Student Right to Know or Clery Act) to report the number of incidents that occur on campus. No names are used, only a statistic. If a “Timely Warning” is determined to be appropriate under the Clery Act, the names of victims will be confidential and they shall also be withheld from any campus crime log. Individuals acting in the roles identified, are exempt from reporting under the Clery Act: Campus Counselor, Campus Nurse, Campus Minister, and any additional counselors, physicians or nurses contracted to work in the Wellness Center. Additionally, any members of the Sexual Assault Response Team are herein designated under the authority of the Campus SaVE Act regulations of the Violence Against Women Act to be able to maintain confidentiality in working with women and men who consult with them regarding issues of sexual misconduct (for 2015-2016, the SART membership includes: Ms. Sarah Gardner, Student Support Services Counselor; Mr. Ken Brewer, Assoc. Professor of Psychology; Ms. Bobbie Greenway, Academic Support Coordinator; Ms. Billie Ann Pace, Academic Counselor; and Mr. Michael Robinson, Head Volleyball Coach.

This policy also prohibits retaliation against persons who report instances of sexual harassment/assault or retaliation against any person who is involved in an investigation related to this policy. The College will investigate and address, as appropriate, any alleged retaliatory acts such as loss of employment, grade changes or misrepresentation of academic performance, and any other acts of retaliation by the accused or anyone directly or indirectly involved or acting on behalf of anyone involved with the incident.

As with the resolution of all allegations brought forth under the Non-Academic Code of Student Conduct, allegations brought forth under this policy will be determined through the application of the “preponderance of evidence” the standard of review/evidence.
4. **Support and Reporting**

The College recognizes the importance of support and encouragement in instances of sexual misconduct, including matters of sexual harassment and sexual assault. It is appropriate to seek help in addressing issues, connecting with resources, interpreting policies and procedures, and sorting through one's options and choices. Victims are strongly encouraged to seek out personnel in one the following areas for help in these tasks: Office of Student Affairs, the Religious Life Center, the Health & Wellness Center, or Campus Site Managers. These individuals have experience with student concerns and complaints, can identify options, and help with decisions about appropriate resources and responses (especially Dean David M. McMahan, J.D., Tusculum College Title IX Coordinator, x 5493, [emergency cell phone number 423/470-2919]).

The College notes that prompt reports of incidents of apparent sexual misconduct are critical to effective enforcement of our Policy. Various reporting points are established so that this can be accomplished even when the administrator with primary responsibility over the aggrieved individual may be unavailable or when the aggrieved simply is not comfortable reporting the incident to their own immediate supervisor or advisor who will relay the matter to appropriate administrative personnel.

5. **Resolution Considerations for Parties to Sexual Misconduct Allegations (See Also Section CC – Code of Student Conduct Resolution Procedures)**

**Note** - students have the option to notify campus authorities, law enforcement authorities, both or neither. Students will receive assistance in reporting the incident to local law enforcement authorities from the Dean of Students or his/her designee, or the Director of Campus Safety, if the student requests such assistance.

Students will receive a written copy of their rights and the resources (including counseling, health, mental health, victim advocacy, legal assistance, and other services on and off campus) and support/accommodations available (changing academic, living, transportation, and working situations if they are requested and reasonably available) to them upon contacting a member of the SART team, Student Affairs or the Campus Safety Office to meet with a designated investigating official such as the Associate Dean of Students, Director of Personnel Services or Director of Campus Safety.

a. If you are Sexually Assaulted

GET TO A SAFE PLACE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.
TRY TO PRESERVE ALL PHYSICAL EVIDENCE. Do not shower, comb your hair or change your clothing if possible as this will allow for the preservation of evidence should you choose to take any action in the future which would require evidence such as prosecution. A forensic examination will preserve collected evidence. Evidence can deteriorate over time. It is best to get to the hospital as soon as possible, but five days of the assault is considered key. If an individual feels he or she was drugged, the hospital can collect a urine sample for forensic testing. Even if the victim is uncertain whether to make a police report, evidence can be collected now for use at a later date. It is harder to go back and collect evidence at a later date.

SEEK MEDICAL ATTENTION as soon as possible through the Wellness Center x5499 or Campus Safety if the center is closed x5318. It is important to seek immediate and follow-up medical attention for several reasons: (a) to assess and treat any physical injuries you may have sustained; (b) to determine the risk of sexually transmitted diseases, HIV, Hepatitis B or pregnancy and to take appropriate medical measures; and (c) to gather evidence which would aid criminal prosecution. Physical evidence should be collected immediately, ideally within the first 24 hours. It may be collected later than this, but the quality and quantity of evidence may be diminished.

SEEK COUNSELING by calling the Wellness Center x5368. Counselors will maintain confidentiality, help explain your options, give information, and provide emotional support.

CONTACT THE OFFICE OF STUDENT AFFAIRS at x5315 or HUMAN RESOURCES at x5345 to explore resolution options.

CONTACT SOMEONE YOU TRUST to be with you for support.

CAMPUS ACADEMIC AND RESIDENTIAL ACCOMMODATIONS

Due to the trauma associated with sexual assault the student victims may need to cease or alter campus employment, withdraw from courses, change their on-campus living arrangements, and/or leave the College altogether. Such changes may require exceptions to College academic and financial policies. Staff and faculty who are victims may have the same need for a leave of absence or changes in their work environment. To enhance the feeling of safety for victims, the College will try to accommodate all reasonable requests. Requests of this nature should be directed to the Human Resources Office x5345 which will assist the victims insuring approval from the appropriate College official. Student victims may also contact the Office of Student Affairs at x5315.
OBTAINING A NO CONTACT ORDER AND/OR ORDER OF PROTECTION

A student may obtain a No Contact Order from the College prohibiting contact between parties including verbal, written or through other means. This prohibition includes telephonic and digital communication in all forms as well as messages conveyed through third parties or processes, inclusive of undue visual contact or gestures, and all other means. The student may also receive support in obtaining an Order of Protection through the Greene County Clerk and Master’s Office at the Greene County Courthouse. The Office of Student Affairs and/or the Campus Safety Office will assist students in pursuing this protective order of the Court at the student’s request.

b. If You are Accused of Sexual Assault Consider the Following Options

CONTACT AN ATTORNEY. Accusations of sexual assault can invoke criminal and administrative processes which can lead to criminal confinement, fine and administrative sanctions including expulsion from the College. Thus, a person accused of sexual assault should contact their attorney.

CONSIDER YOUR CHOICE TO SPEAK WITH OTHERS ABOUT THE FACTS SURROUNDING THE ALLEGATIONS UNTIL you have fully considered the fact that those staff persons can be required to testify as to what you said should there be a criminal prosecution.

LEARN ABOUT THE COLLEGE PROCEDURES for handing allegations of sexual assault on campus through campus disciplinary procedures. This information can be acquired from several offices, in particular, the Office of Student Affairs x5315 and the Human Resources Office at x5345.

6. Prevention, Educational and Awareness Programs

Risk reduction programming focused on assisting students in the recognition of warning signs involved in abusive behavior and how to avoid potential attacks are provided at the outset of each academic year and continuing through the year. Bystander education programming is also provided to enable students to recognize and safely intervene directly or indirectly in behaviors connected with sexual misconduct (including domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking).

X. Smoking Policy
Consistent with the intent of Tennessee law to provide smoke-free enclosed public places and promote public health; and to maintain clear access, a welcoming appearance of our campus, and the function of alarm systems; all structures (including athletic facilities) owned by Tusculum College are designated as nonsmoking, including the areas around the entrances and steps to the structure (except for those areas explicitly marked as designated for smoking). This policy also applies to electronic smoking devices (“e-cigarettes” or “e-cigs”) or "vaporizers" (“vapes”, etc.) including all products or devices, regardless of shape or size, that produce a vapor or aerosol that delivers nicotine or other substances to simulate smoking (may be offered as an electronic cigarette [cigar, cigarillo, pipe, hookah, or similar device]). This policy applies to employees, students and visitors.

X. Social Policy

Social life is an important component of any college experience. Because the College takes seriously the positive value of developing social relationships in a sensitive and mature manner, it has established guidelines and expectations to further that purpose for all Tusculum students. Tusculum College provides these guidelines in hopes of helping and encouraging students to develop this aspect of their life in an acceptable and responsible way.

A Social Function is an event attended by any individuals who are not members of the Tusculum College community, has been advertised, or, in the residential environment, where more than twice the number of students as assigned occupants within the residential room or half again as many people as the residents within a living area (wing/floor/house/etc.). Hosting such an event at Tusculum College requires that students receive approval for the event from the Dean of Students or his/her designee.

Y. Solicitation, Sales and Fundraising Events Policy

Any solicitation/fund-raising event that involves seeking support (which includes both monetary and in-kind gifts) must be approved in advance through the Office of the Vice President for Institutional Advancement. A staff or faculty member, overseeing a fund-raiser should obtain authorization in writing from his or her supervisor and then the written authorization (including the date, time, place and manner of solicitation) should be submitted to the Vice President for Institutional Advancement, for final approval before beginning a fund-raising project. This policy is in place to avoid multiple constituents at Tusculum College calling on the same donor at the same time, requesting either in-kind donations or monetary support.

