

Revision 8.06.2024

Bard Academy
and
Simon's Rock at Bard College

Student Handbook

2025 - 2026



Notice of Nondiscrimination

Simon's Rock at Bard College and Bard Academy do not discriminate in admission, employment, education or services on the basis of race, color, sex, creed, age, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, religion, national or ethnic origin, disability, marital status, genetic information, previous military service, natural or protective hairstyles historically associated with race, or any other class protected under state or federal law. College and Academy policies are consistent with state mandates as well as federal statutes and regulation, including but not limited to Executive Orders 11246 and 11375 as amended, Massachusetts Executive Order 74, Section 504 of the federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, and Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

Please address all inquiries or grievances to the College and Academy's Title IX Coordinator (titleIX@simons-rock.edu), who also serves as a contact for Title VI and VII; the Dean of Studies (kmmorris@simons-rock.edu), who serves as the Section 504 and the Americans with Disabilities Act Coordinator for students; or the Director of Finance and Administration (pmorrison@simons-rock.edu), who serves as the Section 504 and the Americans with Disabilities Act Coordinator for employees and a contact for Title VII.

NOTE: Simon's Rock at Bard College and Bard Academy share a unified campus, faculty, staff, and administration. As such, a single Student Handbook will apply equally to both institutions. Where there are procedural differences depending on the status of the student, such differences will be noted. For the purposes of these policies, "Simon's Rock," "campus," "institution" or "administration" will be understood to comprise both Simon's Rock at Bard College and Bard Academy. "Student" will be understood to describe either a student of Simon's Rock at Bard College or a student of Bard Academy at Simon's Rock. References to "Simon's Rock at Bard College" will be understood to describe policies which solely apply to the College program. References to "Bard Academy" will be understood to describe policies which solely apply to the Academy program.

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I. LEGAL AND DELEGATED AUTHORITY

Simon's Rock at Bard College and Bard Academy are units of Bard College, a New York-based nonprofit educational institution. Legal responsibility for the governance of Simon's Rock is vested in the Board of Trustees of Bard College. Simon's Rock has its own campus, Board of Overseers, administrative officers, faculty, staff, and student body.

The President of Bard College is the chief executive of Simon's Rock at Bard College, Bard Academy. The President has delegated to the Provost and Vice President of Simon's Rock at Bard College the responsibility and authority to determine what activities and behavior are acceptable on the campus and who may be included in the community. The President may delegate, retake, and re-delegate to the Simon's Rock Community, or to any committee or any constituent part or person thereof, such of their powers as they may determine.

II. CHARACTER OF SIMON'S ROCK

A. MISSION

At Simon's Rock, age doesn't define intellect: our mission is to inspire the curiosity and creativity of motivated younger scholars with a challenging, empowering, and inclusive education in the liberal arts and sciences.

B. OUR APPROACH

Simon's Rock at Bard College and Bard Academy are private, coeducational, residential institutions of the liberal arts and sciences. Recognizing that many students are ready for college before the conventional age of high school completion, Simon's Rock provides supportive and challenging courses of high school and college study, bridging the whole of secondary and undergraduate education in a coherent, comprehensive two-to-four year arc, with the option to continue studies at Bard College for the completion of the Bachelor of Arts degree.

The four years at Simon's Rock comprise two programs:

- Bard Academy is a two-year high school for boarding and day students, offering an innovative curriculum in the liberal arts and sciences, with courses designed and taught by college professors, and leading to entry into college after the tenth grade.
- The Lower College, culminating in the Associate of Arts degree, combines a strong core curriculum with opportunities to explore broadly in the liberal arts and sciences while also pursuing individual interests in depth. Extending from these foundations, invites students into an intensive and highly customized course of study featuring more than 35 concentrations, with options for study abroad and away, signature programs, and dual degree programs with partner institutions.

Students may spend two or four years at Simon's Rock, with admission options at each level. All Simon's Rock students enter intending to complete at least the AA: some begin high school at

Simon's Rock. At each successive transition, we invite reflection, self-assessment, and engaged planning for the next stage of our students' education. Our campus community also includes students who began their early college education within the early college network and began their studies at Simon's Rock with the AA in hand.

Our classes, taught at all levels by experts in their fields with a commitment to adolescent learners, are small, participatory, and writing-intensive, emphasizing collaboration over competition. Most feature active, seminar-style discussion, in which students learn to take responsibility for their own ideas and engage constructively with the ideas of others. The classroom experience is informed by the Writing and Thinking Workshop, completed by all new students in the Academy and in the College, establishing a common language and culture for shared inquiry and inclusive discourse.

Based on an understanding of adolescence as the beginning of adulthood, rather than the end of childhood, our academic and campus life programs offer substantial independence, supported in extensive advising and mentoring, with an emphasis on individual and collective well-being, concern for others, social justice, and restorative practices.

Students enrolled at Simon's Rock understand that while they do have significantly greater freedom and responsibility for their own learning and personal behavior than do their peers in most conventional high schools, they may not always experience the same degree of autonomy as students at most other colleges and universities. Some campus policies differentiate between students enrolled in the Academy and the College, with greater autonomy assigned to students in the later years.

C. EQUITY AND INCLUSION

In collaboration with the Dean of Students and Equitable Community and the Title IX Coordinator, the Council for Inclusive Community (CIC) serves as a programmatic, professional development, training, and support resource to our campus community. The Council is committed to providing workshops and events within our community that will address a variety of social issues, including--but not limited to-- social movements and solidarity with social change organizations, race and cultural sensitivity, LGBTQIA+ resources and programming, anti-racism and social justice, and specialized and intimate conversations unique to challenges we may be facing within our own campus community. The commitments and work of the council includes:

- Providing leadership, pedagogical resources, inspiration, and accountability supports to promote equity, engagement, and access through the Provost, Dean of Students and Equitable Community, and the Council for Inclusive Community;
- Cultivating and sustaining a healthy, thriving campus climate of inclusion, equity, and excellence supporting the mission and vision for all members to ensure our community is informed to lead responsibly in a global society;
- Collaborating campus-wide, the Council works to resolve systemic inequities for all members of the Simon's Rock campus through a holistic, positive approach to cultural competence, education, and service, by promoting proactive inclusion, mutual respect, and cultural humility.
- Serving students, faculty, administrators, and staff concerning all issues of equity and opportunity as they relate to race, religion, national or ethnic origin, age, disability, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, and gender expression. All allegations

relating to these protected statuses, or alleging any time of discrimination or harassment, however, will be investigated by the Title IX office.

- Informing planning, policies, and procedures as each relates to inclusion and equity and offers programming support and grievance procedures for the campus community regarding issues of equity, inclusion, and engagement in cooperation with Campus Life, Academic Affairs, and senior leadership.

Simon's Rock faculty, staff, and students are committed to challenging long standing societal assumptions in order to create an enriched community in which all ranges of opinion and belief can be expressed and debated, within behavior permitted by public law and consistent with the institution's mission and regulations. Thus, staff and faculty have created structured support to promote inclusion, especially of voices from groups traditionally underrepresented on independent school and college campuses.

1. The Bias Response Team

Purpose

The Bias Response Team (BRT) is a campus resource designed to help provide support for any individuals and groups on campus who have been impacted by bias incidents and to promote cultural competency education and training on campus. The BRT is a group of staff and faculty that creates a space for any Simon's Rock community member who may have experienced bias to share their viewpoint and concerns. The BRT addresses bias through community engagement and education and enables Simon's Rock to track bias incidents, collect aggregate data, identify educational responses, and connect individuals affected by bias incidents with supportive resources. The BRT is also available to answer questions about bias and discrimination.

All individuals have biases. Harm from bias can be interpersonal or systemic. The goal of the BRT is to work collaboratively to educate the community on how to recognize the impact of bias and the conscious and unconscious ways in which our biases may negatively impact members of our community. The BRT's work is based on two assumptions: (1) all members of the Simon's Rock community are committed to promoting a welcoming and inclusive environment on campus, and (2) the entire community benefits if we are all willing to be more informed about bias and its effects, and are willing to make efforts to reduce the negative impact of bias.

When a report is submitted to the BRT, our goal is to understand the circumstances of what was reported, and the best way to do this is to have a conversation. We do not make any assumptions about whether or not a situation includes bias or not before the meeting. We also understand that being asked to participate in a conversation where bias may be part of the discussion can be overwhelming. However, we also recognize that within the Simon's Rock community, most of the BRT reports result from miscommunication and are not a direct result of intentional bias. So, we come to every conversation with an open mind, ready to understand more about the situation and help guide productive discussions.

