Department Policies

Anti-Harassment/Hazing Policy

The Athletics Department values healthy relationships based upon mutual respect, trust, and dignity. Behaviors inconsistent with these values will not be tolerated.

Lehigh University department policy is guided by the University Handbook and is listed below.

"This policy addresses two forms of harassment:

- a hostile work, learning, co-curricular, social, or living environment;
- · quid pro quo sexual harassment.

A Hostile Work, Learning, Co-curricular, Social or Living Environment occurs when a member of the Lehigh University community or a guest is subjected to unwelcome statements, jokes, gestures, pictures, touching, or other conducts that offend, demean, harass, or intimidate. Harassment includes offensive verbal or physical conduct that has the purpose or effect of interfering with an individual's work or educational performance, or has the purpose or effect of creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive environment. The violating conduct may involve a very serious and offensive event, or may involve persistent harassing behavior. A hostile environment can be created by supervisors, co-workers, faculty, coaches, students, alumni, or visitors to campus such as vendors and contractors.

Quid Pro Quo Sexual Harassment occurs when a member of the Lehigh University community explicitly, or implicitly, promises or withholds job-related or education-related benefits based upon the employee's or student's acquiescence to sexual advances or behavior."

"Hazing is any action taken or situation created, whether on or off campus, to produce mental or physical discomfort, embarrassment, harassment, or ridicule. Hazing includes but is not limited to any brutality of a physical nature, such as paddling, whipping, beating, branding, forced calisthenics, exposure to the elements, forced consumption of any food, liquor, drug, or other substance, or any other forced physical activity that would subject the individual to physical harm or mental stress, such as sleep deprivation, forced exclusion from social contact, forced conduct which could result in extreme embarrassment, or any other forced activity which would adversely affect the mental health or dignity of the individual. Among prohibited activities are forced or coerced activities which create excessive fatigue; cause physical and psychological shocks; involve kidnapping; involve morally questionable quests, treasure hunts, scavenger hunts, or any other such activities; involve publicly wearing apparel that is conspicuous and not normally in good taste; cause students to engage in public stunts and buffoonery, morally degrading or humiliating games and activities, or late night activities which interfere with scholastic activities. Also prohibited are any activities that are in violation of federal, state, or local laws, this code of conduct, or accepted standards of good taste or propriety. For purposes of this definition, any activity described in this paragraph upon which the admission into or affiliation with an organization is directly of indirectly conditioned shall be presumed to be 'forced or coerced' activity, the willingness of an individual to participate in such activity notwithstanding."