Fundraising events occurring on campus must also be approved by the Dean of Students and will be considered based upon their merit with the following expectations:
1. Most residential campus sales will only be approved to be held in the first floor level of the Niswonger Commons or other areas where students, staff and faculty are not a "captive audience;"

2. No harassment will be permitted and there will be no door-to-door sales in the residence halls nor sales by individuals for profit (e.g. magazines, perfume, etc.);

3. College students, staff or faculty shall conduct all activity (unless specifically contracted vendors have been approved through the institution);

4. Fundraising events sponsored by registered campus organizations must provide sufficient support to the College sponsor to justify the relationship and use of premises (e.g. twenty percent or more of the profits);

5. If sales result, gross receipts must be deposited in a College account;

6. Nothing in this rule is intended to authorize sales of products or food on campus in conflict with existing exclusive contracts for similar merchandise or services or that conflict with the College’s catering policy guidelines;

7. Applicable policies on gambling under the Code of Student Conduct must be observed; and

8. It is the responsibility of the sponsor to acquire any necessary state, county, or municipal licenses.

Z. Student Complaint Policy

1. Policy Intent

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance and procedures for Tusculum College students, faculty and staff members with regard to the handling of informal and formal student complaints. The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) requires that there be a policy specific to handling and logging written student complaints.

Embracing the core values of integrity, education, and civic responsibility, the Tusculum College community seeks to promote civil discourse among all of our constituencies (students, parents, alumni, members of the Board of Trustees, guests, faculty members, staff members, and other employees of the College). In support of this discourse, the College seeks to address concerns and complaints with integrity, respect and virtue in communications, relationships and actions. For many student concerns or complaints that do
not involve harassment, the College seeks to support informal communication channels involving the student and those most directly involved. The purpose of this document is to outline the student complaint policy and procedures.

2. General Procedures

Students are encouraged to discuss with the appropriate faculty or staff member as soon as possible particular concerns or complaints. For concerns that are not resolved through the informal process, the student should be directed to the appropriate Dean or Vice President. The Dean or Vice President may meet with the complainant first, but a formal complaint will require the student to put the complaint into writing. The Dean or Vice President will then proceed to investigate the complaint thoroughly. The Dean or Vice President will begin by requesting written documentation from the faculty or staff member involved. The Dean or Vice President will gather and document all relevant information before making a determination. The Dean or Vice President will inform the complainant and the relevant faculty or staff member of the determination in writing. In the case of academic complaints, if the issue is still not resolved, they may take their concern to the Vice President for Academic Affairs. In all cases, the final appeal is to the President of the College.

A log of written student complaints and their resolution will be maintained by each of the Vice Presidents and Deans of the College. The Office of the VPAA will collect logs from the Deans on an annual basis.

3. Routing of Student Complaints

When a student approaches a faculty member, staff member, or administrator with a verbal concern or complaint or proceeds with a formal complaint as defined below, the nature of the complaint/concern determines the direction of the process:

a. Any complaints of harassment or sexual assault/rape, domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking should move directly to the sexual harassment policy and reporting procedures in the Tusculum College Student Handbook.

b. Any grade issue should move directly to the grade appeal process found in the Tusculum College Catalog.

c. Any complaint involving other students or student related issues should move directly to the Dean of Students as described in the Tusculum College Student Handbook.

d. Any other complaint/concern other than complaints of harassment or sexual assault/rape, domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking should move forward to the appropriate Vice President or Dean responsible for the applicable area with the procedures below.

4. Formal Student Complaint
To be considered a formal student complaint, the complaint must meet the following criteria:

a. Be written; (this includes complaints received by emails)
b. Be received by a Dean, Vice President or President, and
c. Include a complainant’s name, date and signature.

5. Off Campus Authorities

Before pursuing complaints through an off-campus authority, it is expected that the complainant will follow the procedures as described above, except in cases of harassment or sexual assault/rape. If after following those procedures, the issue is still not resolved, they can direct complaints to the following agencies.

• Complaints relating to quality of education or noncompliance with accreditation standards, policies, and procedures may be made to the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, GA 30033-4097. (The Commission's complaint policy, procedure and the Complaint form may be found on their website, http://www.sacscoc.org/pdf/081705/complaintpolicy.pdf);

• Complaints related to the application of state laws or rules related to approval to operate or licensure of a particular professional program within a postsecondary institution shall be referred to the appropriate State Board (i.e., State Boards of Health, State Board of Education, and so on) within the Tennessee State Government and shall be reviewed and handled by that licensing board (http://www.tn.gov, and then search for the appropriate division);

• For students attending programs in Tennessee, complaints related to state consumer protection laws (e.g., laws related to fraud or false advertising) shall be referred to the Tennessee Division of Consumer Affairs and shall be reviewed and handled by that Unit (http://www.tn.gov/commerce/section/consumer-affairs). For out-of-state students using distance learning programs, complaints related to consumer protection laws shall be filed using the Tennessee NC-SARA Portal form: http://tn.gov/assets/entities/thec/attachments/ComplaintForm.pdf

• Complaints about the college can also be directed to the President of the College, 60 Shiloh Road, P.O. Box 5048, Greeneville TN 37743.

• Complaints that originate with SACSCOC or other accrediting bodies are to be forwarded to the appropriate liaison who will follow the general procedures addressed in the Student Complaint Policy.

AA. Student Privacy - FERPA

The College complies with the Federal Family Education Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (“FERPA” or Buckley Amendment). Information about this policy is provided in the College Catalog which is available on-line through
WHAT IS FERPA?

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), which is also called the Buckley Amendment, is a federal law requiring that colleges and universities maintain the privacy of students' education records. Students who are 18 years of age or older, or who are enrolled in post-secondary institutions, are assigned certain privacy rights with regard to their educational records. The law states that no academic or personal records or personally identifiable information about students will be released without their permission to persons other than those College employees who have legitimate educational interests in those records. In essence, this means that students must give their permission for the College to release information about their education records, even to release that information to their parents. In addition, Tusculum students have the right to inspect their records to challenge the accuracy of those records.

The Privacy Act defines requirements that are designed to protect the privacy of students concerning their records maintained by the College. The law requires that:

1. The student must be provided access to official records directly related to the student. This does not include private records maintained by instructional, supervisory, or administrative personnel. A student who wishes to see his/her records must make an appointment through the Registrar's Office. A student may not remove any materials but is entitled, at his/her own expense, to one (1) copy of any material contained in this file.

2. The student must be given the opportunity for a hearing to challenge such records on the grounds that they are inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise inappropriate. The right to a hearing under the law does not include any right to challenge the appropriateness of a grade as determined by the instructor.

3. The student's written consent must be received prior to releasing identifiable data from the records to anyone other than those specified in numbers 4 - 7 below.

4. The College is authorized under FERPA to release public directory information concerning students. Data considered to be public directory information by the College which may be released on general request includes the student's name, address, telephone listing, e-mail, enrollment status (full or part-time), date and place of birth, major field of study and anticipated graduation date, dates of attendance, site, degrees and awards received, most recent previous educational agency or institution attended by the student, participation in school activities and sports, and any other information authorized in
writing by the student. Directory information is subject to release at any time by the College unless the Registrar’s Office has received a prior written request from the student specifying that the information not be released.

5. Tusculum College is authorized to provide access to students’ records to Tusculum College officials and employees who have legitimate interests in such access; these are persons who have responsibilities in the College’s academic, administrative, or service functions.

6. FERPA also provides for the release of relevant records to officials of other institutions in which students seek to enroll, to persons or organizations providing student financial aid, to accrediting agencies carrying out their accreditation function, to persons in compliance with a judicial order, and to persons in an emergency in order to protect the health or safety of students or others.

7. FERPA provides that educational records of a student who is a dependent of his/her parent(s) for Internal Revenue purposes may be disclosed to the parent(s) without first receiving the student’s consent provided documentation showing the student to be a dependent under the provisions of the Internal Revenue Code is presented by the parent(s).

8. Any information collected for evaluation, assessment, and/or curriculum evaluation, including distance education offerings, will be reviewed by the course instructors and Deans to ensure this data does not contain information revealing the identity of students.

An amendment to FERPA was made as part of the USA Patriot Act of 2001 that allows Tusculum College officials to provide, without consent or knowledge of a student or parent, personally identifiable information from a student’s education record in response to the U.S. Attorney General or his designee in response to an ex parte order in connection with the investigation or prosecution of terrorism crimes.

AUTHORIZATION

Students can authorize access for their parent(s) to their education records and allow oral and written communication with college personnel by completing the Federal Family Education Rights and Privacy Act and Tennessee Student Information in Higher Education Act Release of Information Request/Authorization form. Students have the opportunity to complete this form as they register for their course work during Advance Registration Days or can complete the form in the Registrar’s Office. If the form is not completed in the presence of a school official, then the form must be notarized.

FACULTY AND STAFF INFORMATION
All faculty and staff members as well as student workers who have access to student records must complete documentation that they have read the Tusculum College FERPA Policy or have completed the Tusculum College FERPA tutorial.

Tusculum College employees are directed to forward all calls and inquiries about student directory information to the Registrar's Office at 423-636-7300 ext. 5311.

MORE INFORMATION

For more information about FERPA, see http://www.ed.gov/policy/gen/guid/fpco/ferpa/index.html.

