DISRUPTIVE STUDENT BEHAVIOR

In some cases, disruptive behavior is just annoying and in other cases, it brings the academic or administrative activity to a complete halt. In either case, this information should assist you in dealing with the disruptive student.

What is disruptive behavior?

Disruptive behavior will range from incidents which are mildly annoying to those which are blatant and prevent any teaching or learning from taking place.

According to the *Shasta College Student Code of Conduct* (attached), disruptive behavior can include, but is not limited to…

- Verbal abuse
- Physical abuse or threats
- Willful damage to personal or college property
- Use of drugs and alcohol on college premises
- Inordinate demands for time and attention
- Harassment
- Disruption of a classroom, administrative or campus activity

Does it matter if the student is psychologically disabled? Are they treated differently?

Any disciplinary action taken is not made on the basis of the presence or absence of mental illness, but on the basis of explicit behavior, which is in violation of the *Shasta College Student Code of Conduct*, regardless of the cause. The college is committed to providing “reasonable accommodation” to physically/mentally disabled students. Disruptions, which are minor annoyances and non-threatening, are expected to cease upon the first request, but repeated inappropriate behavior will be handled like any other disciplinary matter.

What action should you take if you encounter disruptive behavior?

If a situation should arise wherein a student poses a serious discipline problem, the matter should be referred to the appropriate Center Dean / Director or Extended Education Site Supervisor. The faculty member should brief those concerned immediately and thoroughly of the situation, particularly in the event that a conference with the student is forthcoming. (*Shasta College Faculty Handbook*)

Note: It is important that incidents of disruptive behavior be reported so the college can monitor and utilize appropriate intervention to minimize the occurrence of disruptive behavior. When referring or reporting disruptive behavior, be specific, concise and describe observable behavior. Avoid evaluative diagnosis (e.g., person seems to be “paranoid schizophrenic”).
Classroom/Office Disruption

If a student is causing a disruption in or around a classroom, contact Campus Safety at 242-7910. As in all cases, if the situation has escalated to an emergency level, dial 9-911.

Criminal Behavior

Everyone is asked to assist in making the campus a safe learning and working environment by being alert to suspicious situations and by reporting such observations immediately. The College has a zero tolerance policy regarding drugs and/or alcohol on the campus and these matters will be strictly dealt with. The State Education Code strictly forbids any sale, use or possession of drugs and/or alcohol on public property. Should you observe any suspicious activity or behavior, do the following:

- During the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Monday through Friday and 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. on Saturday, contact Campus Safety at 242-7910.
- If you are unable to contact Campus Safety because it is after hours, immediately call 9-911.

Note: If this is a dormitory issue, please contact the Coordinator of Student Housing at 242-7739. (Shasta College Emergency Procedures Guide)

What happens after a disruptive incident is reported?

After a disruptive incident, Campus Safety will conduct an initial investigation. After the investigation the Vice President of Student Services will contact the student(s) involved and hold a “preliminary hearing” so that facts may be collected. Further action will depend upon the outcome of the preliminary hearing.