

IDENTIFYING DISTURBING and DISRUPTIVE STUDENT BEHAVIOR

Disturbing Student Behavior usually causes us to feel concerned, alarmed, afraid or frustrated. Students exhibiting disturbing behavior may have a negative impact on their academic performance, other students or the instructor's ability to teach. Furthermore, the disturbing behavior may be symptomatic of a student's ability to manage personal adjustments or emotional difficulties.

Examples of Disturbing Student Behavior:

- Academic difficulties
- Suspicion or evidence of substance abuse
- Explosive or violent behavior (loss of temper, intimidation, fighting, property damage)
- Threats of violence (causing harm to self, others or property)
- Risk-taking behavior
- Obsessive fascination with weapons
- Social isolation (withdrawal from peers)
- Victimization (being bullied or rejected)
- Unusual lack of empathy for others
- History of behavioral or mental health issues

Interventions for Disturbing Behavior

University personnel have options for responding to disturbing student, such as initiating a private conversation with the student or consulting with various campus departments and resources, including:

- Counseling Center 654-3366
- Student Health Center 654-2394
- Dean of Student Life 654-2680
- University Police 654-2111

Disruptive Student Behavior is an action or combination of actions by an individual that unreasonably interferes with, hinders, obstructs, or prevents the rights of others to freely participate in an activity, program, or service, including the prevention of faculty and staff members from carrying out their professional responsibilities.

Examples of Disruptive Student Behavior:

- The student in class who persistently arrives late or leaves early
- The student who talk incessantly while you are delivering a lecture
- The student who loudly and frequently interrupts the flow of class with questions or interjections
- The student who becomes belligerent or abusive, thereby interfering with the business operations of the University or your professional duties.

Interventions for Disruptive Behavior:

When less formal interventions prove inadequate (such as a private conversation, verbal warning, or written warning) you may consult with the department chair, the Counseling Center staff, University Police personnel, or the Office of the Dean of Student Life.

A form is available on the Student Conduct website (www.csub.edu/studentconduct) for reporting non-academic violations of the Student Code of Conduct. Alternatively, a written complaint may be submitted to the Office of the Dean of Student Life with the following information:

- Your name and contact information
- Full name and student I.D. number (if known) of the student against whom the complaint is filed
- A description of the incident(s) with details such as date, time, and place of occurrence
- Supporting documentation/evidence of the disruptive behavior
- Names of witnesses and their contact information
- Information regarding similar previous incidents or interactions involving the student

If an individual exhibits behavior that poses immediate danger to him/herself, is a risk to others, or makes threats of violence, immediately contact the University Police Department at 654-2111. Other behavioral or psychological concerns can be addressed to the Safety Assessment and Response Team (SART) (see below).

Document the incident(s) and forward the information to the Office of the Dean of Student Life as soon as possible. A standard reporting form is available on the student conduct website for such incidents (www.csub.edu/studentconduct).

Safety Assessment and Response Team:

CSUB has convened a Safety Assessment and Response Team to receive and respond to information pertaining to concerning behavior exhibited by members of the CSUB community and its visitors. The functions of the team include:

- ❖ Evaluate the degree of risk posed by an individual(s) to him/herself, others, or the general campus community
- ❖ Provide necessary intervention to mitigate the anticipated risk
- ❖ Provide (or refer) adequate care for affected individuals

If you observe behavioral or psychological concerns by individuals, please contact any of the SART members:

❖ Janet Millar	Interim Director of the Counseling Center	654-3366
❖ Lt. Jack Rutledge	University Police Department	654-2111
❖ Dr. Shelley Ruelas	Vice President for Student Affairs	654-6090
❖ Dr. Oscar Rico	Director of the Student Health Center	654-2394

Student Disciplinary Interventions:

When a written complaint is received by the Office of the Dean of Student Life, the student will be required to meet with a Student Conduct Administrator. The meeting will be an opportunity to hear additional information from the student's perspective and to determine an appropriate disciplinary response.

The reporting party (University personnel) may be contacted by the Dean of Student Life and/or Student Conduct Coordinator to determine the appropriate disciplinary response such as disciplinary probation, suspension, expulsion. If the student does not accept the administrative sanctions, a student conduct hearing is available for students to appeal the disciplinary outcome.