**BB. Definitions**

Unless definitions have been previously established herein, terms with special meaning in the Tusculum College Code of Student Conduct include:

1. The terms "College" and “institution” will mean Tusculum College and all of its undergraduate, graduate and professional schools, divisions, and programs;

2. The term "student" includes all persons admitted to the institution through such time as they receive their diploma or officially withdraw from the College, including both full-time and part-time students taking undergraduate or graduate classes, and whether pursing a degree or auditing courses, and in break periods or on-going academic terms;

3. The terms "faculty" and "faculty member" means any person hired by the College to conduct classroom activities;

4. The terms "official" and "College official" includes any person employed or retained by the College for the performance of administrative, professional, or staff responsibilities;

5. The term "aggravated violation" means a violation which resulted or foreseeably could have resulted in significant damage to persons or property or which otherwise posed a substantial threat to the stability and continuance of normal College or College sponsored or affiliated activities;

6. The term "reckless" means conduct which one should reasonably be expected to know would create a substantial risk of harm to persons or property or which would otherwise be likely to result in interference with normal College or College sponsored activities;
7. The term "community member" includes any person who is a student, faculty member, College official or any other person employed by the College. A person’s status in a particular situation will be determined by the surrounding facts;

8. The terms "premises" and "College premises" include all grounds, land, buildings, facilities and other property in the possession of or owned, used, controlled by the College (leased, etc.), or supervised by the College including private buildings located on College land;

9. The term "organization" means any number of persons who have complied with the formal requirements of the College for recognition;

10. The term "group" means any number of persons who have not yet complied with the formal chartering requirement of the College for becoming an organization but have functioned in an organized manner that associates them with the College, on or off College premises;

11. The terms "judicial body" and "board" means any person or persons authorized by the Dean of Students or their designee to determine whether a student has violated the Student Code and to recommend imposition of sanctions;

12. The terms "judicial officer" or “hearing officer” means a College official authorized by the Dean of Students or her/his designee to hear input regarding allegations of violations and render a sanction recommendation; or who serves to mediate between community members or on behalf of the community with a student who accepts responsibility for a violation of the Code of Student Conduct in pursuit of an Administrative Agreement;

13. The "Dean of Students,” is that person designated by the College President to be responsible for the administration of the Student Code of Conduct, or his/her designee charged with acting on behalf of the above identified individual; and

14. The term "policy" is defined as the written regulations of the College as found in, but not limited to, the Student Handbook (located on the Tusculum College Web site), Motor Vehicle Operations Guide, the Undergraduate Catalogue and the Graduate Catalogues.

CC. Procedural Information

1. Behavioral Education Enforcement Philosophy

   Every society and community must have standards governing individual behavior, and a college is no exception. Such standards should always be applied equitably and impartially. In keeping with this necessity, it is the
function of the judicial boards to apply institutional rules in specific cases in such a way that carefully protects a student's rights, both procedural and substantive, while also emphasizing the student's obligation to abide by the community norms which the standards reflect. The judicial boards are not and do not function as legal "courts of law," rather, they function as an appointed group of representatives from the campus charged with upholding specific "standards and expectations" for behavior in the Tusculum community.

Any member of the College community may file charges against any student, group or organization for misconduct. Charges will be prepared in writing and directed to the Office of Student Affairs or GPS Student Affairs Designee. Alleged violations of students while abroad will be resolved in an abbreviated hearing process which will provide administrative agreement and administrative hearing options. The timing guidelines for submission of charges is thirty days from the date the complainant reasonably should have become aware of the identity of the alleged party responsible for the incident (except sexual harassment charges which may be submitted within six months), though the Dean of Students has discretion in accepting matters for review beyond this timeframe.

2. Definition of Terms

a. **Administrative Agreement:** Students or organizations may choose to acknowledge their responsibility and plead "in violation" to pending allegations of violations of College policy and complete an Administrative Agreement. An Administrative Agreement is a “contract” process between a student or organization and a designated Hearing Officer which seeks to establish mutually agreed upon outcomes for behavior in violation of College policy. The purpose of the sanction is to educate the individual or organization as to why the documented behavior was inappropriate in the College environment, mitigate any negative impact of the behavior, and protect the community. At any point during the discussion, either the College official or the student/organization may choose to not complete the administrative agreement and pass the case on to the appropriate hearing body. Once approved, finalized agreements are not appealable as they are by definition voluntary and a means of final resolution of pending issues.

b. **Administrative Hearing:** Students or organizations may choose to have allegations they face heard by a Hearing Officer who will investigate the matter by hearing from the student and their witnesses and the examining any other information they deem relevant to determine whether responsibility exists. If responsibility is determined to exist, the Hearing Officer shall make a sanction recommendation.
c. **Confidentiality:** All cases involving violations of College policy are considered generally confidential with a few exceptions:
   i. notification of parents in emergencies or cases of alcohol and drug violations;
   ii. notification of those college authorities with an educational need to know (e.g. coaches and advisors as determined by the Dean of Students, hearing board members, etc.);

   Information from disciplinary files is not available to persons on campus without an educational need to know nor to any person off campus without the express consent of the student involved, except under legal compulsion, in cases where the safety of persons or property is involved, or under the exception providing for informing alleged victims of violent crimes (assault, etc.).

d. **Violation Types:** Assignment of violation type is the responsibility of the Dean of Students based on the following benchmarks:

   i. **Major Violations:** Violations of the Code of Student Conduct considered to be major include:
      a) three or more violations or misbehavior;
      b) damage or vandalism greater than $200.00;
      c) theft, attempted theft, or conversion;
      d) failure to comply with a disciplinary sanction;
      e) failure to comply with College agents;
      f) aggravated intolerance, harassment, threat and/or assault of another;
      g) risk to the health and safety of other community members (damage to access system, etc.); and
      h) fire safety policy violations.

   ii. **Minor Violations:** Violations of the policy considered minor are those not listed under the definition of major violations, and include, but are not limited to:
      a) first non-disruptive Alcohol Policy violations;
      b) unauthorized entry to, or use of College property, equipment or resources, including but not limited to the telephone system, mail system, computer system, vehicle keys, buildings and furnishings, roofs of College-owned or operated buildings and service tunnels, or the duplication of keys;
      c) damage or destruction or misuse of any College property, or property of others on College premises (e.g. intentional or reckless misuse of fire safety equipment);
      d) rough play in College buildings or on College premises,
      e) Visitation and Escort violations; and
      f) Quiet Hours policy violations.
e. **Sanction:** A sanction is any action affecting the status of a student which is taken by the College in response to misconduct. The purpose of such action will be to maintain behavioral expectations which uphold the educational mission of the community as well as to help students recognize acceptable boundaries to their actions/activities and the consequences of future behavior choices. In recommending and determining a sanction, the hearing board, administrative hearing officer or the Dean of Students or his/her designee may consider the student’s present demeanor and past disciplinary record, the nature of the offense, the severity of any damage, injury or resulting harm, and other relevant factors. If the allegations against the student are sustained, the adjudication body, may recommend and the Dean of Students may impose one or more of the following sanctions:

i. **Expulsion** -- The most severe sanction, behavior is such that the student’s presence on campus is not supportive of the mission of the College. The student is permanently separated from the institution. Notification will appear on the student’s transcript. The student will also be barred from the College premises and related activities.

ii. **Suspension** -- Separation of the student from the College system for a specified period of time, but not less than the duration of three courses/blocks. Notification may appear on the student’s transcript. The student will not participate in any College-sponsored activity and may be barred from College premises. Suspension may be deferred when significant mitigating factors are present. However, if a student receives another disciplinary finding of responsibility during this period for a further violation of the Code of Student Conduct, the suspension will take effect as of the date of the later finding. Students returning to Tusculum following a period of suspension will normally return on probation for a designated period of time.

iii. **Interim or Summary Suspension** -- The Dean of Students or his/her designee has the authority to invoke a summary suspension or limit access to the College and its programs and properties until completion of the hearing if there appears to be a danger of the student causing harm to him/herself or others, or if the person poses a threat to the well-being of the College community. In such cases, access to a hearing will be expedited (including, as necessary, through use of an ad hoc board constituted by the Dean of Students or his/her designee for this purpose);

iv. **College Housing Removal** -- Removal of the residential student from College housing for a specific period of time. Removal from College housing may be deferred when significant mitigating factors are present, provided, however, that if a student receives a disciplinary sanction of at least probation during this
period for a further violation of the Code of Student Conduct, the removal from housing will take effect as of the date of the later sanction.

v. *Loss of Privileges* -- Students may be denied specific campus privileges for a designated period of time, including participation in student organizations and other College sponsored events.

vi. *Community Compensation* -- Students are assigned to perform a specified number of hours of work at a local agency. The student is responsible for identifying the agency, coordinating the hours, and having the agency report completion of the assigned community compensation hours. When appropriate, this work may be related to the policy violation which led to the imposition of the sanction.

vii. *Fines* -- Fines may be assessed for violations of living plans or College policies.

viii. *Restitution* -- The student is required to make payment to the College or another for loss or damage to property.

ix. *Disciplinary Probation* -- A specified period of time during which any further violation of the Code of Student Conduct will receive careful scrutiny and may subject the student to suspension or expulsion. Those on probation may not hold an office or hold committee responsibility in student organizations, but they may continue as members of organizations and may attend social functions.

x. *Written Disciplinary Reprimand* -- The student is warned that further misconduct may result in more severe disciplinary action.

xi. *Revocation or Appending of Degrees* -- The College reserves the right to revoke an awarded degree or append notation to the transcript for fraud in receipt of the degree or for serious disciplinary violations committed by a student prior to the student's graduation.

xii. *Other Sanctions* -- Other sanctions may be imposed instead of or in addition to those specified above, such as work requirements, denial of participation in College activities, denial or restriction of privileges, and solutions worked out through arbitration and/or mediation, etc.

xiii. *Group/Organization Sanctions* - In addition to the sanctions listed above, the following sanctions may be imposed upon groups or organizations: Deactivation -- Loss of all privileges, including College recognition, for a specified period of time; and/or the loss of College housing for a group or organization.