Simon's Rock community members are encouraged to view the BRT as a resource that is available *in addition to* more formal procedures for filing complaints and addressing issues by contacting the appropriate staff. The BRT does not act as, or in place of, Human Resources, the Office of Title IX, or the Office of Campus Life. The BRT is not a mechanism for investigative or disciplinary action. Any reports brought to the BRT alleging a college policy violation or applicable federal, state, or local law will be referred to the appropriate office.

Bias and Hate Defined

Simon's Rock defines a bias incident as an event, behavior, or action that is directed against or targets an individual or group based on perceived or actual characteristics such as race, ethnicity, sex, gender identity/expression, sexual orientation, religion, national origin, disability, age, military veteran status, familial status, or genetic status but does not rise to the level in which a Simon's Rock policy has been violated. The kinds of incidents that may constitute a bias incident include but are not limited to, hostile and abusive verbal, written, or electronic communication and graffiti.

A hate crime is also motivated by bias and can include the types of incidents described above and it consists of a definable crime, such as threats of violence, property damage, personal injury, and other illegal conduct. It is important to note that all hate crimes are bias incidents, but not all bias incidents are hate crimes.

For purposes of this Policy, the term Bias Incident includes conduct constituting a Hate Crime, as defined in the Equity and Title IX Policy. However, any allegation of an action that could be considered a Hate Crime will be referred to the Office of Title IX for investigation.

Structure

Simon's Rock is a community of individuals accountable to each other, focused on supporting all students, staff, and faculty members alike. Thus, the composition of the BRT reflects our shared role in maintaining a welcoming environment, one part of which is a comprehensive response to instances of bias.

Given the necessity of having a range of community voices and perspectives at the table, the members of the Bias Response Team include the Dean of Students and Equitable Community and the three Co-Chairs who serve on the Council for Inclusive Community. Information regarding the selection of Co-Chairs who serve on the Council for Inclusive Community can be read in the CIC Information document. Team members are trained in bias response and must acknowledge the full Bias Response Team Policy.

Contact the BRT or Submit a Report

Concerns (e.g., incidents of bias, potential bias, structural/systemic bias) may be brought to the BRT via:

- the [online form](https://forms.gle/yre4vKp48rnspBDr8) (<https://forms.gle/yre4vKp48rnspBDr8>)
- Contacting individual members:
 - Nancy Bonvillain (nancyb@simons-rock.edu)
 - Alex Dionne (adionne@simons-rock.edu)
 - Sarah Porter-Liddell (sporterliddell@simons-rock.edu)

Process

- After a concern is brought to the group, a member of the BRT will promptly reach out to facilitate a follow-up conversation with the reporting individual.
- Before this initial meeting, the BRT member should ask the individual(s) if the individual would like to meet with the entire team of BRT members or work with part of the team.
- The individuals may respond that they only want to work with part of the team or the BRT member that began the initial contact. This information should be communicated to the rest of the BRT members.

- BRT members who meet with an individual alone may resolve the situation with the individual but must report the resolution to the Dean of Students and Equitable Community.
 - After the initial meeting with the reporting person, the BRT member(s) will contact the responding individual(s) to facilitate a follow-up conversation.
- After all meetings have concluded, The BRT will assist the individual(s) in providing options on how the matter may proceed within the frameworks of restorative practices, community engagement (which could include participating in creating a community event), and/or education.
 - The BRT will also connect the reporting individual with appropriate campus offices that can offer support.
 - The individual who submits the report may decide they do not wish to disclose any information regarding a specific person (or people) but can request that the BRT consider an educational approach for the campus or a department generally.
- If the BRT determines that a situation also falls outside of the scope of the BRT and into another department's areas, such as Conduct, Human Resources, or Title IX, the Dean of Students and Equitable Community will reach out to the appropriate administrators and then provide next steps to the BRT.

The BRT does not act as, or in place of, Human Resources, the Title IX Office, or the Office of Student Life. If there is an open investigation with Human Resources, the Title IX Office, or the Office of Student Life, the BRT will only become involved if the matter has been referred for further education by the adjudicating office to the BRT.

Potential Resources

- ***Community Engagement.*** Community engagement might include (but is not limited to) private to the appropriate administrators and private or public letters to the relevant governance bodies. Before sending letters, the group will consult with the administration.
- ***Education.*** The BRT can advise CIC to coordinate training, host speakers, or plan other programming. In addition, the BRT will connect the individual with any relevant on- or off-campus resources and can advise on readings/literature with follow-up conversations pertinent to the particular incident.

Confidentiality

The Bias Response Team is not a confidential resource, though the BRT is committed to maintaining the privacy of all individuals. The BRT is required to refer reports that allege violations of Simon's Rock Policy to the appropriate administrative office, including but not limited to those that fall into the following circumstances:

- Information alleging a possible Title IX or Equity violation, including any violations of the Title IX and Equity Policy, must be reported to the Title IX Coordinator or their deputy.
- Information alleging a possible criminal act covered under the Clery Act will be reported to the Director of Campus Safety.
- Information suggesting a concern of threat of harm to anyone will be shared with the appropriate campus administration and/or local and state authorities.

- When required by law, the BRT will share its records.

Additional Considerations

If an individual is involved in multiple or a particularly egregious case, or if the allegation may violate a Simon's Rock Policy, the BRT will contact the Director of Finance and Administration (for Staff/Faculty), the Director of Campus Life (for students), the Title IX Coordinator, or other administrators as may be appropriate given the nature of the allegation(s). The BRT is not a judicial group that can adjudicate but rather a coordinated network of support. Any invitation or engagement to meet with a member of the BRT, including individuals allegedly responsible for bias incidents, is entirely voluntary. Should an individual decide that they do not wish to participate in the process, they will be advised that the incident will be referred to and may be addressed by Human Resources. The individual who submitted the report will be notified of the same.

To submit a BRT report, please use the following link: <https://forms.gle/G5cVVPRtstSQgSQK8>

2. Resources

Simon's Rock is committed to preserving the rights of immigrants, refugees, and undocumented students in our community. Simon's Rock and the Bard Network have a long history of being a home to people around the world, including refugees and immigrants. We will continue to support members of our community whose right to an education and scholarship must be defended.

- Students Welcome: We welcome all students, regardless of citizenship status or national origin to apply to Simon's Rock, and offer financial aid. See application tips for [international students](#) and [DACA and undocumented students](#).
- Immigration Enforcement: Simon's Rock at Bard College will not release information about students and employees regarding citizenship or immigration status unless required by law.
- International Student Support: Support for [international students](#) includes International Student Orientation, peer support, the [Council for Inclusive Community](#), the International Student Support Team, and the [International Club](#). This support is in addition to the [financial](#), [academic](#), and [student life](#) support we provide to all students. Simon's Rock may make accommodations for international students to stay on campus over breaks.
- Inclusive Academics: Scholars at Simon's Rock study topics and offer courses relevant to the immigrant experience including migration, ethnicity, rights, social movements, religion, languages, world culture, and related topics. [PACE](#) provides learning opportunities for students who need further instruction to advance their English language skills.

D. DISCRIMINATION, HARASSMENT, AND SEXUAL MISCONDUCT

Bard Academy and Simon's Rock at Bard College expect that no member of the Simon's Rock community will discriminate against any other community member – or any community member's guests. We see all community members as interdependent, yet functioning in roles that are far from interchangeable. We believe in respecting members of the Simon's Rock community for their

differing abilities, differing backgrounds, and differing contributions. We also believe that these differences can successfully mesh for a greater common good.

Within our diverse community, members will disagree from time to time. The Academy and College expect that such disagreements will be addressed peacefully, through discussion and debate, rather than through force or confrontation. Therefore, while the Academy and College seek to ensure the rights of all to express themselves in words and actions, it also prohibits behavior that infringes on the rights of others or that digresses from the Academy and College's educational mission and purpose.

Because the Academy and College take allegations of discrimination, harassment, and sexual misconduct seriously, we will respond promptly to complaints in accordance with the procedures set forth herein; if such inappropriate conduct has occurred, we will act promptly to eliminate the conduct and impose such corrective action as is necessary, including disciplinary action where appropriate.

Simon's Rock, as well as state and federal laws, also prohibit retaliation against any person who, in good faith, reports, assists in reporting, or participates in an investigation of possible gender-based misconduct. Any retaliation against an individual who has complained about discrimination or harassment, or sexual misconduct or retaliation against individuals for cooperating with an investigation of a discrimination, or harassment, or sexual misconduct complaint is unlawful and will be investigated as a separate incident of harassment.

While overt forms of discrimination and harassment may be obvious, more subtle forms may be difficult to identify. It is also possible for words or behavior to be misunderstood, for personal conflicts to be misconstrued as harassment based on racial, sexual, or other differences, or for legitimate disagreement to feel like harassment to a person who holds an unpopular opinion. It is therefore incumbent on all members of the Simon's Rock community to recognize the seriousness of discriminating against or harassing someone and the seriousness of charging someone with these acts.

