

SEXUAL HARASSMENT POLICY

Sexual harassment at Michigan State University College of Human Medicine is considered intolerable behavior. It is a violation of federal law; a violation of trust; a violation of ethical standards. Sexual harassment is a behavior; it is defined as unwelcome (unwanted, uninvited) behavior of a sexual nature including unwanted touching, fondling or hugging; or behavior which has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's work performance or which creates an intimidating, hostile or offensive work environment; or direct or implied threat that submission to sexual advances is a condition for education or educational rewards (i.e., grades).

Please refer to the MSU Sexual Harassment Policy for additional specific information about what constitutes sexual harassment, how to make a complaint about sexual harassment and other relevant information:

<http://www.hr.msu.edu/documents/uwidepolproc/sexharass.htm>

<http://www.inclusion.msu.edu/Equity/SexualHarassmentAssault.html>

Any College of Human Medicine student who feels that s/he has been subjected to sexual harassment is strongly encouraged to advise the Associate/Assistant Dean of Student Affairs, the Assistant Dean/Director of Preclinical Curriculum, or any administrator with whom the student feels safe so that the matter can be investigated and appropriate action taken. MSU policy requires administrators to report these incidents to the Senior Associate Dean for Academic Affairs.

The Dean of the College of Human Medicine is committed to the goal of creating a work environment in which students, faculty and staff can be communicative, supportive and sensitive to each other.

Conflict of Interest in Educational Responsibilities Resulting from Consensual Amorous or Sexual Relationships

An amorous or sexual relationship between a student and faculty member, resident, or another University employee who has educational responsibility for that student may impair or undermine the ongoing trust needed for effective teaching, learning and professional development. Because of the faculty member, graduate assistant or other employee's authority or power over the student, inherently conflicting interests and perceptions of unfair advantage arise when a faculty member, graduate teaching assistant or other employee assumes or maintains educational responsibility for a student with whom the faculty member, graduate teaching assistant or other employee has engaged in amorous or sexual relations.

It is, therefore, the policy of Michigan State University that each faculty member, graduate teaching assistant and other University employee who has educational responsibilities for students shall not assume or maintain educational responsibility for a student with whom the faculty member, graduate teaching assistant or other employee has engaged in amorous or sexual relations, even if such relations were consensual. Whether such amorous or sexual relationships predate the assumption of educational responsibility for the student, or arise out of the educational relationship, the faculty member, graduate teaching assistant or other employee shall immediately disclose the amorous or sexual relationship to the relevant unit administrator, who shall promptly arrange other oversight for the student.

In unusual circumstances, the achievement of the affected student's academic requirements may necessitate continued oversight of the affected student by the faculty member, graduate teaching assistant or other University employee who has engaged in amorous or sexual relations with that student. In such circumstances the unit administrator shall, therefore, have authority, after consulting the affected student, to permit the continued oversight of the affected student by the faculty member, graduate teaching assistant or other University employee, provided that the faculty member, graduate teaching assistant or other University employee shall not grade or otherwise evaluate, or participate in the grading or other evaluation of, the work of the affected student, and that the alternative arrangements for grading or evaluating the affected student's work treat the student comparably to other students.