
From: President Peter Salovey and Provost Ben Polak <itscomm2@yale.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, January 20, 2015 3:31 PM
To: Yale University Faculty
Subject: Seeking Your Input: Standards of Faculty Conduct

Dear Colleagues,

We write to solicit your comments on a draft document outlining standards of faculty conduct at Yale University.

Faculty, like all members of the Yale community, are responsible for adhering to the highest ethical and professional standards. Whereas many of these standards are stated explicitly in the [Faculty Handbook](#) and other records of university policy, others are not articulated in any Yale document. As a result, the university's published statements do not fully reflect our shared commitment to the highest ethical standards.

To address this, last May we convened an Ad Hoc Committee on Faculty Standards of Conduct. The committee, chaired by Professor Margaret Clark (Psychology), includes senior faculty nominated by the deans of all of Yale's schools, as well as representatives from the offices of the provost and general counsel. Its membership is as follows:

Harry Attridge (Divinity School)
Ron Breaker (Molecular, Cellular, & Developmental Biology)
Michael Della Rocca (Philosophy)
Gary Desir (School of Medicine, Internal Medicine)
Barbara Guthrie (School of Nursing, departed Yale summer 2014)
Dolores Hayden (School of Architecture)
Linda Mayes (School of Medicine, Child Study Center)
Sharon Oster (School of Management)
Marina Picciotto (School of Medicine, Psychiatry)
David Post (Ecology & Evolutionary Biology)
David Skelly (School of Forestry & Environmental Studies)
Kate Stith (Law School)
Kyle Vanderlick (School of Engineering & Applied Science)

Jason Killheffer (Office of the Provost)
Harold Rose (Office of the General Counsel)
Stephanie Spangler (Office of the Provost)

The committee reviewed existing Yale policy language and relevant materials from peer institutions, carefully considered examples (with names and identifying information removed) of behavior by faculty that one might consider troubling, and then produced a draft "Standards of Faculty Conduct." This document describes the ethical principles that should be the foundation for faculty members' engagement in their teaching, research, and university service, and provides specific examples of behaviors that would constitute violations of those principles. This draft has been reviewed by the University Cabinet, and we now wish to circulate it for broad faculty comment. We will use this feedback to determine what changes should be made before the standards are published in the Faculty Handbook.

We encourage you to review the draft and provide your thoughts and suggestions. You can access the document, and respond with either identified or anonymous comments, at <http://provost.yale.edu/feedback-faculty-standards>. The comment period will extend through February 16, 2015.

If you have any difficulty accessing the draft or questions about this process, please do not hesitate to contact Deputy Provost Stephanie Spangler at TitleIX@yale.edu or (203) 432-4446.

We would like to convey our thanks to Professor Clark and the members of the Ad Hoc Committee on Faculty Standards of Conduct for their thoughtful efforts. We look forward to your contributions to this important initiative.

Sincerely,

Peter Salovey
President and Chris Argyris Professor of Psychology

Ben Polak
Provost and William C. Brainard Professor of Economics

Yale University Official Message

NOTE: This official Yale message can also be viewed at:
<https://messages.yale.edu/messages/University/univmsgs/detail/116494>