To ensure compliance with federal and state civil rights laws and regulations, and to affirm its commitment to equity in all aspects of its educational program or activity, Simon's Rock has developed the following internal policies and procedures that provide a prompt, fair, and impartial process for those involved in an allegation of discrimination or harassment on the basis of protected class status, allegation of sexual misconduct, or allegation of retaliation.

Any person may report harassment or discrimination whether or not the reporting individual is the person alleged to be the victim of conduct that could constitute discrimination, harassment, or sexual misconduct. Simon's Rock will respond promptly and meaningfully to any report.

Any report of harassment or discrimination on the bases of a protected class other than sex may be directed to either:

Lauren Gretina
Interim Title IX Coordinator
Building: Bard Annandale Campus
Email: titleix@bard.edu
Phone Number: (413) 644-4252

Sarah Porter-Liddell
Dean of Students and Equitable Community
Building: Livingston Student Union
Email: sporterliddell@simons-rock.edu
Phone Number: (413) 644-4711

Reports of sexual harassment, discrimination on the basis of sex, or sexual misconduct may be directed to:

Lauren Gretina
Interim Title IX Coordinator
Building: Bard Annandale Campus
Email: titleix@bard.edu
Phone Number: (413) 644-4252

Monk Schane-Lydon
Deputy Title IX Coordinator
Building: Hall College Center
Email: mschanelydon@simons-rock.edu
Phone Number: (413) 528-7277

Reports concerning harassment or discrimination of an employee or by an employee on the bases of a protected class other than sex may additionally be directed to:

Philip Morrison
Director of Finance and Administration
Building: Blodgett House
Email: pmorrison@simons-rock.edu
Phone Number: (413) 528-7204

Brendan Mathews
Dean of Faculty and Curricular Development
Building: Hall College Center
Email: bmathews@simons-rock.edu
Phone Number: (413) 644-4710

In cases where Students, Faculty or Staff have experienced misconduct prohibited under the Equity and/or Title IX Policy they may file a Complaint, as described in the Equity and Title IX Policies and Procedures at <https://simons-rock.edu/title-ix> and in Appendix B.

1. Mandated Reporter Obligations

Members of the Simon's Rock community who hold certain positions are considered "mandated reporters" under state law and required by law to report suspected abuse of minors, including sexual abuse, to the Massachusetts Department of Children and Families. These positions include, but are not limited to, teachers, educational administrators, police officers, physicians, nurses, medical treatment providers, social workers, preschool and after-school program staff, child-care providers, clergy, and guidance or family counselors.

E. GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

There may be reasons for which a person may have a genuine complaint against another student or against the College but which do not constitute discrimination or harassment. In the event of a grievance or concern, the following grievance procedure should be followed.

1. Initiation

The student should first attempt to resolve the grievance informally by discussing it with the Director of Campus Life. If the matter is not resolved to the student's satisfaction, the student may file a grievance in writing to the Dean of Students and Equitable Community.

2. Filing a Grievance

Students may submit a written grievance to the Director of Campus Life. The information provided in the document should be as specific as possible regarding the circumstances that precipitated the grievance. The grievance should include the dates and places of the incidents at issue, the individuals involved, the names of any witnesses, any actions taken in an attempt to resolve the matter and the result of these actions, and any other pertinent information. *Note: if the Director of Campus Life or the Dean of Students and Equitable Community is implicated in the grievance, the report should go to the Dean of Studies.*

3. Resolution

The Director of Campus Life (or Dean of Students and Equitable Community or the Dean of Studies) will initiate a review of the grievance in order to resolve it as expeditiously as possible. The grievant shall be informed in writing when the review has been concluded.

4. Confidentiality

Every reasonable effort will be made to protect the privacy and confidentiality of all parties during the investigation, consistent with and subject to the College's need to investigate the complaint and/or implement decisions made in order to resolve the complaint.

5. Appeals

In the event that the complainant or the respondent believes that the resolution of the complaint has not rectified the situation, an appeal may be made in writing to the Vice Provost (unless they have already been involved in the grievance process), or, if appropriate, to the Provost. The Vice Provost, or, if appropriate, the Provost will decide whether or not to investigate further or alter the decision made.

F. FREE EXPRESSION

The Academy and College are deeply committed to having faculty, staff, and students engage in free inquiry and expression in the service of the institution's educational mission. All members of the Simon's Rock community have the right to express their ideas freely, both orally and in writing, provided that their method of expression does not violate any other rights affirmed by the student handbook.

Any member of the Simon's Rock community may publish and distribute without interference, as long as publications and posted materials clearly identify all authors, and such publications or distributions do not violate Academy or College policies. While members are not subject to prior restraint, they shall be held accountable for any statements that are erroneous, malicious or defamatory, or that violate any right affirmed in such publications, distributions, and posted materials.

In the classroom, discussion of controversial issues should and will occur. Although provocative material or language may at times lead to student feelings of discomfort, these feelings may not necessarily indicate the existence of discriminatory harassment or discrimination.

G. INDIVIDUAL PRIVACY

Simon's Rock may disclose, without consent, "directory" information to select third parties, unless a student or parent/guardian requests that such disclosure be withheld. Students who wish to opt out of the directory may contact the Registrar in the Office of Academic Affairs. Additional information is available in the Simon's Rock FERPA Policy (See Appendix A).

Simon's Rock personnel may enter any space that it owns or leases, including student living units, at any time for any reason, including but not limited to for the following purposes:

- To respond to emergencies
- To ensure personal safety
- To maintain acceptable health and safety standards
- To uphold respectful behavior
- To perform routine maintenance, scheduled or unscheduled
- To secure buildings during vacation and break periods
- To ensure compliance with its policies

Authorized Campus Safety or Campus Life personnel also may search a student's living unit or belongings—whether or not the student is present—if there is reason to believe a violation of Academy, College, state or federal regulations exists.

III. ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

A. ACADEMIC RESOURCES

Academy and College students take on rigorous academic challenges from their first day of school, discovering a new and galvanized sense of themselves as they meet those challenges and move beyond them. But it wouldn't be rewarding if it were easy. Our faculty and staff recognize what is necessary for students to succeed, and we work with purpose and dedication to make it possible.

Our academic support services include the **Win Student Resource Commons** and the Tutoring and Writing Center, offering free individual and group tutoring in all subjects; open access to faculty; and individualized academic advising.

The Office of Academic Affairs at Simon's Rock, located on the second floor of the East Wing of the Massena building, is the source of essential academic resources and information. Members of the Office of Academic Affairs include the Registrar, the Dean of Faculty and Curricular Development, the Associate Dean of Studies for the Academy, and the Associate Dean of Studies for the Early College.

Each school year, the Office of Academic Affairs publishes a calendar of important academic dates and deadlines. Students are expected to familiarize themselves with this information. The calendar is posted on the student portal under the Academics section, and is also available in the Academic Affairs Office. Student log-in credentials are required to access the student portal. Course catalogs, academic calendars, course schedules, student information, and academic policies all originate from this office.

Students are asked to adhere to these and other procedures and deadlines:

- Course add/drop deadlines
- Course withdrawal deadlines
- Other academic deadlines (e.g., course grade change, course level change, incomplete)
- Filing for an exception to College or Academy policy
- Requesting approval for independent projects, tutorials, and extended campus projects (including internships).

1. Academic Advising

Each student has an Academic Advisor who is responsible for working with the student to design an academic program compatible with the student's interests, abilities, and goals, and that will allow the student to fulfill academic requirements. New students in the College are assigned advisors and are required to meet with them weekly during their first semester, at least every other week during their second semester, and as needed and arranged by the student and advisor during sophomore year. A student in the College may change advisors at any time by making arrangements to switch with their new advisor and then completing a Change of Advisor form, available from Academic Affairs.

Academic advising in Bard Academy occurs weekly during a group advisory session. Academy advisors work with the student to fulfill academic requirements and to adjust to a new setting with new responsibilities and challenges. The advisory program, which also serves as a peer support group, offers a major source of support for students in the high school program. By providing a supportive and accepting meeting place, advisory groups allow students to share questions and achievements while also voicing concerns, addressing issues, and offering each other guidance and support.

2. Class Planning

The Registrar is required to maintain accurate academic records. It is the student's responsibility to follow the published procedures to add, drop, or withdraw from courses, change Academic Advisors or request a course be designated pass/fail or incomplete; these changes require the signature of both the Academic Advisor and the relevant faculty member or instructor.

3. Course Loads

Full-time College students must maintain a course load between 12 and 18 credits. Students must receive permission from the Academic Affairs Office to register for fewer than 12 credits or more than 18 credits per semester. Students may petition to take up to 20 credits; carrying fewer than 12 credits may impact eligibility for financial aid and housing.

