

University Conduct and Disciplinary System

The President delegates general supervision for matters of student conduct and disciplinary procedures to the Vice President for University Life. Specific responsibility and authority for the University Conduct and Disciplinary System is assigned to the Assistant Dean of Students. A conduct officer or the appropriate conduct board can review student disciplinary matters. The Assistant Dean of Students or designee determines which course of action will be taken based on the nature of the incident.

Disciplinary procedures are not identical to the rights afforded the accused in a civil or criminal proceeding. Formal rules of evidence will not apply, and deviations from the prescribed procedures, or errors in their application, will not in themselves invalidate a decision or proceeding, or constitute grounds to withhold disciplinary action unless significant prejudice to the accused may result, or the errors were such as to have prevented a fair and just determination of the issues. All time limits imposed or recommended within these procedures may be changed for good cause or reason as determined by the Assistant Dean of Students or designee (where appropriate).

The communication of disciplinary procedures will occur via the student's USF student email account and/or campus or U.S. mail. Students will be held accountable for retrieving their mail from their email account or campus mailbox in a timely manner. Failure to do so is not an acceptable excuse for delaying the disciplinary process and may result in a decision being made in the student's absence.

Conduct officers and members of conduct boards are appointed by the Vice President for University Life or designee and have varying degrees of sanctioning authority. All requests for appeal are made to the Office of Student Conduct, Rights and Responsibilities, which acts on behalf of the Vice President for University Life.

In exceptional circumstances, the Vice President for University Life may suspend the regular structure of the University Conduct and Disciplinary System and establish an appropriate procedure for the particular needs of the pending matter.