f. *Sanction Endorsement or Modification* - In each case in which a judicial body determines that a student has violated the Student Code, the findings and sanction(s) will be recommended by the same judicial board to the Dean of Students or her/his designee. Following the hearing, the Dean of Students or her/his designee will advise the
accused in writing of the judicial board’s finding and, if appropriate, the sanctions imposed, as endorsed.

g. Student Sanction Records - Other than College suspension or expulsion, disciplinary sanctions will not be part of the student’s permanent academic record, but will be part of the student’s confidential (educational/personal) record. Due to federal regulations, incident resolution documentation must be kept in the student’s file for seven (7) years from the date of the incident. After this time, a student’s record may be expunged of disciplinary actions other than residence hall expulsion, College suspension, or College expulsion.

h. Peer Judicial Board: (hereafter referred to as the PJB) This board functions as the lower level adjudicating body of the residential College for resolving allegations of minor violations of the Code of Student Conduct:
   i. PJB consists of fifteen students who are selected in the spring through the Student Government Association and approved by the Dean of Students or her/his designee.
   ii. Vacancies due to a failure of the student body to select or due to the representatives failure to perform his/her duties (determined by a three-quarter vote of board) or resignation will be filled through recommendations tendered by the Student Government Association upon soliciting recommendations from the appropriate living area representative bodies and approval of the Dean of Students or his/her designee.
   iii. Members of the PJB who are charged with a violation of this Code or with a criminal offense may be suspended from their positions by the Dean of Students or his/her designee during the pendency of the charges against them. Members found responsible of any such violation or offense may be disqualified from any further participation in the administration of the College judicial system at the discretion of the Dean of Students or his/her designee.
   iv. The PJB Chief Justice and an Associate Justice will be selected by the Assistant Justices of the Board and will preside over cases before the Board.
   v. The PJB is trained and advised by the Dean of Students or his/her designee.
   vi. A hearing panel will be selected by the Chief Justice. The Chief Justice will select a minimum of five members of the Board to serve as the designated hearing body (providing for a rotation of those selected to serve from one hearing to the next). The Associate Justice will serve as a substitute should bias be established for any Board member.
   vii. Four members, inclusive of the chair, will constitute a quorum. A quorum is necessary for the PJB to review allegations brought
before it, unless the accused waives this right upon direct inquiry after being informed of said right.

viii. An ad hoc hearing board may be established by the Dean of Students or his/her designee whenever the regular hearing board is not constituted, is unable to obtain a quorum, or is otherwise unable to hear a case (e.g. opening, finals, or vacation periods).

i. **Community Standards Board:** (CSB) Functions as the upper level disciplinary body of the residential College for resolving allegations of major violations of the CSC.

   i. The Board is composed of four students, two faculty, and two staff members. Their responsibilities will include determining whether the accused is in violation or not in violation of the Code of Student Conduct and recommending sanctions to the Dean of Students. A separate non-voting (except in ties) chair, appointed by the Dean of Students or his/her designee will coordinate the council and chair the meetings.

   ii. The students are upperclassmen who are in good standing at the College and are approved by the Dean of Students or his/her designee upon consideration of recommendations submitted by the Student Government Association in consultation with the Chair of the CSB.

   iii. Two faculty are selected from recommendations of the faculty Professional Relations Committee who are familiar with the behavioral expectations and the curricular and co-curricular aspects of student affairs.

   iv. Two staff members are selected from recommendations of the Staff Council who are familiar with the behavioral expectations and the curricular and co-curricular aspects of student affairs.

   v. Vacancies resulting from a failure to perform duties (determined by three-quarter vote of the CSB) or resignation will be filled through the approval of recommendations made by Student Government Association to the Dean of Students or his/her designee for student and staff positions and through the Professional Relations Committee for the faculty positions.

   vi. Members of the CSB who are charged with a violation of this Code, a criminal offense, or other improprieties may be suspended from their positions by the Dean of Students or his/her designee during the review of allegations of improper behavior. Members found responsible of any such violation or offense may be disqualified from any further participation in the administration of the College judicial system at the discretion of the Dean of Students or his/her designee.

   vii. Five members, with at least three students and two faculty/staff, will constitute a quorum. A quorum is necessary for the CSB to review allegations brought before it, unless the accused waives this right upon direct inquiry after being informed of said right.
viii. An ad hoc hearing board may be established by the Dean of Students or his/her designee whenever the regular hearing board is not constituted, is unable to obtain a quorum, or is otherwise unable to hear a case (e.g. opening, finals, or vacation periods).

j. **Graduate and Professional Studies Community Standards Board** (GPSCSB). Functions as the disciplinary body of Graduate and Professional Studies for resolving allegations of violations of the CSC.

i. The Board is composed of nine students, two faculty and two staff members. Their responsibilities will include determining whether the accused is in violation or not in violation of the Code of Student Conduct and recommending sanctions to the Dean of Students. A separate non-voting (except in ties) chair, appointed by Dean of Students or his/her designee will coordinate the council and chair the meetings. The students are in good standing at the College and should provide representation from across the Graduate and Professional Studies program components. Students will be provide the opportunity to self-nominate in the fall of each academic year for a one year term and are approved by the Dean of Students or his/her designee upon consultation with the Student Government Association and the Chair of the GPSCSB.

ii. Two faculty members who are familiar with the behavioral expectations and the curricular and co-curricular aspects of student affairs will serve on the GPSCSB. Faculty members should be selected from across the Graduate and Professional Studies component programs and recommendations will be solicited from the Student Government Association to the faculty’s Professional Relations Committee.

iii. Two staff members who are familiar with the behavioral expectations and the curricular and co-curricular aspects of student affairs will be appointed by the Dean of Students.

iv. Vacancies resulting from a failure to perform duties (determined by three-quarter vote of the GPSCSB) or resignation will be filled through temporary appointments made by the Dean of Students designee for student and staff positions and through the faculty’s Professional Relations Committee for the faculty positions.

v. Members of the GPSCSB who are charged with a violation of this Code, a criminal offense, or other improprieties may be suspended from their positions by the Dean of Students or his/her designee during the review of allegations of improper behavior. Members found responsible of any such violation or offense may be disqualified from any further participation in the administration of the College judicial system at the discretion of the Dean of Students or his/her designee.

vi. Five members, with at least three students and two faculty/staff, will constitute a quorum. A quorum is necessary for the GPSCSB
to review allegations brought before it, unless the accused waive
this right upon direct inquiry after being informed of said right.

vii. An ad hoc hearing board may be established by the Dean of
Students or his/her designee whenever the regular hearing board
is not constituted, is unable to obtain a quorum, or is otherwise
unable to hear a case.

3. **Student Rights** - Tusculum College students have the right(s):

   a. To organize a personal life and behavior, to pursue individual
      activities, including freedom of movement, except when these interfere
      with the rights of others or violate established College, local, state, and
      federal laws regulations and policies.

   b. To freedom from personal force, violence, threats or personal abuse
      and sexual harassment, either as individuals or groups within the
      College community.

   c. To dissent -- to carry on individual or group activity which expresses
      grievances held against or changes desired in society, the College, or
      both (however, the activity needs to comply with campus activity
      policies and procedures).

   d. To have access to a statement of regulations promulgated by the
      College and receive a copy of same upon request. The College will
      make reasonable effort to make its policies known to students.

   e. To a process of fundamental fairness as outlined by College policies
      and procedures, including reasonable notice of a hearing and a written
      statement of the policies and procedures at issue (with information
      about the alleged misconduct upon which the violation allegation are
      based available upon request and such hearing notice will be provided
      through the campus e-mail and mail systems and, thereafter, behavior
      education processes may be conducted with or without the presence of
      the student); a presumption of not being responsible for a violation
      unless or until an admission of responsibility is entered or
      responsibility is determined by “a preponderance of the evidence” or
      “more likely than not” finding and any sanction will be proportionate
      to the severity of the violation.

   f. To request that an informal disciplinary conference (an Administrative
      Agreement or Administrative Hearing depending) be conducted to
      pursue the resolution of the matter;

   g. To have an opportunity to present a challenge to the objectivity of a
      hearing board member (which will be evaluated by the remaining
      members of the board);
h. To testify on one’s own behalf including written and oral statements and physical exhibits, to have material witnesses testify at the responsibility hearing or have the absence of a witness whose statement is considered weigh against their credibility as they are not available for challenge, and, while all students admitted to the College are presumed to be of good character until it is shown otherwise, to have a character witnesses testify at the hearing;

i. To decline to testify at a hearing. Students are reminded, however, that the hearing is not a formal judicial or criminal proceeding, and a hearing board may reasonably draw negative inferences from a refusal to answer questions or otherwise participate or cooperate in the hearing process;

j. To be present at all phases of the hearing except the board deliberations, and the right to examine and refute evidence introduced at the hearing (although direct examination of witnesses may not be permitted in hearings of alleged assault or harassment, but questions of both parties in such cases will be reviewed by the CSB Chair and posed if determined to be appropriate);

k. To be accompanied and assisted by an advisor at all phases of the hearing, provided that the advisor is a student, faculty, or staff member of Tusculum College and that the advisor understands that their role is solely to observe and advise the student and not to participate in any way in the hearing, including questioning witnesses or addressing the hearing body (in cases of sexual misconduct allegations, parties may utilize legal counsel, but counsel will still be bound to the advising role and may be excused for failure to observe this expectation);

l. To receive a timely written decision;

m. To an appeal or review of the original hearing as outlined in the appeals process (this right exists for all parties and if one party brings forth an appeal, all parties shall be notified of the need to submit appeals for final review);

n. To be assured of confidentiality, in accordance with the terms of the federal Family Education Rights and Privacy Act and understanding the few exceptions thereto; and

o. After a final decision has been rendered and all appeals finalized (note – all hearing outcomes are subject to appeal by all parties who have a right to be notified of the outcome, but only one appeal shall be heard from all parties simultaneously within the indicated timeline) to be free from subsequent hearing or sanctions for the same specific incident of
alleged misconduct (except in cases where charges of obfuscation or dishonesty as related to the initial hearing are being reviewed).