Academy students must maintain a full course load, including coursework in Literature, Social Studies, Sciences, Mathematics, World Languages/Linguistics, and the Arts. Alternate scheduling, including registration for college courses, must be approved by the Associate Dean of Studies for the Academy.

4. Enrollment Verification

Written verification of enrollment is available by request from the Registrar's Office. Unlike transcripts, these do not contain confidential information and may be requested by parents or students without signature.

5. Common Use First Name and Gender Pronoun

Students, faculty, and staff should be addressed by their common use name and pronoun, regardless of the sex assigned at birth, anatomy, gender, medical history, appearance, or the sex indicated on identification documents or past academic record. It may be necessary for an individual to express their name and/or pronoun when interacting with people who may not have been informed, based on the student's Common Use First Name/Gender or Gender-Neutral Pronoun form. There are certain instances in which the Academy or College must use a legal name and gender pronoun, and this is detailed in the above-mentioned form. The form is available on the portal under Academics >> Forms & Manuals.

6. Grade Reports

Students at Simon's Rock receive letter grades and written evaluations ("comments") of their performance at midterm and following the completion of courses. Together, the final grades and comment sheets make up the student's academic record. In terms of day-to-day reporting of grades, many courses use Google Classroom or Brightspace for posting assignments and grades. Student log-in credentials are required to access this information.

Grades and comments are made available at midterm and at the end of each semester to the person(s)/location that students designate as their home address during the admission process. Students may ask that grades be sent to additional or fewer recipients, or to a different address, by submitting a signed request to the Registrar's Office (see Appendix A: Notification of Rights Under FERPA). Students receive their midterm grades and comments report from their Academic Advisor. Academic Advisors receive a copy of both the midterm and final grades and comments.

7. Academic Recovery and Credit Recovery

Students at Simon's Rock are expected to maintain good academic standing, maintaining a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 or higher and staying on track for degree completion in terms of credits. Students who are unable to maintain good academic standing will be enrolled in the Academic Recovery Program.

Students in Academic Recovery will follow multiple steps including regular meetings with their Academic Advisor as well as meetings with the Academic Affairs Office to be connected to resources for greater academic success.

The goal of Academic Recovery is for the student to regain or make significant progress toward regaining good academic standing. Students who do not regain or make significant progress toward good Academic Standing will be placed on Academic Leave for at least one semester. While on leave, students are encouraged to take time to address the challenges that have impeded their academic success. After at least one semester of academic leave, students may apply for readmission.

Bard Academy students who are unable to maintain good academic standing are asked to complete Credit Recovery, which consists of coursework during the summer and additional support during the academic year. While all Academy students are required to participate in study hall, additional supervised study hall will be required when a student is placed on Credit Recovery during the academic school year. Students in the Credit Recovery program are required to successfully complete summer coursework for classes they did not pass during the school year in order to be eligible to return to Simon's Rock the subsequent fall semester. Students take courses through the school's on-line partners. These courses are paid for by the student and their families and are not covered by Bard Academy tuition.

8. Special Study Opportunities

Forms for eligible College students to propose special learning opportunities (tutorials, independent projects, extended campus projects, internships, and study abroad or away) are available on the portal and in hard copy outside the Office of Academic Affairs. Information on Special Study Opportunities is also provided in the College Catalog, which is available on the portal under Academics.

9. Transcripts

Simon's Rock has partnered with Parchment, Inc. for transcript service. All students can place their transcript orders online. Students can find the information and link for online ordering on the student portal: under the Academics section, see Forms & Manuals and click on "Transcript Requests." A credit card is necessary to place an order through this system. Generally, transcript requests are fulfilled within one to three business days, but may be delayed when student records are being updated or during periods of peak requests. Transcripts will not be released if the student's account is not current. Contact the Office of the Registrar (registrar@bard.edu) with questions or concerns.

10. Academic Accommodations

Students who may need academic accommodations should meet with the Director of Accessibility and Learning Supports to arrange accommodations as soon as possible in the beginning of the school year. Appropriate documentation may be required, and will be reviewed, prior to the granting of accommodations. Students may also meet with the Director of Accessibility and Learning Supports throughout the year to address concerns as they arise.

Simon's Rock maintains disability records for a period of seven years. Students and families should keep the original copies of any documentation they submit.

11. Human Subjects Research

Human subjects research is systematic investigation designed to develop or contribute to generalized knowledge, which involves the collection of data from living human beings.

Under state and federal regulations, as well as professional standards of ethical conduct, it is Academy and College policy to ensure that the rights and welfare of human subjects are protected in research conducted at the Academy and College or by individuals identified with the Academy and College. The primary responsibility for protecting human subjects, however, rests with each researcher.

The Academic Senate has established the Institutional Review Board (IRB) (also and formerly referred to as the Human Research Review Committee [HRRC]) to review all research involving human subjects conducted at the Academy and College or by individuals associated with the Academy and College, regardless of the source of funding.

The Academic Senate has also established the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) to review all research and activities involving animal subjects conducted at the Academy and College or by individuals associated with the Academy and College, regardless of the source of funding.

The Dean of Studies oversees the Academy and College's IRB and IACUC, making suggestions and, if necessary, arbitrating disputes between the IRB or IACUC and researchers or on-campus human subjects. The Dean of Studies may consult with the Committee on Standards and Procedures, as needed. The Director of Administration and Finance is the Institutional Official for both the IRB

and IACUC. For further information on human research guidelines and IRB procedures, and animal research and activities guidelines and IACUC procedures, see Appendix D.

B. ATTENDANCE POLICIES

1. Attendance

Students are expected to attend all classes for which they are scheduled. Generally, an instructor's evaluation of a student's work depends in part on class participation; therefore, absence from class is viewed as an irrevocably lost opportunity for both the individual student and the class collectively. The impact of absences will differ, depending on the course, material to be covered that day, the circumstances, and the student's attendance and performance in the course to date. Students are expected to familiarize themselves with the particular attendance requirements explained on each course syllabus. A student who is unable to attend class or submit assignments should communicate directly with the professor and make arrangements to catch up on what was missed.

Classes immediately before and after vacations are as important as any other classes during a term; students are expected to attend them and to limit their vacations to the days prescribed in the Academy or the College's academic calendar. Final exam days are part of the academic semester and students should plan on being on campus through the end of the exam period.

For Bard Academy students, instructors will take attendance at the beginning of each class. If an Academy student is absent without reason, the Community Directors will try to locate the student to get them to class as quickly as possible. If a student misses a class, Academy faculty are asked to send an absence notice to inform the student, their family, and relevant campus personnel of the absence.

2. Absence for Religious Observance

Pursuant to the requirements of the law set forth in Chapter 151C, Section 2B of the General Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, a copy of this section is printed here in full: "Any student in an educational or vocational training institution, other than a religious or denominational educational or vocational training institution, who is unable, because of his or her religious beliefs, to attend classes or to participate in any examination, study, or work requirement on a particular day shall be excused from any such examination or study or work requirement and shall be provided with an opportunity to make up such examination, study or work requirement that he or she may have missed because of such absence on any particular day; provided, however, that such makeup examination or work shall not create an unreasonable burden upon such school. No fees of any kind shall be charged by the institution for making available to the said student such opportunity. No adverse or prejudicial effects shall result to any student because of his availing himself of the provisions of this section."

Simon's Rock recognizes that the student body includes adherents of various faiths, and that observance of religious holidays is an important part of religious practice. Students may obtain an excused absence for such observance by informing their professors, in writing, of a planned absence at least two weeks in advance and making arrangements to complete any missed work.

3. Notices of Concern

Simon's Rock uses a system of notices to inform students, families, and support personnel when a student's performance in a class may jeopardize their ability to complete the course successfully. These notices include "Notice of Concern" and "2nd Notice of Concern" within the College and "Missed Class" and "Missed Assignment" notices in the Academy.

When a professor has concerns that a student's absences or course performance is having – or may have – a negative impact on the student's ability to succeed in a course, they will send a notice to alert the student, the advisors, and the parent or guardian of Academy and first-year College students about this concern. A student who receives a notice regarding an absence or course performance should talk with their Academic Advisor and the professor about steps to take to improve their standing in the course. It may also benefit the student to speak with a Student Success Advisor.

A student in the College who fails to respond to a Notice of Concern or take steps to address the concerns indicated within the notice can expect to receive a second Notice of Concern, alerting them that their successful completion of the course is now at serious risk and that they should consider a drop or withdrawal. At this point, the student and Advisor should discuss the best course of action to address the problem.

