

September 2018 Issue



TEXAS A&M
INTERNATIONAL
UNIVERSITY

Compliance Counts

Office of
Compliance
Newsletter

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Hello Y'all,

This newsletter is created by TAMIU to inform the Dusty family about the latest updates to System policies and regulations, current information across campus, and important tips from our office.



Visit us at:

[http://
www.tamtu.edu/
compliance/](http://www.tamtu.edu/compliance/)

Or

Reach us at:
956.326.2855
Sue and Radcliffe
Killam Library,
Office 159

In the news...

- ◆ *Policy and Regulation changes - pg.2-3*
- ◆ *Campus Security Authorities - pg. 4*
- ◆ *GREEN DOT trainings - pg.5*
- ◆ *"Do the Right Thing" - pg. 5*

Policy Hub

Policy Hub brings awareness to the University community about new and updated System Policies and Regulations as well as University Rules and Standard Administrative Procedure (SAP's). Each newsletter will cover significant new and revised rules and SAP's.

Listed below are the links to new or revised System Policies, Regulations, TAMIU Rules, and/or SAP's. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the *Office of Compliance* at 956.326.2855.

System Policy & Regulations

07.05.01, Consensual Relationships

The System is committed to maintaining work and educational environments that are free from conflicts of interest, favoritism, and abuse of authority. This regulation addresses amorous, romantic, and/or sexual relationships that, although consensual, may create actual or perceived ethical, discriminatory, and/or harassing situations disruptive to the member community. (effective August 17, 2018)

The definitions of “employee” and “student” are added.

Sections 3 and 4: New text prohibits University employees from pursuing or having a consensual relationship with an undergraduate student at that institution. Exemptions require approval and may be granted only in exceptional circumstances. Documentation of such exemptions must be signed by the president or designee and placed in the employee’s personnel file.

02.08, System Expansion

The rationale and criteria established herein are intended to serve as a guide for the chancellor and other internal or external groups, organizations, or individuals who may seek expansion of System and to provide the bases on which the System Board would consider expansion of the System. (effective August 16, 2018)

Section 4: Text referencing the publication, Rationale and Criteria for Considering the Expansion of The Texas A&M University System, was deleted for the following reasons:

- a. Key portions of the publication are already incorporated into this policy (see Sections 1-3);
- b. The mission and vision referenced within the publication are addressed in Policy 03.01;

- c. The publication is outdated and duplicative of other policies;
- d. If the objective of the publication is to state the Board's expectations, this policy seems to meet that objective; and
- e. Deletion of the current text provides the Chancellor flexibility in establishing an implementation process.

34.07, Emergency Management

The System is responsible for ensuring its members have plans in place to properly protect personnel and property in an emergency situation. By requiring that each member has a plan(s) to address various situation and by reviewing this plan(s) on a regular basis, the System can ensure each member is fulfilling its responsibilities to its constituents. (effective August 16, 2018)

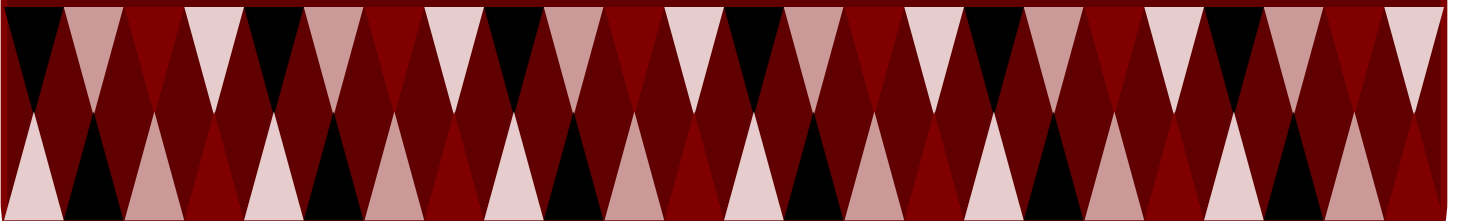
New Section 2.7: A new underlying principle in the development of an Emergency Management Plan is added stating that the Plan developed by the member must comply with all applicable regulations set forth by the U.S. Department of Education and all other governing authorities regarding emergency response, evacuation, notification, training, and testing procedures.

