

February 7, 2012

TO: All Students, Faculty and Staff (via email)
FROM: Art Costantino, Vice President for Student Affairs
RE: New Student Code of Conduct

This memo is written to announce that the College has adopted the attached Student Conduct Code effective February 10. Written comments were received and a public hearing was held December 7, 2011 which did not result in any new substantive comments on the proposed Code. Subsequently I forwarded a recommendation for the College to adopt the new Code as proposed to the President and he endorsed the recommendation. This new Code is a refined version of the existing Code and students' rights and responsibilities, prohibited conduct, and due process are largely unchanged. For example, the definition of sexual misconduct has been separated from harm and harassment and is more explicit and clear, rights afforded to students alleging sexual misconduct are aligned with federal law, and the nexus for addressing misconduct off-campus is more clear, yet the process by which complaints are resolved and addressed has remained largely unchanged.

The Student Conduct Code DTF was charged in Winter 2008 and provided me with recommended revisions to the Code in June 2010. Following legal counsel review and further refinement, I vetted a proposed Code with the College community during October 2011. The concerns which emerged and the responses are documented in my [October 26 memo](#) to the community. The Code was developed with a representative committee of students, faculty and staff and significant input from the broader community was solicited. Since the inception of the DTF this input included a dynamic website and blog, numerous forums, tabling, and engagement with the Geoduck Student Union. Many refinements in the final version were a direct result of community input including the Geoduck Student Union. For more information about the development of the Code see the [DTF website](#).

The new Code is a substantive improvement to the previous Code and will promote best practice in student conduct and adherence to federal and state regulations. As of February 10th the new Code may be found online in the [Washington Administrative Code](#) and on the [Student Conduct website](#).

I wish to thank the DTF members for their work and everyone who contributed to the process.