A college student who decides to drop or withdraw from a course must submit the appropriate form to the Registrar by the deadline. If withdrawal is desirable but would result in a course load below 12 credits, the student must meet with the Associate Dean of Studies for the Academy or the Associate Dean of Studies for the Early College.

4. Extended Absences

In the event of a serious illness or other severe problem that necessitates missing several consecutive classes, the student, the parent or guardian, the advisor, or other Simon's Rock staff member working with the student may request assistance from the Academic Affairs Office to communicate with the faculty member and help determine the best course of action to, ideally, enable the student to complete the semester successfully.

Where that is not possible, the student may request a semester leave of absence or may withdraw with the option of applying for readmission when the problem is resolved.

5. Vacating Campus for Medical or Personal Leave, Withdrawal, Suspension, Expulsion

Unless otherwise directed, a student required to leave campus outside normal closure dates, regardless of circumstances (medical or personal leave, withdrawal, suspension, expulsion) must vacate campus within 24 hours. Alternative arrangements for departure must be made directly with the Dean of Students and Equitable Community or their designee.

If a student leaves school during a semester, they or their parent or guardian will need to make arrangements with the Dean of Students and Equitable Community or their designee for any personal items left behind to be shipped to the student's home before departing campus. Items left behind without a plan made within a week of the student's departure, will be considered abandoned.

property, and may be discarded at will. The cost of shipping and handling is to be borne by the student, or their parent/guardian.

The student vacating campus is expected to turn in their ID card, room key, and all other campus keys to the Campus Safety office (via the Campus Life Office during business hours or to the Campus Safety Office at night and on weekends). Failure to do so may affect readmission or return from leave status. Upon scheduled return, the student will be allowed to retrieve their ID card and key(s).

C. STUDENT RESOURCES

1. Accessibility and Academic Support

Through the Win Commons, students can receive individualized support for time management, and study strategies; secure adaptive technologies, disability services, and accommodations; or attend workshops aimed at reducing academic anxiety, and increasing productivity and organization. The Director of Accessibility and Academic Support works together with other offices to support students throughout their time at Simon's Rock.

2. Peer Tutoring and Writing Center

The Tutoring and Writing Center in the Win Commons offers free individual and group peer tutoring in most subjects. The Writing Center is available to all students on a drop-in basis on evenings Sunday through Thursday and in the afternoons Monday through Thursday. Additionally, Think Tank is an open venue for studying on Sunday, Tuesday, and Thursday evenings, where students can receive assistance from math and science tutors. Students can also request one-on-one tutoring in particular subjects by sending an email to the Director of the Tutoring and Writing Program.

Peer tutors have earned a 3.3 or higher GPA in the courses they tutor, have been recommended by the faculty, and are closely supervised. Tutors of writing have also completed training in the teaching of writing and provide support in all phases of expository composition.

3. Office of Career Development

The Office of Career Development helps students prepare and plan for their professional aspirations by working closely with them on an individualized basis. Through thoughtful advising and coaching, students are presented with opportunities to explore interests, develop professional skills, and gain valuable experiences to be successful whatever their chosen path. From internships and study abroad, to graduate or career exploration, the Office of Career Development supports Simon's Rock students and alumni with all their professional pursuits. For appointments or questions related to career development, please contact the Director Career Development.

Support offered through the Office of Career Development include:

- Résumé, cover letters, CV writing, and LinkedIn profile summary
- Internship and employment resources
- Interview preparation

- Study abroad resources
- Moderation application guidance
- Fellowship/scholarship information and application support
- Graduate school application assistance
- Student and alumni networking opportunities

IV. CODE OF STUDENT CONDUCT

Outlined below and in the appendices that follow is the Simon's Rock Code of Student Conduct. Included is a statement on oversight and authority, Guiding Principles of the Community, responsibility for code enforcement, and duty to address alleged violations. Also included are the processes and policies that govern our disciplinary processes, the grounds and procedures for appeal, and the authority for final disposition of appeals in all cases.

Simon's Rock does not attempt to anticipate or describe every act that may constitute a violation of the Code of Student Conduct. Rather, the Provost and senior leadership team of Simon's Rock reserve the right to respond and to make determinations on a case-by-case basis as needed.

Simon's Rock notifies enrolled students of official business via their assigned email addresses. It is each student's responsibility to keep their email, home address, and parent or guardian's address(s) up to date for further communication. Students are expected to manage their email account accordingly, responding to faculty, staff, and departmental email upon request. Students may update address changes in writing at the start of each semester or during regular business hours in the Registrar's Office.

The information presented in this Student Handbook addresses student conduct. There are other, similar documents that address expectations of faculty and staff, which are available from the Academic Affairs and Business offices.

A. AUTHORITY AND RESPONSIBILITY FOR OUR CAMPUS

The Vice President and Provost of Simon's Rock at Bard College (Provost) is the chief executive of this campus. The Provost has ultimate authority to determine what activities and behaviors are acceptable on the campus. The Provost ensures that any alleged violation of the Code of Student Conduct is addressed and resolved following the policies and procedures documented in the Student Handbook.

The Provost delegates enforcement and follow-up responsibilities as follows:

- The Dean of Faculty and Curricular Development, Dean of Studies, or the Vice Provost address allegations of academic dishonesty.
- The Title IX Coordinator, or designated Deputy, addresses allegations of discrimination, harassment, stalking, and sexual misconduct through the resolution processes set forth in the Equity and Title IX Policies
- The Dean of Students and Equitable Community or their designee address all other alleged violations of the institution's Code of Student Conduct.

The Provost, Vice Provost, Dean of Studies, Dean of Faculty and Curricular Development, Dean of Students and Equitable Community, Director of Campus Life, Assistant Director of Campus Life, Director of Campus Safety, and staff members from their departments are empowered to enforce the institution's Code of Student Conduct and standards of behavior outlined in this document. This

authority includes removing a student from campus who may pose a threat to themselves or any other person(s).

The Provost may delegate, retake, and re-delegate to the Simon's Rock community, or to any committee or any constituent part or person thereof, such of their powers as they may determine.

B. GUIDING PRINCIPLES OF COMMUNITY

At Simon's Rock, we respect and care for the welfare and integrity of individuals, and for the community as a whole. We expect members of this community to show respect and abide by the Principles of the Community and follow the code items outlined below:

1. Respect for Individuals

Any action that jeopardizes the health, safety, well-being, or self-respect of an individual—whether oneself or another member of the Simon's Rock community—will not be tolerated. Such acts include violence, harm, threat of harm, intimidation, sexual misconduct, discrimination, harassment, bullying, cyber-bullying, dishonesty, misconduct, noise, and/or other endangering behavior.

2. Respect for Property

All community members and all guests will respect the private property of individuals, including community members and guests. All community resources will likewise be respected to ensure that none are denied their proper use.

Therefore, disrespectful behavior toward any individual's personal belongings or towards Simon's Rock property and/or resources is prohibited. Lack of respect for property on or off campus will not be tolerated. Lack of respect for property includes leaving an excessive mess in a community space for others to clean, theft, vandalism or damage, possession of stolen property, unauthorized access (to another's living unit, office, lab, computer or computer account), or misuse or replication of keys is strictly prohibited.

3. Respect for Civil and Criminal Law

While this is a private institution, we remain subject to all federal and state civil and criminal law, on or off campus. Members of the Simon's Rock community are expected to be law-abiding citizens. Students who violate a law on or off campus are liable for their actions on campus, and may be subject to civil or criminal proceedings. When Simon's Rock receives reports or complaints of illegal and/or disrespectful behavior by students off-campus, it may take disciplinary action. Disciplinary action is not dependent on separate civil or criminal prosecutions by other non-Simon's Rock authorities. Simon's Rock's adjudication process is separate from and independent of civil or criminal prosecution or its timetables.

C. LISTED CODE OF STUDENT CONDUCT POLICIES

The Code of Student Conduct policies and processes used to investigate and resolve alleged violations are provided below. Policies and procedures regarding discrimination, harassment, and sexual misconduct are included in a separate document: "Equity and Title IX: Policies and

Procedures” which can be found at <https://simons-rock.edu/title-ix> and in Appendix B of this handbook.

1. Academic Integrity

Honesty and integrity in the performance of all academic assignments are expected of all students at Simon’s Rock. Plagiarism, falsifying data, or the giving or receiving of unauthorized assistance on any examination, quiz, lab, or homework assignment all are serious forms of academic dishonesty and will not be tolerated.

A student who submits a paper or report with content that is wholly or partially taken from another’s work without citation, or who misrepresents the source of a paper or assignment, has committed plagiarism. Special care should be taken when engaging in research on the internet, as many sources there are designed to aid students in committing academic dishonesty, or are otherwise unsuitable for academic pursuits.