15.99.01, Use of Human Subjects in Research

This regulation provides guidance to the System, including its members and employees, in complying with the federal regulation relating to research on human subjects, including upholding the ethical principles and guidelines set forth in the *The Belmont Report*, April 18, 1979, for the protection of human subjects of research. (effective August 13, 2018)

Section 2.3: Previous language was problematic and deleted. Such details are left to each member to follow an approved method as articulated by the Office for Human Research Protection and included in each member's rule.

Non-substantive changes were made to clarify terminology throughout the regulation.



Compliance Around Campus

Clery Act

Campus Security Authorities (CSA)

CSA's are members of the University community who have a responsibility for the safety/security of the campus or the development of the community of students and campus life. All UPD personnel are classified as CSA's. Additionally, a staff member is a CSA if they have responsibility for the development of relationships and participation of student activities outside of the classroom. Examples of non-law enforcement CSA's on our campus include positions in student life, student housing, student organizations, and peer mentors. In essence, an individual who has significant responsibility for students and/or campus activities are designated as CSAs. Members of the University community may report crimes to any CSA, who in turn are duty-bound to report that information to the UPD.

Any questions regarding Clery Reporting, contact:

Kristina E. Morales, 326.2100,
kristina.morales@tamiu.edu

Title IX & Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO)

What is Title IX? Congress enacted Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972 to prohibit sex discrimination in any educational program or activity. The Act applies to both public and private institutions that receive federal funds.

When Does Sexual Violence/Misconduct Happen? Any time a physical, sexual act is perpetuated against a person's will or where a person is incapable of giving consent due to the victim's use of drugs or alcohol. An individual may also be unable to give consent due to an intellectual or other disability.

****Title IX also prohibits stalking and intimate partner violence (IPV)!****

Any questions regarding Title IX, contact: Lorissa Cortez, 326.2857, TitleIX@tamiu.edu

Be Aware • Step Up • Make your Move



Choose a training date and sign up!!!

- Friday Sept. 21 - 1 : 30 - 4 : 30 PM for Students
- Tuesday Oct. 2 - 2 : 00 - 5 : 00 PM for Employees
- Friday Oct. 19 - 1 : 30 - 4 : 30 PM for Students
- Thursday Nov. 1 - 2 : 00 - 5 : 00 PM for Employees
- Friday Nov. 16 - 1 : 30 - 4 : 30 PM for Students
- Wednesday Nov. 28 - 2 : 00 - 5 : 00 PM for Employees

Register at :

<http://www.tamtu.edu/compliance/TitleIX/greendot.shtml>

Think you have the skills to be an investigator?

The Office of Compliance is looking for individuals to join our investigative team.

For more information contact: Lorissa Cortez Title IX Coordinator/Director of Equal Opportunity and Diversity 956.326.2857, TitleIX@tamtu.edu

DO THE RIGHT THING! Report Risk, Fraud, Waste, Abuse, and Misconduct

Every Texas A&M University System (TAMUS) employee shares the responsibility of promoting an ethical and safe environment. If you have factual information suggestive of unsafe, fraudulent, wasteful, abusive, or inappropriate activities involving any TAMUS member, employee, student, or other affiliate, we want you to report it. Examples of reportable issues include:

Misuse of A&M System Property, Information, Resources • Violations of Safety Rules or Environmental Laws • Theft • Conflicts of Interest • NCAA Violations • Inappropriate Conduct • Harassment • Discrimination

Reports can be made using the risk, fraud, and misconduct hotline called *EthicsPoint*. *EthicsPoint* is a telephone and web-based reporting system that is independently operated and available 24/7. Employees can submit an anonymous report via the *EthicsPoint* link above (the link is also located at the bottom of all TAMIU webpages) and following the instructions under “File a Report Online” or by calling toll free 1-888-501-3850. *EthicsPoint* reports will be forwarded to the appropriate institution or agency official for action.

Anonymous reports can also be made to the Texas State Auditor’s Office by calling 1-800-892-8348 or by submitting an online report at <https://sao.fraud.texas.gov/ReportFraud>.

If you have questions about *EthicsPoint*, please contact the TAMIU Compliance Office at ext. 2855.