

Employee Questions/Comments

2611-Student Code of Conduct

Employee 1 Questions/Comments:

Also: please clarify “sexual misconduct” under student code of conduct.

Employee 4 Questions/Comments:

On student code of conduct I have the following comments/questions:

Under Unacceptable Behavior – Criminal:

3: Attempted or actual theft of and/or damage to property of the College, or property of a member of the College community, or other personal or public property, including receiving or possessing stolen property. I suggest adding “knowingly” to the possession section. Under a black and white definition I’m sure we have all received “stolen property” at some time in our lives, but we didn’t know about it. Entrapment is a real possibility under this policy as written and a “bully” could exact a very painful punishment upon his or her target using the “possession” language in this section.

5: Possession of a weapon, firearm, explosive and/or facsimile weapons on the College’s campuses, including any weapon designed to fire any projectile (i.e. paintball guns, bb guns, air rifles, air pistols, pellet guns, etc.) as well as the associated paraphernalia. The only exception will be for military personnel who must carry a firearm as part of their commission on the Grandview/Fort Riley or Fort Leavenworth campuses. Possession of a paintball gun or airsoft gun on campus may not be permitted (I disagree, but understand that the school may want to implement that as a policy), but I don’t think it belongs in the “criminal” section. Society has done a good job of scaring students from having firearms in their vehicles when driving to school. I’m not sure that a paintball or airsoft gun in my car because I’m going to or coming from an event with friends should be in the same class or category. I would argue that the physical exercise and comradery gained through participation in such activities almost certainly outweigh any real or perceived danger that may exist through possession of these materials. The news media are filled with stories of school officials punishing students for otherwise innocent activities involving guns or gun substitutes. Policies that treat a loaded and concealed rifle the same as a pointed finger or gun shaped pop-tart make the school officials look ridiculous.

I’d put a period after commission in the last sentence and eliminate the rest. Are we going to treat military officers differently on the Great Bend campus?

There is no exception listed for the rifle range in the Kirkman building.

Non-Criminal Behavior:

- 2 Verbal or written communication that exposes any individual or group to hatred, contempt, ridicule, racist slurs, or intimidation and thereby injures the person, property, or reputation of another. The way this is written it places the weight of the offense upon the interpretation of the words by the target or a bystander, not an objective standard. Given this language, a student or faculty member would be prohibited from writing an editorial or speaking about virtually any topic or person of importance. "Bush lied and people died" or "Obama Care is socialized medicine" It opens these men and their supporters to hatred, or contempt, or ridicule, or racist slurs, or intimidation that could lead to injury to person, property or reputation. In my classes I challenge my students to communicate in such a way that it will not be offensive. As part of this exercise I demonstrate that it is impossible. This code is impossible to fairly and objectively implement.
- 3 Abusive and /or disruptive disagreement or personal harassment. It seems to me that a roommate that doesn't like me watching Rachel Maddow on MSNBC or Bill O'Reilly Fox News would claim that I was exposing them to abusive and disruptive disagreement and personal harassment. Don't we want our students exposed to these political and social arguments without fear that they would face retribution from the College for what should be normal behavior? Debate in the public forum does not currently exist in any robust manner on this campus. I believe that it should be encouraged and this policy discourages such exchanges.
- 4 Personal misconduct and immoral behavior, including all forms of sexual misconduct or harassment. Who gets to decide what is immoral behavior? The student's mother? The State of Kansas? The College? It is unclear to me. Is viewing (otherwise legal) pornography immoral behavior? Is participation in any number of (otherwise legal) consensual sexual activities immoral behavior?