It is the student’s responsibility to consult with the faculty member involved whenever there is a question about the right way to handle source material or about what type of collaboration is permissible on a given assignment. The library staff can aid students in finding appropriate materials through Internet research and in acknowledging them correctly.

A first offense of academic dishonesty will usually result in a grade of F on the assignment or exam in question, but may result in a grade of F for the course. The student will receive a written warning and parents or guardians will be notified, (although the warning is not noted on the student’s transcript). Any subsequent offense will result in more serious consequences, which may include failure in the course, notation on Dean’s forms from transfer schools, academic probation, suspension. or expulsion from Simon’s Rock.

Appeals of the consequences or judgments of academic dishonesty more severe than a warning may be made in writing to the Standards and Procedures Committee within 48 hours of the decision. Questions about Simon’s Rock’s policy on academic dishonesty should be directed to the Dean of Studies, Dean of Faculty and Curricular Development, or the Vice Provost.

2. Prohibited Substances

Campus Life staff have the authority to take necessary action to safeguard the campus and residents from alcohol, illegal drugs, and intoxicated users of the substances mentioned below. This includes searching rooms or belongings (including backpacks or bags) if actual or suspected use of alcohol, drugs, or other substances is reasonably determined by Campus Life staff. When a student is found to be in possession of or under the influence of alcohol or illegal substances, Simon’s Rock’s first concern will always be the physical and psychological well-being of the student, and the well-being of the campus community. Once the safety of the student and others has been ensured, the student will be counseled on personal reflection, education, and accountability. Sanctions may also be imposed.

Simon’s Rock is a substance-free and smoke free campus. Therefore, the use, possession, possession by consumption, sale, distribution, manufacturing, or facilitation of the use of alcohol, tobacco products, including e-cigarettes and vapes, and illegal drugs, is strictly prohibited. This includes

substances that are generally recognized as dangerous and detrimental to the individual and community, even though they may not be illegal (including, but not limited to, marijuana whippits, 2-C's, NBOME, research drugs, Spice, K-2, non-prescribed performance enhancing drugs, herbal intoxicants, and vape pens/devices). Possession of items used to consume, or in the preparation to consume, alcohol and illegal substances are also prohibited.

Attendance at a gathering in which alcohol and illegal substances are available or are being consumed, is prohibited. The unlawful distribution, possession, social sharing, non-prescribed use, or abuse of prescription drugs is prohibited. Altering, tampering, or forging a prescription is prohibited. The use of a fake ID, or misrepresenting one's identity and age, is also prohibited.

Marijuana Campus Policy

Although the Commonwealth of Massachusetts has approved legislation to legalize recreational use of marijuana by people at or over the age of 21, Simon's Rock must abide by federal law, including the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act, in order to remain eligible for federal funding to Simon's Rock, including student financial aid. Therefore, Simon's Rock must continue to maintain and enforce its prohibition on the use of marijuana. This means that for all students, regardless of age, Simon's Rock prohibits the use, sale, manufacturing, distribution, possession, or facilitation of the use of marijuana on campus, or as part of any school sponsored activities or events.

Furthermore, because the federal Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act applies to the use of medical marijuana, marijuana for medicinal purposes on campus, or at any Simon's Rock sponsored activities, is prohibited. This prohibition applies even if the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH) has issued a Medical Marijuana Registry identification card to an individual, authorizing that individual to possess and use marijuana for medicinal purposes. Thus, despite whatever state law may permit, Simon's Rock policy strictly prohibits any person, including those with a medical marijuana card, from possessing, using, distributing, selling, manufacturing, or facilitating the use of medical marijuana on campus or as part of any school sponsored activity.

3. Prescription Medications

Simon's Rock forbids the misuse or misappropriation of prescription drugs. Misuse includes taking a prescription drug or being in possession of a prescription drug that has been prescribed for a different person. Furthermore, students must adhere to all prescription medication regulations in the United States. Misappropriation includes acquiring drugs from any source other than the student's healthcare provider or the Wellness Center; it also includes cases when a student provides a prescription drug to another student who is not the intended recipient of that drug.

4. Call for Help

If a student (or students) requires medical attention as a result of using prohibited substances – and that student or a peer contacts Campus Safety or a Community Director and indicates that immediate help is needed – the usual disciplinary process and consequences for the use of prohibited substances will not apply to any students involved. If a student is aware that a peer intends to engage in endangering activities and alerts a Community Director or Campus Safety Officer member, the usual disciplinary process and consequences for the use/possession of prohibited substances will not apply to the reporting student(s).

While no disciplinary sanction will be imposed, the student involved will be asked to follow up with a Campus Life staff member. In most circumstances, the student's parent or guardian and Academic Advisor will also be notified of the incident. Specific details will not be disclosed by Campus Life staff to the Academic Advisor, providing such information is at the discretion of the student(s). The student(s) will be required to seek professional help on or off campus. Failure to meet this requirement will result in a violation of the Student Code of Conduct, and will result in disciplinary action. If other policies were violated during an incident, such as vandalism, a threat of serious harm to one's self or others, or procuring/providing prohibited substances to students, the individual may be held accountable for those specific acts.

5. Expectation to Cooperate with Faculty and Staff in the Course of Duties

When a member of the faculty or staff needs a student to cooperate with a request or directive in the course of their duties, the expectation in our community is that the request or directive will be respected and followed.

In many cases these directives are a matter of community safety. Examples of these directives include notifications regarding emergency parking restrictions, vacation or break announcements, and campus safety alerts. Other cases may involve the need for cooperation so that an employee's responsibilities may be fulfilled. These instances include requests to vacate a room for cleaning or maintenance, visit a campus office for administrative purposes, or respond to a query for information.

Neglect or refusal to cooperate with such directives and requests, including making a materially false statement in bad faith in the course of disciplinary process, investigation, or hearing has the potential to compromise safety and/or interfere with an employee's ability to fulfill essential responsibilities. Simon's Rock's response in such instances may include disciplinary warning, social probation, or loss of privileges. It may also include, but is not limited to, any combination of the following:

- Campus community service
- Required or recommended counseling, on or off campus
- Fines and costs of restitution
- Loss of privileges (i.e. access to specific residence halls or social spaces, restriction from social events, break-housing, early return or late departure for breaks and vacations)
- Educational Programming

Major or repeat offenders may face more serious sanctions, up to and including suspension or expulsion.

6. Interaction between Academy and College Program

Bard Academy students attend high school on a college campus. Most areas of campus are shared between the Academy and the College. Academy students are encouraged to explore the resources and activities offered by the College (i.e. athletic teams, clubs, writing tutors, etc.) with certain limitations. Academy students are expected to behave respectfully and in a mature fashion when using shared facilities, including the classrooms, the Kilpatrick Athletic Center, the Alumni Library,

the Dining Hall, and the Daniel Arts Center. All Academy policies are in effect at all times and in all campus spaces.

Certain spaces on campus are designated for primary or exclusive Academy use. Academy and College students are encouraged to study and socialize in common spaces that are non-residential (e.g. student union, library). College students may not enter the Academy halls of Hill House and will face disciplinary action.

Similarly, certain spaces on campus are designated for primary or exclusive College use. Bard Academy students are prohibited from entering or occupying College residential buildings, including the section of Hill House assigned to the College and all common areas in the College residential buildings. Any Academy student found in a College residence will face disciplinary action.

7. Fire and Life Safety

Simon's Rock, the Great Barrington Fire Department, and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts take fire and life safety very seriously. The Campus Safety, Physical Plant, and Campus Life Office staff make daily rounds in buildings, checking and monitoring life safety systems, and maintaining order. All students are expected to help maintain a safe environment. At the start of each semester, Community Directors will communicate fire safety concerns to students and identify gathering points in the event of a real fire or other emergencies.

Examples of fire and life safety violations include the following:

Open Flame or Smoke

Burning of candles, incense, or any other material in or near buildings is strictly prohibited. Burning anything on campus grounds without prior written permission from the Director of Campus Safety is forbidden. Also see the smoking policy, below.

Flammable Material

Possession of highly flammable material, including but not limited to candles; incense or related paraphernalia; smoking paraphernalia; excessive wall coverings or ceiling hangings; open coil appliances; indoor possession of fuel, gas, cleaning solvents and fuel-fired devices, and explosives is prohibited.

Fire Hazard

Creating a fire hazard, which includes but is not limited to blocking any means of egress, propping fire doors, overloading electrical outlets or creating an excessive mess (i.e. stacking a semester's worth of empty pizza boxes in the laundry room) is prohibited.

False Alarm

Setting off smoke or fire alarms in the absence of smoke or fire, regardless of intent, is prohibited.

Tampering

Tampering with smoke alarms, sprinklers, fire extinguishers, wiring or additional equipment on the campus is prohibited. This includes but is not limited to electrical, telecommunication, computer, security, or life safety devices.