4. **Student Responsibilities** - *Tusculum College students bear the responsibility:

a. To act as mature, honest and respectful members of the College community;

b. To present College identification and comply with the directions of authorized College officials upon request;

c. To refrain from actions which deny other members of the community their rights;

d. To refrain from the use of force against another person or group, or personal abuse of another person;

e. To preserve the right to privacy of property of individuals, groups, the community, and the College itself;

f. To respect confidentiality of academic information about members of the Tusculum College community;

g. To observe all established College, local, state and federal rules, regulations, and laws. Nothing in this document can affect in anyway the jurisdiction of courts and other civil authorities over any Tusculum College student. Membership in the College community does not mean a privileged or immune status from the laws and regulations that other residents of Tennessee must obey;

h. To cooperate fully with any hearing officer or board/panel, to answer all questions truthfully and specifically, and to facilitate the body’s discovery of truth however possible; and

i. To give all testimony truthfully and honestly. All testimony given before officers and boards/panels is assumed to be under oath or affirmation.

5. **Options for Resolution**

a. Mediation is encouraged as a means to resolve many interpersonal disputes. The Dean of Students or his/her designee will inform complainants about the availability of mediation resources. Additionally, the Dean of Students may choose to place a hold on the resolution process until the parties make a reasonable attempt to achieve a mediated settlement (except in cases of harassment or
assault). For a mediation outcome to be binding such that parties to the agreement who violate same may be held accountable for such through the discipline system, the agreement must be facilitated by a Student Affairs hearing officer, endorsed by both parties, and approved by the Dean of Students or his/her designee.

b. The student may choose to seek an Administrative Agreement or Administrative Hearing with an assigned hearing officer, rather than the standard hearing board process;

c. Alternatively, allegations of Code of Student Conduct violations will be forwarded to chairs of the appropriate hearing body (residential minor violations to PJB, residential major violations to CSB, and GPS violations to GPSCSB) to convene a hearing;

d. Situations that are assessed to bring a maximum sanction of a warning may be addressed by the following procedure:

i. A letter of warning may be sent to the student along with a copy of the violation;

ii. In such a case, if the student wants either to address the situation further or pursue pleading not responsible, he/she will have three (3) days to contact the staff member who sent the letter to declare his/her desire for a hearing by the PJB or GPSCSB as appropriate. If the student does not respond, then the warning for the violation will stand as recognized.


a. Filing of Charges - At the request of any student, faculty or staff member, or independently, the College may file appropriate charges through the Office of Student Affairs alleging a violation by an accused student(s). Such charges should be filed no later than 30 days after the complainant reasonably should have become aware of the alleged violation and the identity of the student(s) involved, except in cases of sexual harassment/assault. In cases of sexual harassment/assault, charges may be filed up to six months after the complainant reasonably should have become aware of the alleged violation and the identity of the student(s) involved. However, the foregoing timeliness guidelines may be extended at the discretion of the Dean of Students. If a student has withdrawn or withdraws after the filing of such charges, at the College’s discretion, either (1) a “registration hold” will be placed on the student’s academic record (including a notation on the student’s transcript indicating that judicial action is pending [applicable upon withdrawal after the hearing as well]) and the student will be notified that disciplinary action may be
initiated upon the student’s application for readmission, or (2) the College may proceed to resolve the disciplinary action.

b. Delays - Any student charged with violating the Code of Student Conduct may request permission from the chair of the hearing board for a delay in hearing. In a case where criminal charges are pending against a charged student, upon this student’s request, at least a 7-day summary delay will be granted to secure the advice of legal counsel (however this will not effect the implementation of suspension upon review of a deferred suspension status nor will it impact the application of an interim suspension status). All other delays will be granted at the discretion of the Dean of Students or his/her designee.

c. Notification - In the event of a hearing, the charged student will be notified through campus e-mail or mail at least five calendar days prior to the date of the hearing (or one day for a hearing held to review an alleged violation of a summary/deferred suspension). Such notice will include the following:
   i. The specific charge(s) citing the appropriate College policies or regulation(s) allegedly violated;
   ii. A brief indication of the time and place the underlying behavior is alleged to have occurred;
   iii. The time and place of the proposed hearing.
   iv. The source of general guidelines established for the hearing (reference to handbook web address and ability to access/obtain printed copy).

d. Advisor - The student may request the assistance of an advisor (who is not licensed to serve as legal counsel in the U.S.) from the College community in the hearing, but must represent him/herself. When appropriate, the student may speak through an interpreter. When there is a pending criminal case against the student arising out of the same facts as the charge(s), the student may be accompanied by legal counsel, who will be present for the purpose of advising the student and will not participate in the hearing.

e. General Hearing Guidelines
   i. The hearing will be closed to all except the hearing board, complainant or situational representative, accused, and their advisors (who must be members of the Tusculum College community and may not be certified or licensed to serve as legal counsel).
   ii. All hearing board members will be given the opportunity to review the hearing documents before the hearing convenes. The chair will direct all present at the hearing to state their names and relationship to the case, excuse unapproved parties, explain the format and procedures of the hearing, and answer any questions
concerning the complaint and/or the procedures to be followed during the hearing.

iii. When the complainant, accused, a member of the hearing board or the chair charges that another member may not be impartial or able to judge the facts of the case objectively, the charged member may make a statement in his/her behalf and must then leave the room with all other parties except the remaining members of the hearing board who will discuss and vote on the member’s impartiality. If a majority of the members judges the charged member not to be impartial, that person will not be removed from the hearing panel for the case in question.

iv. The chair will have the complainant state the nature of the complaint (in a minor violation review, a formal complainant may not be assigned when the case is brought by the College with witnesses called by the chair as present to review their input for consideration).

v. The chair will ask for a plea from the accused. If the accused fails to attend the hearing of which he/she has been formally notified, the hearing board will hear the case in his/her absence using any available information.

(a) If the plea is “in violation”
   -- The accused and the complainant will be given an opportunity to make a statement.
   -- Hearing board members will be given an opportunity to ask questions of either party and available witnesses to clarify their understanding of the circumstances of the violation.

(b) If the plea is “not in violation”
   -- After the plea, the witness(es) will be asked to leave the room. The complainant and accused will remain.
   -- The complainant and accused may give opening statements. The chair may specify a time limit on statements.

   -- The hearing board will question the complainant and his/her witness(es) individually. The hearing board hearing is not a court of law and need not, nor should it, observe the rules of evidence utilized by the courts, and should exclude unduly repetitious or irrelevant evidence. Witnesses will appear as called by the hearing board, testify, and leave. The chair may specify a time limit on the witnesses’ testimony.
   -- The hearing board will question the accused and his/her witness(es) individually. Witnesses will appear as called by the hearing board, testify and leave. The chair may specify a time limit on the witnesses’ testimony.
   -- The accused and complainant may question witnesses when recognized by the chair.
   -- The accused and complainant will be given the opportunity to question one another (except in cases of assault or harassment.
where questions may be reviewed for appropriateness and then posed or not posed by the Chair at his/her discretion).

--The complainant and accused will be given the opportunity to make summary statements (inclusive of statements from the complainant as to perceived impact of alleged behaviors) with the accused having the final opportunity to address the Board.

vi. The chair will then outline the procedures for receiving a letter regarding the finding and sanctions (if appropriate), appeals process, and answer any questions of the parties. The accused, complainant, and any witnesses will then be asked to leave the room. After deliberation, the hearing board will render a finding of “in violation” or “not in violation” by a simple majority vote (although a consensus opinion will be reasonably pursued). The Chair will participate in discussions of the allegations, but only vote in case of a tie.

vii. If the accused is found “in violation” the chair will inform the hearing board of any relevant disciplinary history in the disciplinary file of the accused. Such information will be considered as the hearing board determines an appropriate sanction recommendation for the case.

viii. Any person, including the complainant and the accused, who disrupts a hearing or who fails to adhere to the rulings of the presiding officer may be excluded from the proceedings.

ix. Any recommendation of a hearing board will be based on a reasonable interpretation of the evidence and testimony at the hearing. Supporting evidence and records must be presented at the hearing.

x. The hearing board will determine findings of fact, recommend sanction(s) to be considered, and provide support. The entire record will be forwarded to the Dean of Students or his/her designee. Within the five working days after receiving the hearing board’s determination, the Dean of Students or his/her designee will render the written decision. In the case of Title IX related matters (e.g. sexual harassment), the outcomes will be presented to the accused and the accuser). The Dean of Students or his/her designee may request the hearing board to clarify its determination. Upon receipt of said request the hearing board will convene to address the questions raised.

f. Appeal Procedures

i. There are three bases for appeal: a) the sanction awarded is not proportionate to the violation for which responsibility was found, b) there were failures in the system procedures [the process indicated herein was not followed], and c) there is new evidence available which was not available at the time of the hearing.

ii. Appeals must be in writing and received within five calendar days of notice being sent to the student of the official sanctions.
Appeals are forwarded to the Dean of Students or his/her designee. Appeal decisions will be based on a review of the appeal letter, the summary of the hearing and other supporting documents presented in the hearing, and a discussion with the hearing officer or board chair. If the Dean of Students or his/her designee finds abnormalities, he or she may refer the matter to the same or another hearing board as appropriate, or adjust the finding or sanctions to reflect the information determined through the appeal.

iii. Subsequent and final appeal based solely on procedural grounds can be made to the Dean of Students.

iv. After appeals to the appropriate College officials, and after all decisions are rendered, the case will be considered closed.

g. Immediate Removal
Any student suspended or expelled may be required to leave campus immediately upon official notification of the sanction or outcome of the hearing, even if the student plans to file an appeal. Should the student seek to appeal the action, he/she will need to arrange for any further access through the Dean of Students or his/her designee.

h. Parental Notification
Tusculum College recognizes that students, parents, and the College are in a partnership in which each has the responsibility to promote a healthy and productive educational experience. The College behavior education process exists to provide corrective action which is educational and developmental, to protect the campus community, and to maintain an environment conducive to learning. Violations of the College alcohol and/or drug policies can detract from the learning environment. The College believes parents can assist students in fulfilling their educational goals through the use of open dialogue.

