

# Dealing with the Disruptive Student

## **Policy:**

BYU-Idaho is committed to providing a wholesome academic, cultural, social and spiritual environment for students which is consistent with the spirit and values of the gospel of Jesus Christ. Students involved in behavioral misconduct, abuse of administrative processes, violation of University policy or procedures, inappropriate classroom behavior, intimidation, threats, violence, or other inappropriate actions whether on campus, in BYU-Idaho approved housing, or in any BYU-Idaho program or activity may be required to leave the institution or its properties when their misconduct significantly and adversely impacts the University's ability to perform its mission or the general environment BYU-Idaho is striving to achieve.

## **Examples of disruptive behavior:**

Any conduct that is detrimental to the health, safety or education of the student or of another individual. (This includes attempted suicide or acting out)

Persistent or substantial acts of willful disobedience or defiance toward University policy or personnel.

Repeated unwanted contact; including stalking, harassing phone calls or unsolicited e-mail. (Includes behaviors directed towards faculty members as a result of grades issued.)

Assault, battery or any other form of physical abuse or the threat thereof, towards any student or University personnel.

Verbal abuse of a student or of University personnel.

Hazing or other behaviors which would degrade, endanger or compromise the dignity of any individual.

Sexual harassment, sexual abuse, sexual assault or inappropriate gender-based behavior.

Interference with the normal business transactions or operations of BYU-Idaho.

Obstructing the movement of others on campus or access to campus facilities.

## **What to do:**

### Classroom:

If a student's behavior is inappropriate, rather than singling a student out or embarrassing the student in class, speak with the student after class. Most students are unaware of distracting habits and mannerisms and do not have the intent to be disruptive. There may be rare circumstances when you must stop the behavior in class. Correct the student, and then indicate you will meet with the student following class.

Remember it is NOT your responsibility to provide the professional help needed for a severely troubled or disruptive student. You need only to make the necessary call for assistance.

## Dealing with the Disruptive Student (continued)

### How to help:

- Recommend campus services to the student or encourage the student to go to his ecclesiastical leader for counsel.
- Determine the student's willingness to go for help. Reassure the student that it is an act of strength to ask for help.
- Dispute the myth that only "weak" or "crazy" people seek counseling or use others for help.
- Remind them counseling services on campus are free and are kept confidential.
- Offer to help make the initial contact with the helping resource.

### What if they won't seek help or I don't know what to do?

All incidents of disruptive behavior should be reported to the Student Honor Office, at 496-1120. If a behavior poses a serious immediate threat, then contact the University Security at 496-3000 or 911. If you are unsure of what to do, contact the Dean of Students Office for counsel and direction at 496-3740

## Dealing with the Dangerous Student

Anyone that comes in contact with or encounters a dangerous student that is threatening bodily harm (hostage taker, kidnapper, suicidal subject) should take the following action:

- Call 911 and ask for police to respond.
- Leave the area if you can do so safely.
- If you cannot leave, attempt to keep them calm until emergency personnel arrive.
- Do not engage in controversial or threatening conversation.
- Do not attempt to physically restrain them unless they are actively attempting to harm themselves or another person.
- If they are armed, comply with their requests if at all possible.
- Have an escape route in mind in the event they begin to carry out their threats.
- Wait for police to arrive and take them into custody if they appear to be in imminent danger of harming themselves or others.

Anyone that comes in contact with or becomes aware of an active shooter in the vicinity should take the following action:

- If at all possible get away, provided you can move without being seen by the shooter.
- If you cannot flee, take cover, hide as best you can.
- Make your room appear to be unoccupied turn off lights, pull blinds, lock doors.
- Time permitting, barricade your area by placing heavy objects in front of doors if the door opens into the room you are hiding in. Cover windows so you cannot be seen.
- Maintain silence, do not talk, silence your cell phone.
- When rescue arrives follow police instructions precisely.
- If you are detected by the shooter and he attacks, prepare to attack the shooter as a group or individually if necessary.