Cooking

Students may not cook in their dorm room. The misuse or abuse of kitchens, such as leaving ovens or stoves unattended, or cooking anywhere on campus other than in campus kitchens, or not cleaning up the kitchen or dishes after cooking is a violation of policy that may result in fines or restrictions. Kitchens should be kept safe, clean, and functional for the use of all. Any problems should immediately be reported to a Community Director.

Prohibited Items

For fire safety reasons and because many of these items interfere with emergency fire alarm equipment, the following items are prohibited: candles, incense and related materials, vapes, e-cigarettes, cigarettes, vaporizers, humidifiers, scent diffusers, space heaters, microwaves, air-fryers and toaster ovens, air conditioners, immersion heaters, hot plates, open-coil appliances, refrigerators more than three cubic feet, electric blankets and other electric bedding, fuel-run appliances, plug-in air fresheners, candle melters, halogen lamps, and other potentially dangerous devices. Students who are not sure whether a particular appliance is permitted should get written permission from the Dean of Students and Equitable Community before bringing the item to school.

Extension Cords

Extension cords and string lights may not be strung in succession, and must be unobstructed and accessible. Power strips should only accommodate one extension cord or string light at a time.

Lofts

Lofting and bunking of beds is prohibited.

Candles for Religious Observances

For the purposes of religious observance, students may burn candles in the meditation room in the Livingston Student Union under the following parameters:

- Permission must be obtained beforehand from the Dean of Students and Equitable Community or Director of Campus Safety
- The students must take necessary fire-safety precautions
- The candles must not interfere with the normal functioning of all fire safety equipment
- A staff member must be present while the candles are burning
- Candles must be stored by the employee while not in use

Simon's Rock's response to fire and life safety violations often includes a fine as well as a sanction in the form of a disciplinary warning or social probation and any combination of the following:

- Campus community service
- Required or recommended counseling, on or off campus
- Costs of restitution
- Educational activity or event
- Loss of privileges (i.e. access to specific residence halls or social spaces, restriction from social events, break housing, early return or late departure for breaks and vacations)

Major or repeat offenders may be suspended or expelled. Simon's Rock welcomes the aid and support of the Great Barrington Fire Department and once on campus, they may cite students for violations of law. Note that the Great Barrington Fire Department cites and fines Simon's Rock for nuisance alarms (resulting, for example, from burnt toast, burnt popcorn, tobacco smoke) and fire safety violations; Simon's Rock will pass these charges directly onto the student(s) cited whenever possible.

8. Hazing

Hazing is illegal in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and is prohibited at Simon's Rock. While Simon's Rock does not allow fraternities or sororities, hazing activities have been known to take place, via other types of organizations, at institutions across the country. Such illegal acts may result in criminal proceedings against both participants and the institution. Massachusetts requires that the text of its law prohibiting hazing be posted at every educational institution in the state.

Laws Prohibiting Hazing – Commonwealth of Massachusetts

§2540 The Commonwealth of Massachusetts, 1985: An Act Prohibiting the Practice of Hazing Chapter 269 of the General Laws is amended by adding the following three sections:

Section 17. Whoever is a principal organizer or participant in the crime of hazing as defined herein shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$1,000 or by imprisonment in a house of correction for not more than 100 days, or by both such fine and imprisonment. The term hazing as used in this section and in Sections 18 and 19 shall mean any conduct or method of initiation into any student organization, whether on public or private property, which willfully or recklessly endangers the physical or mental health of any student or other person. Such conduct shall include whipping, beating, branding, forced calisthenics, exposure to the weather, forced consumption of any food, liquor, beverage, drug, or other substance, or any other brutal treatment or forced physical activity that is likely to adversely affect the physical health or safety of any such student or other person, or that subjects such student or other person to extreme mental stress, including extended deprivation of sleep or rest, or extended isolation.

Section 18. Whoever knows that another person is the victim of hazing as defined in Section 17 and is at the scene of such crime shall, to the extent that such person can do so without danger or peril to him or herself or others, report such crime to an appropriate law enforcement official as soon as reasonably practicable. Whoever fails to report such crime shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$500.

Section 19. Each secondary school and each public and private school or college shall issue to every group or organization under its authority or operating in conjunction with its campus or school, and to every member, plebe, pledge, or applicant for membership in such group or organization, a copy of this section and Sections 17 and 18. An officer of each such group or organization, and each individual receiving a copy of said sections 17 and 18, shall sign an acknowledgment stating that such group, organization, or individual has received a copy of said Sections 17 and 18.

Each secondary school and each public or private school or college shall file, at least annually, a report with the regents of higher education and in the case of secondary schools, the board of education, certifying that such institution has complied with the provisions of this section and also certifying that such school has adopted a disciplinary policy with regard to the organizers and

participants of hazing. The board of regents and in the case of secondary schools, the board of education, shall promulgate regulations governing the content and frequency of such reports, and shall forthwith report to the attorney general any such institution that fails to make such a report.

9. Restroom Policy

Restrooms on the Simon's Rock campus are marked by utilities, which means the signage depicts the facilities available within a restroom. All members of the Simon's Rock Community and visitors to campus have the right to access the restroom consistent with their gender identity. If anyone requires greater privacy (for any reason) than a multi-user restroom provides, single user facilities are available where indicated on the campus restrooms map. Gender specific multi-user restrooms are also indicated on this map. Everyone on campus has the right to safe and appropriate restroom facilities without being harassed or questioned. Under no circumstances shall anyone be asked to provide proof of gender anywhere on campus.

This policy is in accordance with the institution's Notice of Non-Discrimination on the basis of gender identity or expression. Anyone who believes they have experienced discrimination in violation of this policy is encouraged to contact the Council for Inclusive Community at cei@simons-rock.edu or the Title IX Office at titleix@simons-rock.edu.

10. Threat of Harm to Self or Others

Any act that poses what a reasonable person would consider an immediate threat of harm to oneself or others is strictly prohibited on the Simon's Rock campus. Examples include but are not limited to overt or implied threats and acts constituting physical harm and violence, sexual misconduct, discriminatory harassment, stalking, bullying, intimidation and other endangering behavior directed toward oneself, others, or the property of others.

Any member of the Simon's Rock community who identifies a potential threat to self or others should immediately report the concern to a responsible authority of either 911 for immediate or emergency concerns, or Campus Safety who will contact the on-call Campus Life and Wellness Staff. This includes, but is not limited to, faculty, staff, the Wellness Center, Campus Safety, or the Dean of Students and Equitable Community.

Upon receiving a report, the Wellness Center or an authorized campus official will conduct a preliminary assessment to determine the immediacy and severity of the threat. If the threat is deemed immediate or severe, appropriate emergency services (e.g., Campus Safety, local law enforcement, emergency medical services) will be contacted immediately. A comprehensive risk assessment may be conducted by a qualified mental health professional to evaluate the situation further.

The administrators' primary concern will be to restore the safety and wellbeing of everyone involved. Thereafter, the Dean of Students and Equitable Community, or their designee, will consider disciplinary action, based on the policies in this handbook.

11. Campus Network

Simon's Rock's computer network is for the use of members of the community – Academy and College students, faculty, staff, and associates of the institution. Email communications using Simon's Rock's email services may contain confidential or personal information. Simon's Rock reserves the right to access and disclose the contents of electronic mail messages, but will do so only when it has a legitimate work or legal-related need to do so. Simon's Rock Information Technology Services staff routinely monitors information technology systems, including email systems and services. If anomalies are found indicating the possibility of illegal activity or violations of Simon's Rock policy or security, they will investigate further.

Acceptable Use Policy

All users of the Campus Network must read and must agree to the terms outlined in the Acceptable Use Policy before they are granted access the first time they use the Network. The Acceptable Use Policy referenced here and in the course catalog is also available on the Bard's Information Technology Services (ITS) webpage. If you have questions or concerns about this policy, please direct them to the ITS staff at helpdesk@bard.edu.

Violation of the Acceptable Use Policy may lead to restriction or revocation of network access, or be referred to the Dean of Students and Equitable Community for further action as necessary.

Management of the College Website

The Provost or the Provost's designee has final approval of the Simon's Rock Internet site. The Provost designates the day-to-day oversight to the Director of Communications and Marketing and staff. All websites representing Simon's Rock at Bard College and Bard Academy at Simon's Rock accessible to the public conform to standards put forth by the Communications and Marketing Office.

12. Smoking

Smoking poses known and preventable health risks, therefore, smoking, vaping, or using any tobacco or plant product is prohibited on the Simon's Rock campus for all students, including buildings, facilities, and grounds. The ban encompasses indoor and outdoor spaces, private offices, all buildings including all areas of residence halls, athletic venues, restrooms, dining facilities, and student vehicles on campus. Smoking on campus results in a \$250.00 fine per person, per occurrence, and repeated violations may lead to additional disciplinary action. Students seeking smoking cessation resources are encouraged to reach out to the Wellness Center.