Due to recent amendments to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), it is now permissible for Tusculum College to notify the parent or guardian of students under the age of 21 when those students have been found responsible for alcohol and drug related offenses.

If a student under the age of 21 is found to be responsible for the use and/or possession of drugs or drug paraphernalia, the resultant sanction will include notification of the parent/guardian by the Dean of Students or his/her designee. In the event of a first non-disruptive violation of the alcohol policy by a student, the sanction benchmark includes, but is not limited to probation, developmental counseling, and community service. In addition to the aforementioned sanctions, a first disruptive or second non-disruptive violation of the alcohol policy by a student under the age of 21 has as a result the notification of the parent/guardian by the Dean of Students or his/her designee.
In addition, the parent/guardian may be contacted in any instance in which the health or safety of the student has been threatened either through the student's own acts or the acts of others.

i. Transcript Encumbrances

In pending cases that could result in suspension or expulsion (or cases of deferred suspension), a student records block and a transcript notation indicating that a judicial matter is pending may be placed on a student's records by the Dean of Students or his/her designee.
RL. **Residential Life & Housing**

RL1 **Undergraduate Campus Housing**

As a Civic Arts College, Tusculum seeks to foster a spirit of community, benefiting from the full participation of each campus citizen. The student and the community are best served when the student is available to be involved in campus activities. National studies support, and campus experience confirms, that students who reside on campus are more likely to fully benefit from their educational experience. Of all the implications, however, three areas deserve special attention because they are directly attributed to on-campus living:

- **Academic Performance and Persistence**
  Resident students are more likely to maintain excellent academic performance and earn a bachelor’s degree than off-campus students. A recent review of grade point averages indicates this is also true on our campus. The average GPA of residence hall students is higher than the campus average, and each residence hall class average GPA is higher than the corresponding campus class average GPA.

- **Satisfaction with the Faculty**
  Resident students tend to have more contact with faculty and are more satisfied with their interaction with faculty than off-campus students.

- **Student Development & Learning**
  Resident students are more likely to establish strong interpersonal relationships, more likely to learn from group and interpersonal interaction.

To achieve these benefits, and maximize the College experience, all undergraduate students are required to live in the residential facilities unless they are granted an exemption based upon one of the criteria later defined in this policy statement. During fall and spring semesters, housing is limited to full-time students or to part-time students with approved accommodations/special needs. During the summer and break periods, housing is limited to students enrolled at Tusculum College during the term, or to students required to be in residence to participate in activities approved by the Dean of Students as related to the College mission.

Tusculum College’s current student residences are designed to complement the pursuit of full-time undergraduate studies, with respect to their design as multiple resident units, their supervision by undergraduate resident assistants reporting to graduate and professional staff members, and their emphasis on educational programming and leadership development to complement students' curricular pursuits. For those reasons, students who are under the age of 17 or over the age of 30 are not normally eligible for College housing.
Petitions for exceptions to this policy will be considered on an individual basis by the Housing Committee, whose decisions with respect to such petitions will be final (petitions may be submitted through Dean of Students).

To request an exception to the campus housing requirement, the student must complete an Undergraduate Campus Housing Exemption Request Form and provide a local address and telephone number and verification of one of the following:

- notarized letter of local residency with a parent or legal guardian within a county contiguous to the Greeneville campus (may be completed in presence of College official through admission/registration process without needing to be notarized) by June 1, 2016,
- above 23 years of age as of June 1, 2016,
- license of marriage,
- single student with legal dependent(s), or
- military veteran – has served at least one year active duty in the military forces.

Other documents may be required to verify need for the exception. If a local student is accommodated on campus, the student will be required to reside on-campus for the full academic year. Under full occupancy, exemptions may be considered on an individual basis based upon accumulated hours and grade point average. Students who have documented health problems that prohibit communal living should contact the Director of Disability Services or the Dean of Students for assistance in addressing any concerns.

Occasionally, financial need is cited as a reason for requesting a campus housing exemption. The College’s Undergraduate Campus Housing Policy makes no provision for financial need as a reason that qualifies for an exception. Thus, requests made on this premise are not approved. Students needing financial assistance are advised to discuss their situation with the Office of Financial Aid and Student Campus Employment. Moving off campus may impact financial aid eligibility. Students are encouraged to consult the financial aid office prior to completing the Undergraduate Campus Housing Exemption Request Form and/or making arrangements for off-campus lodging. It should be noted that some program directors (i.e. coaches, theater, music, etc.) may have a more restrictive campus housing requirement for members of their team or program that differs from the stated policy.

If an Undergraduate Campus Housing Exemption Request is denied, the applicant may appeal in writing to the Campus Housing Committee. The Campus Housing Committee includes key Cabinet representatives who review
appeals and make final determinations. Normally, applicants will be notified of the decision within two weeks of the date of the appeal.

**RL2 Housing Patterns**

All housing arrangements are coordinated through the Office of Student Affairs, and include residence halls, program houses, and apartments. All regulations for residential living apply equally to all College traditional and non-traditional residential facilities.

1. **Residence Halls** - There are six traditional style residence halls on the campus: Charles Oliver Gray East is a solely female residence hall. Charles Oliver Gray, and Haynes Halls are male facilities. Finally, Welty-Craig Hall, Katherine Hall, Charles Oliver Gray South, and the Apartment Complex are co-ed facilities.

2. **Non-Traditional Housing** - Designated College owned houses and apartments are available for individual accommodations and program houses or group living units. Student groups may apply each spring to live in these houses or apartments during the room sign-up process. Some College owned houses are not connected to the College’s phone or internet system, but commercial services for both programs are provided.

**RL3 Housing/Room Assignment Process**

1. **Room Assignments** will be managed solely by the Office of Student Affairs. Student requests will be honored whenever possible. Priority for rooms is determined during the registration process in the spring semester. Priority for rooms is determined according to the order in which students complete the registration process, including payment of the housing deposit.

2. **Room Changes** - Room Changes will be facilitated in accordance with the policy, which recognizes that residency is both an expectation and a privilege, as well as a learning/growing experience. For this reason, all possible solutions to resolve roommate conflict situations will be pursued before a change will be endorsed.

Any roommate difficulty should be discussed with the Resident Assistant to try and resolve the issues presented. However, roommate changes are only permitted under extreme circumstances during the first two weeks of a semester as developing skills in working through challenging situations, etc. are part of the residential experience. Students requesting a roommate change must follow the format established by the Office of Student Affairs. Student Life Coordinators, responsible for the individual facilities, will make and approve all final changes and residents who do not follow
the appropriate room change process may be subject to judicial action and improper check-in/check-out fines ($50.00 minimum).

3. **Single Rooms** - A student who requests, and is assigned to live in a single-occupancy room, is assessed an additional housing fee. A student who requests, and is assigned to live alone in a two-person room, is assessed an additional housing fee, adjusted on a yearly basis. For information on current fees, contact the Office of Student Affairs.

   a. Students who find themselves without a roommate will have these options:

      i. If space is available, accept the room as a single and begin paying the additional housing fee.

      ii. Refuse to accept the room as a single, recognizing that they may be asked at any time to move or accept an assigned roommate, and continue to pay the double occupancy rate (this status may continue until the conclusion of the semester).

   b. At the start of the next semester, students who chose option (2) above will be required to select one of the following options:

      1. If space is available, accept the room as a single and begin paying the additional housing fee.

      2. Accept a roommate, or agree to move in with another student (which student moves is determined by credit hours and GPA if necessary).

      3. If a roommate is not available, then the student can refuse to accept the room as a single, recognizing that he or she may be asked at any time to move or accept an assigned roommate, and continue to pay the double occupancy rate.

This policy applies to a student who is assigned to a double occupancy room and is not assigned a roommate. A student assigned to a “built as single” room, without requesting a single room, will not be charged an additional fee, but may be asked to move at the conclusion of the semester.

If a student requests and receives a single room during the semester, the additional housing fee is prorated based upon the date of check-in into the new room.

4. **Use of Facilities During Break Periods**
There may be rare occasions when the College will find it necessary to house people in a student’s room during extended breaks. This might occur when needed maintenance is being performed during a break, and some residents in that hall need to be temporarily relocated. Another possibility is that of housing conference participants in College housing during an academic break. If the room you have been occupying is to be used, you will be given at least one week’s notice that the College is invoking its contractual rights. Assistance will be given to students whose rooms are to be used in order to make any needed preparations.

