University Ethics Committee

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I. Introduction

This regulation establishes the University Ethics Committee. This committee interprets and issues opinions on matters concerning the University’s Ethical Principles and Code of Conduct (Governing Regulation XIV). Opinions of the Ethics Committee are final and not subject to appeal.

II. Entities Affected

This regulation applies to University trustees, executive officers, faculty, staff, and other individuals employed by the University, those using University resources or facilities, and volunteers and representatives acting as agents of the University.

III. Membership

A. The Ethics Committee consists of seven members appointed by the President. The President appoints the Chair from the members. The Committee reports to the President.

B. The Committee consists of:
1. One attorney from the Office of Legal Counsel;
2. One member appointed from recommendations submitted by the University Senate Council;
3. One member appointed from recommendations submitted by the Staff Senate;
4. One member appointed from recommendations submitted by the Executive Vice President for Finance and Administration;
5. One member appointed from recommendations submitted by the Executive Vice President for Health Affairs;
6. One member appointed from recommendations submitted by the Provost; and
7. One member appointed from recommendations submitted by the Vice President for Research.

C. Members serve staggered appointments for six-year terms. Members may be reappointed for consecutive terms.

D. Members must be regular full-time University employees. Members recommended by the EVPFA, EVPHA, Provost, or VPR must be employed in the area of responsibility of the respective recommending official.

IV. Responsibilities

The Ethics Committee’s responsibilities include:

A. Advising the President on matters concerning the Ethical Principles and Code of Conduct;

B. Providing interpretation(s) of the Ethical Principles and Code of Conduct;

C. Issuing official opinions concerning factual or advisory (hypothetical) situations concerning the Ethical Principles and Code of Conduct. Opinions may take the form of binding opinions and/or advisory recommendations;

D. Recommending revisions to the Ethical Principles and Code of Conduct to the President; and

E. Publishing and communicating the Ethical Principles and Code of Conduct to members of the University community.

V. Meetings

The members of the Ethics Committee meet as necessary as determined by the membership.

VI. Reports

A. At the request of the President, the Committee will present a report on its activities.

B. Official opinions issued by the Ethics Committee are available to any member of the University community upon request.
VII. References

Governing Regulation XIV, Ethical Principles and Code of Conduct

Revision History

10/6/2011

For questions, contact: Office of Legal Counsel