**RL4 Residential Life Program**

Tusculum is a residential college. As such, the residential campus is more than just a place to live. The residence halls on campus serve as classrooms for learning human relations skills and serve as social centers for residents. Students living on campus become residents of a small neighborhood within each facility and a member of the larger community of all those who live on campus. As in every such community, policies and procedures are necessary to protect the rights of individuals and the welfare of the community at large. In keeping with the mission of the College to instill qualities of Judeo-Christian character, they also reflect the values and standards of conduct expected of residents. At all times, residents are expected to use good judgment and show respect for the rights and needs of others in the care and use of student housing and facilities.

The ideals of the Civic Arts encourage all of us to be active participants in our communities. The residence halls provide an immediate opportunity for community involvement. All residents are responsible for being active, positive participants in their residential community.

From the central administrative office, to the front-line live-in residential staff, the Residence Hall Staff is composed of highly trained professionals and para-professionals who offer service and guidance to the resident students on how to realize maximum benefit and enjoyment of their residence hall living experience.

The Student Life Coordinators are full-time professionals who reside within the residence halls to assure that living and learning standards are maintained. The efforts of these professionals are complemented by a para-professional student staff comprised of Resident Assistants (RAs).

RAs are para-professional staff members who are concentrated in the first-year housing clusters and serve the resident population by initiating programs to encourage interaction and integration, providing friendly support, acting as a resource person, and serving as a peer counselor/referral agent, as well as representing the College with respect to enforcement of the campus policies and procedures. These Resident Assistants are the first line of contact.
resource or counsel for residential students, who welcome your contact and look forward to getting to know you.

**RL5 Residential Life & Housing Services and Policies**

This section addresses a number of Residential Life and Housing policies, which supplement the Code of Student Conduct.

1. **Cable Television** - Every Tusculum College residence hall room is wired for standard cable service. Tusculum also maintains a student run television channel which can be found on Channel 34 WTCV. For questions, or to report problems with cable service, please contact the Department of Information Systems located on the 4th floor of Niswonger Commons or call 636-7346 (from the halls, ext. 4-5346).

2. **Telecommunications** – Tusculum College manages its own internet services and telephone systems. Each student’s room in residential housing is provided Ethernet access to the Tusculum College network/internet, which is covered by tuition. Even though local/emergency phone service is provided in residential housing, other telephone service is the responsibility of the student. Students are encouraged to provide their own cellular phone service long-distance service. Those students wishing to make long distance calls are otherwise required to make arrangements with a long distance carrier of their choice.

3. **Laundry Facilities** are located in each living unit on campus. A special program has been implemented, which allows students to use the machines without needing to provide money or tokens. Those who do not live in facilities where this fee is applied may not use the machines in the aforementioned areas.

4. **Dining Services** - Dining service at Tusculum College is in the Niswonger Commons, and is operated by contract on behalf of the College by Sodexo Services, Inc. All students living in College residence halls are required to participate in the board plan.

**MEAL SCHEDULE:**

**Regular Meal Hours**
- Breakfast: 7:30 a.m.-9 a.m.
- Lunch: 11 a.m.-1 p.m.
- Dinner: 4:30 p-7:30p (except Friday closure at 7:00p)

**Break and Weekend Hours**
- Brunch: 11:00a-1:00p
- Dinner: 4:30p-6:00p

The food service operation is closed during Thanksgiving, Christmas, and Spring breaks.

**COMMUTER STUDENTS AND DINING HALL GUESTS:** Commuting students, faculty, and staff, are encouraged to purchase a discount meal...
plan. The Business Office maintains a list of the available meal plans and rates.

POLICIES AND RULES: The following policies and rules are applicable to the dining facilities:

 Meal plan students must present student ID at each meal. Students will not be permitted to enter the dining hall without their student ID.
 Shoes and shirts must be worn at all times.
 No food, drink, utensils or other items may be taken from the dining hall.
 After eating, return your tray to the dish area, discarding your trash, and separating your silverware.

Please note that there are no refunds for any unused meals or when a student withdraws from the College during a semester. If a student request to be exempted from the meal plan during the semester is granted, board/meal charges will be refunded for the portion of the academic term remaining from four full weeks from the date withdrawal from the plan is approved.

COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS: You may offer comments by filling out comment cards available in the dining room, contacting the Director of Dining Services, or contacting the Office of Student Affairs. Let our Dining Services personnel know when we do things well or can otherwise help you enjoy your dining experience.

SPECIAL NEEDS: Students with special medical or dietary needs should consult with the Director of Dining Services to determine how their needs can be met. Thereafter, if the student believes that their dining needs cannot be made, they will need to receive a meal plan waiver from the Office of Student Affairs after submitting a request in compliance with the “Guidelines for Documentation of Food Related Disability in Support of Meal Plan Waiver Request” (available through the Office of Student Affairs) to document a disability in compliance with the American with Disabilities Act. All requests for special needs accommodations or exemptions extend for one academic year, and must be renewed annually.

BAG LUNCHES: Students on the meal plan who are planning to miss a normal meal-serving time due to a class field trip, athletic participation, or other school-sponsored activity may request a sack lunch for that meal in advance. Normally, when groups are involved, the faculty or staff member will make the request on behalf of the entire group, but students should follow up with the group’s coordinators. Requests for bag lunches must be made in writing to the food service manager at least 72 hours in advance of the pick-up time.

CATERING: The College’s contract with Sodexo Services provides Sodexo with the right of first refusal on all catering on campus, whether
for College-related events or for events sponsored by external agencies. If you are planning an activity which involves catering, please contact the food service manager at least two weeks in advance to make the necessary arrangements. The Director of Dining Services can be reached in person or by telephone at 636-7309.

5. **Maintenance Services** - All maintenance problems should be sent to tcwork@tusculum.edu or reported to Facilities Management or the Office of Student Affairs. Facilities Management personnel will complete the repairs as quickly as possible. In case of emergency, notify Campus Safety immediately. Should a work request not be completed in a timely fashion, students should contact Facilities Management directly and then the Office of Student Affairs.

6. **Custodial Services** are available for cleaning of residence hall hallways, lounges and lobby areas Monday through Friday. Cleaning that is needed as a result of improper behavior is to be done by the person(s) involved, or the cleaning will be assessed as a community damage charge. Residents are responsible for cleaning their own rooms.

7. **Damages/Vandalism** - Vandalism is any malicious and/or intentional destruction of property, buildings, or equipment. Students found to be responsible for vandalism will be assessed for the repair of their actions and are subject to disciplinary action. This charge will include all administrative costs, labor and materials associated with necessary repairs.

   Damage is any action that requires replacement of property or equipment as a result of an accident or improper use of an item. In the event of damage, students who self-identify their responsibility will be billed for associated costs, but are not subject to disciplinary action; otherwise, the situation will be managed as vandalism.

   To avoid damage, use Plasti-tak or a similar non-permanent mounting to display decorations. Nails, tacks, push pins, masking tape, and adhesive decals all cause wall damage. If the College is unable to determine who is responsible for particular damages, or there are damages to common areas (i.e. hallways, bathrooms, corridor doors), the costs will be prorated to the occupants of the hall or suite where the damage occurred. Although charges will be billed immediately, the work associated with repairs may be delayed at the discretion of the Office of Student Affairs and Facilities Management. The Office of Student Affairs may prorate charges to a particular group, if evidence warrants such action.

8. **Access and Occupancy** - Access to College residential facilities is available only when the College is in session. Occupancy of student residential spaces is contingent upon the resident maintaining registration as a full-time student. Unauthorized entrance into a locked residence hall
room, other than the student's own room, or other locked College facility, will subject a student to suspension from the College and/or criminal trespass.

9. **Check-In/Check-Out** - When you move in, inspect the room carefully and return the room assessment form to your Resident Assistant (RA). Any damages not noted on the form will be charged to you when you depart the room. The form is your protection against unnecessary charges. If you plan to move out of your room, let the RA know 24 hours in advance so he or she may be present to inspect the room and sign off as to the condition of the room. Students are expected to return the room to its original condition. Rooms requiring special cleaning will be assessed a cleaning fee that ranges from $50-$150 depending on the degree of cleaning required. The Office of Student Affairs shall make the final damage assessment, but if the student does not arrange to be present during the inspection, the inspection is final.

When the residence halls close, you must be completely moved out by the date and time identified by the College. Graduates and/or students participating in graduation must be completely moved out by 5:00 p.m. on the day of graduation. Any student that does not formally check out with a RA will be charged $50.00 for improper check out. Additionally, $28.00 per day will be assessed to students that are present or have constructive possession of a room without authorization.

10. **Identification Cards** - All students will be issued a photo-bearing Tusculum College student identification card at check-in. Student ID cards are required for admittance to the residence halls, cafeteria, library, College sporting events and other campus activities. When asked by any authorized College personnel (including RAs and Campus Safety Officers), students must present their ID cards. Failure to present identification may jeopardize the privilege of remaining on campus as a method of determining the identity of students versus non-students is necessary for campus safety. Students who fail to properly identify themselves upon request by a College official will be subject to disciplinary action. Report lost ID cards to the Campus Safety Office immediately. Replacement cards will be issued for a $20.00 fee.

11. **Locks and Keys** - It is the responsibility of residents to keep the room locked and keep the key on his/her person. Lost keys will be replaced at the rate of $60.00 per core (lock) and $5.00 per key. Residential room doors found unsecured with no residents present will be secured. Room access may be provided by Campus Safety once each semester at no cost. Thereafter, a $10.00 fee will be assessed. However, students may obtain a loaner key from the Student Affairs Office for a twenty-four hour period if they believe their key is misplaced, but still in their possession (lost in room, left at home, etc.). Supplemental locks, chains or guards are not
permitted in any campus owned residential space, and any impedance to proper access by campus officials, which results in damage to the facility due to the presence of such improper items, will be the financial responsibility of the residents of the space.

It is the responsibility of all individuals to maintain hall security by not propping outside residence doors. Only residents, staff and escorted guests are to be permitted access to residence halls. If a student breaks their key, he or she will need to turn in the “head” of the key before a duplicate key will be issued. Failure to turn in the “head” will result in the student being charged for a lock change.

12. **Expectation of Privacy** by residents in their rooms is recognized and supported by the College to the extent that it does not conflict with the College’s responsibility to assure a safe and secure living and learning environment. This expectation of privacy carries with it the responsibility for students to conduct themselves within the policies of the College. In support of the foregoing standard, a student's room will be protected from search unless **authorized for cause** by the Dean of Students or his/her designee.

13. **Right of Inspection** by authorized College representatives within student quarters will be retained by the College to address standards of maintenance, preservation of existing physical structure, safety and security of College property, or when a violation of College policy is suspected. Throughout the year, including vacation periods, the College reserves the right to check and repair student rooms. Regular inspections will also be conducted to ensure the property is being maintained in a reasonably clean and healthy manner. The College will exercise reasonable care with the personal belongings of the student at all times.

14. **Residential Visitation** hours are intended for friends and family, never for unrestricted public access to residence halls. Each resident student is responsible not only for his/her own conduct, but for the conduct of his/her visitors. The Visitation Policy has been accepted by the Board of Trustees as a limited principle. The following requirements and expectations must be met and maintained for a living unit to acquire and retain the privilege:

a. Visitation does not imply open residential areas. Guests are to be escorted to the room of visitation or through any private area of the residence hall by their host or hostess. Members of the opposite sex do not have access to residence areas of any living units unless escorted. Members of the opposite sex do not have bathroom or shower privileges.
b. Visitation Sunday through Thursday will be within the hours of 12:00 p.m. (noon) to 1:00 a.m.

c. Visitation on Friday and Saturday will be within the hours of 12:00 p.m. (noon) to 3:00 a.m.

d. There is no visitation when the College or the residence halls are officially closed. Lobby visitation hours are identical to regular visitation in each residence hall. Visitors under age eighteen are not permitted, except when the visitor is related to the student.

15. **Residential Overnight Guests** on campus are permitted if they are of the same gender as the resident host, the stay is limited to no more than two (2) nights in a given thirty (30) days, and permission of all roommates/housemates is received. The resident must inform an RA or other residential staff from the floor about overnight guests in advance of the stay and all guests and vehicles are recommended to be registered with Campus Safety should an emergency be reported and contact with them is necessary (family crisis, vehicle incident, etc.).

16. **Quiet Hours** are established at the beginning of the fall semester by each residence hall or living facility. The minimum quiet hours times are 10:00 p.m. to 10:00 a.m. Sunday through Thursday evenings; and 1:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. on Friday and Saturday evenings. From the last day of classes for the semester through the beginning of the next semester, Quiet Hours are observed 24 hours a day. During quiet hours, residents are expected to contain their noise level to that which cannot be heard from another room when the doors are closed (the same applies to houses, etc.). The maintenance of quiet hours is not a duty to be left up to the residential life staff but is to be a cooperative effort on the part of all residents which is supported by the staff.

17. **Consideration Hours** are the times other than quiet hours in which cooperation among residents is expected. During this period, the standard for establishing a violation is whether the noise level is disruptive as determined by an objective staff member. Staff will encourage students to negotiate reasonable standards and noise levels, but if the students cannot reach consensus, the staff member will evaluate the noise level against the ability for a "reasonable person" to engage in behaviors standard to a living environment while supporting the expectation that the residence halls should be conducive to the learning process. **Stereo and other audio equipment** are to be played at volumes which will not interfere with the activities of residential facility or community residents.

18. **Lofts & Bunk Beds** and other structures are not permitted in residence hall rooms. Due to restrictions established by the Fire Marshall, bunk beds
are not permitted in Haynes or Welty-Craig Halls. Lofting beds is not permitted except with special permission from the Dean of Students.

19. **Insurance** for personal possessions should be provided by the student as the College is not responsible for loss or destruction of personal property, including loss by theft, fire, etc. Therefore, students should assure that their family insurance plan provides sufficient coverage for their possessions while away from home or examine whether a “renter’s” insurance policy will best meet their needs.

20. **Publicly Abandoned Items** - The College reserves the right to dispose of any items left in the public areas for any period of time, and the College will take no responsibility for those items (e.g. dishes, cooking supplies, athletic equipment, room furniture). Items left in public areas are a safety, community health, and cleaning issue. Therefore, any personal belongings that remain in a public area are subject to disposal.

Tusculum College does not assume any responsibility for any personal property left in the residence halls after closing. Any students who leave behind items in their rooms will be charged a minimum removal fee of $50.00, in addition to any applicable cleaning charges. Storage facilities are not available on campus for student belongings.


a. Possession of any open heating element or open flames or ignition points (e.g. heaters, burners, hot plates, sandwich presses, Foreman grills, toaster ovens, halogen lamps, candles, incense, potpourri pots, “hoverboard-type” devices, etc.) or any unapproved appliances, televisions or reception systems requiring wiring outside the room, etc. are not permitted, however, residents can use the following small food appliances: small coffee pot, nu-wave ovens(apartments only), George Foreman grills (apartments only), popcorn air popper, and under-counter refrigerator;

b. Possession of extension cords or multi outlet adapters are not permitted, surge protector strip plugs are permitted to help protect equipment and reduce malfunctions;

c. Possession of waterbeds, weight sets over 150 lbs. (smaller sets may be permitted with permission of all roommates and affected neighbors [beside, above and below the room] submitted to the Student Life Coordinator for approval), etc. which have the potential to result in dramatic damage to the facility; or large furniture which blocks reasonable access to doors, windows, or heating and ventilation equipment or access to the room;
d. Placement of any items in or on window, sill/ledge, balcony, railing, etc., or any antennas, cords, flags, signs, etc. out of the windows/doors, on the exterior of the facility, or visible from the exterior (except for College sanctioned decoration events); and

e. Alterations or modifications made to either the interior or exterior surfaces of the room, balconies, porches, apartments or building without written approval of the Student Life Coordinator or a managing member of the Office of Student Affairs.

**RL6 Residence Life Emergency Procedures**

1. **Fire Procedures** - Any fire of whatever origin or size, must be reported to Campus Safety (5318) in order to ensure the safety of residents. In the case of an alarm sounding, secure your room (windows and doors) and immediately leave the area. Leave everything behind except your key. Exit in an orderly fashion (evacuation plans are posted on each floor). Do not use elevators. Walk, do not run. Keep calm. Move away from entrances and buildings once you are outside to allow emergency personnel unimpeded access to the building. Do not re-enter the building until told to do so by College staff. Additionally, fire drills will be held each semester in compliance with state fire laws to promote the awareness of all residents and assure the functionality of systems and processes dedicated to resident safety. Resident and guest participation and cooperation is mandatory.

2. **Severe Storm/Tornado Procedure** - In the event of a severe thunderstorm or tornado watch, students are advised to listen to local radio/television stations for current weather information. A weather alert will go out if a tornado has been spotted in the local area. In the event of a **warning**, students are to seek shelter in College buildings, preferably near the center of the building away from windows. Students may also want to seek protection under heavy furniture. **Do not** leave buildings during a storm/tornado warning. The official storm shelter area on campus is the lower level of the Pioneer Arena, outside of the Athletic Training and Health Services areas.

   **Weather Watch** - conditions are conducive for producing severe weather, thunderstorms, or tornadoes.

   **Weather Warning** - severe weather, thunderstorms or tornadoes have been observed in the local area.

3. **Injury/Illness** - In the event of injury or illness, students should contact the Wellness Center (5499) or Campus Safety (5318).
4. **Physical Damage** - Students are requested to report physical damage to Campus Safety (5318).

Students with additional questions should reference the Emergency Response Procedures Manual of the College found under the “Resources” section of the College webpage.
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The Guide: Who to See About What On Campus and Registering Student Concerns

This index can provide a start in the right direction in getting the assistance or service students may need. When in doubt, a good place to start is with your academic adviser or the Office of Student Affairs. This index includes office names and room numbers. For personnel names, titles and telephone numbers please refer to the current campus directory.

Tusculum College welcomes opinions and feedback about our policies, programs, facilities and services in order to assure we are providing the optimal living and learning experience for students. Students may occasionally experience a challenge or concern which they do not know how to resolve. In such cases, the student is expected to first approach the individual or office most involved with the issue and discuss the matter in a direct and honest fashion. Most issues can be resolved when a student connects with the appropriate faculty or staff member and calmly and directly communicates their concern.

In addition, there are multiple options for students seeing assistance in articulating and addressing their concerns using informal approaches as well as more formal procedures, if needed. The Student Concern Resources Chart in the Student Handbook can help students identify specific policies and/or grievance procedures (such as grade appeals, academic integrity allegations, discrimination or harassment, code of conduct violations and student to student complaints) as well as program areas designated to assist students in addressing specific concerns. If it is unclear what office or person can be of assistance, the Dean of Students office is located in Niswonger Commons Room 225 and serves as the campus ombuds-office to assist students in resolving their issues.

If a student desires to file a complaint with the College's accrediting agency, the Commission on Colleges-Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, the process to follow can be found at [www.sacsoc.org/pdf/081705/complaintpolicy.pdf](http://www.sacsoc.org/pdf/081705/complaintpolicy.pdf).

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