13. Weapons Possession

Any item used with the intention of threatening or causing harm to an individual or property will be considered a weapon. Simon's Rock views any such item as a potential threat to the safety and well-being of this community and will take whatever action is necessary to eliminate the danger and remove such items from the campus. This includes but is not limited to guns and firearms of any kind, including any projectile firing device, ammunition, knives, daggers, machetes, swords, pepper spray, slingshots, paintball rifles and supplies, fencing foils, martial arts equipment, explosives,

fireworks or fuel of any kind. Simon's Rock does not consider any of these items decorative or necessary on our campus, and therefore they are strictly prohibited and will be confiscated.

14. Pepper or chemical spray (mace)

In Massachusetts, persons over the age of 18, can carry Mace or Pepper Spray explicitly for self-defense. Minors between 15 years of age and under 18 may possess self-defense spray, so long as they have been granted an FID card and written permission from parent or guardian. All others who wish to carry such items on campus must register with the Director of Campus Safety. No one other than the owner can be in possession of the spray at any time. Use of the spray for any purpose other than self-defense will be considered a violation of this weapons policy.

D. DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES

The Dean of Students and Equitable Community, or their designee, has the authority to adjudicate violations of the Code of Student Conduct.

Campus Life and Campus Safety staff members who respond to an incident will first be concerned with the physical safety and well-being of students. Once safety is confirmed, staff members will review the incident, speak with any relevant witnesses or parties, and report findings to the Dean of Students and Equitable Community or their designee.

Simon's Rock disciplinary proceedings pursuant to this policy are private and confidential. Only current members of the student body, faculty, and staff may participate in these proceedings as a committee member. Recording a hearing is not permitted without advance permission from the Dean of Students.

Please note: Cases alleging academic dishonesty will be referred to the Dean of Studies, or the Provost. Allegations of cases alleging discrimination, harassment, stalking, and sexual misconduct, discrimination, and/or discriminatory harassment will be referred to the Title IX Office.

Questions regarding the disciplinary process or the scheduling of a hearing should be directed to the Dean of Students and Equitable Community.

1. Disciplinary Sanction

After exploring the details of the incident with the parties involved, if the Dean of Students and Equitable Community, or their designee, believes a sanction is warranted, they will either:

a. Produce a notice of violation

The named student may meet with the Dean, or their designee, to ask clarifying questions before responding. Once the notice of violation is sent to the student, they are asked to read and respond within two business days of the date and time issued. If a student fails to respond to a violation notice within two business days of the date and time issued, the notice defaults to acceptance, and the student waives their right to contest the sanction as presented.

After reviewing the student's response to the allegation, the Dean of Students and Equitable Community, or their designee, determines how to resolve the matter. They may adjudicate the allegation or may delegate that responsibility. The Dean or their designee are able to resolve many allegations after reading the written response; others may involve a brief follow-up meeting; still other allegations may require meetings with involved parties, including witnesses and the staff that responded to the incident; others may require a referral to the Student Code of Conduct Committee.

If the student: a) accepts responsibility, b) accepts responsibility with a comment or c) is found responsible by the Dean, or their designee, a sanction may be imposed from the list outlined below. If the student is found not responsible for a violation, the outcome is documented and the matter is closed.

The Dean of Students and Equitable Community, or their designee, responsible for formal action in response to an allegation will document the matter and the outcome in writing. They will then share that information with the student, their parents or guardians as appropriate given the sanction(s), and staff members in accordance with and as permitted by Simon's Rock policy and the law. Academy parents or guardians will always be notified in instances where sanctions are given.

b. Produce a referral to the Student Code of Conduct Committee for adjudication

The Dean of Students and Equitable Community, or their designee, may refer an allegation under their jurisdiction to the Student Code of Conduct Committee for adjudication. In such instances, the student will receive notice that a hearing has been scheduled and will be given the opportunity to respond in writing within two business days of the date and time the notice was issued.

In the event of egregious or repeated violations, or if a student persists in violating regulations or shows contempt for the well-being of the community and its governing policies, the Dean of Students and Equitable Community may take direct action, and then refer the allegation to the Student Code of Conduct Committee for resolution. Such direct action may include removing a student from campus.

Cases typically referred involve serious matters and/or repeat offenders who may be subject to social probation/loss of privileges, suspension, or expulsion. The Student Code of Conduct Committee works in conjunction with the Dean of Students and Equitable Community to uphold the policies and procedures of Simon's Rock, as outlined.

The Student Code of Conduct Committee pool is made up of two students, two faculty members, and two staff members. Where a student representative is not available, or all elected representatives have pre-established conflicts of interest, the Dean of Students and Equitable Community may invite currently enrolled students to serve on the panel in lieu of an elected member of the Student Code of Conduct Committee. Up to three student representatives may receive an invitation to participate in any single case. Committee members are expected to recuse themselves if they have a conflict of interest with the student(s) involved in a particular instance. All Committee members have an equal say in the outcome.

Students are selected by the Student Government to serve for one academic year. Student members themselves must be and remain in good academic and social standing, as confirmed by the Campus Life representative to Student Government before selection. Faculty and staff nominate and elect their representative committee members.

When a case is referred, a hearing circle of at least three Student Code of Conduct Committee members will be convened to hear the case. The circle will include one student, one faculty member, and one staff member. At the discretion of the Dean of Students and Equitable Community or their designee, the student representative may be replaced with a staff or faculty representative, including but not limited to in cases where the matter under consideration intersects with private processes or confidential records, such as where there is a concurrent Title IX investigation.

The faculty representative acts as hearing Chair. The Dean that referred the case sits in the hearing as a non-voting member, recording and communicating the outcome to the student(s) involved and participating in appeals as necessary. The Chair may remove and replace any committee member if needed.

c. Student Code of Conduct Committee Training

Sitting members of the Code of Student Conduct Committee are educated on the Student Code of Conduct policies, conducting fair hearings, and the “preponderance of evidence” standard, which Simon’s Rock uses to determine responsibility. At-large members are also educated on the matters by the hearing Chair.

2. Hearing Process

The Chair determines the order of witnesses and oversees proceedings in consultation, if necessary, with the Dean of Students and Equitable Community or their designee.

The Dean of Students and Equitable Community, or their designee, answers questions on policy, procedure, and precedent.

During each hearing:

- Committee members for the specific case review the notice of violations and any statements or other written or material evidence presented that is relevant, as approved by the Chair.
- Members speak with those who witnessed, were involved in, and/or responded to the incident, and with the student charged.
- Members may also hear from up to two character witnesses. These individuals must be current students, faculty, or staff at Simon’s Rock. The hearing members will not hear from anyone not formally associated with Simon’s Rock, including parents, guardians, outside advocates, or lawyers without advance permission of the Chair.
- Students who fail to attend their own hearing will forfeit the right to testify. Decisions will be made in their absence.

- If a hearing is disrupted, the Chair, Dean of Students and Equitable Community, or their designee, may temporarily adjourn the session or decide to hear the case in closed session with or without participation of the charged student and witnesses.
- Any breach of confidentiality by hearing members will result in the immediate dismissal of that member and possible disciplinary action as appropriate.

3. Hearing Outcome

Once a hearing concludes, committee members deliberate and determine whether a sanction has been proven by the preponderance of evidence standard. If the sanction meets the standard, the committee members then work with the Dean of Students and Equitable Community or their designee to determine an appropriate penalty based on the student's disciplinary history while at Simon's Rock, which only then will be shared by the Dean of Students and Equitable Community or their designee with the hearing committee members.

The Dean of Students and Equitable Community will document the outcome of the hearing and communicate the decision to the student.

Hearing decisions are based upon the preponderance of evidence and/or reasonable person standards. Hearings, deliberations, and decisions are confidential. All decisions require a majority vote.

These processes are designed to offer a student charged with violating institutional policy the opportunity to reflect on and respond to sanctions.

Questions regarding the Code of Student Conduct, the disciplinary process, or the scheduling of a hearing should be directed to the Dean of Students and Equitable Community or their designee.

Simon's Rock attempts to resolve sanctions within two weeks of the incident, but some matters may take longer to resolve. Questions regarding resolution timelines should be directed to the Dean of Students and Equitable Community or their designee.

a. Transcript Notations

For violent offenses (as defined below), Simon's Rock will make a notation on the transcript of students found responsible after a conduct process. For a student who withdraws from Simon's Rock while such conduct charges are pending, and declines to complete the disciplinary process, Simon's Rock shall make a notation on the student's transcript that they "withdrew with conduct charges pending." The student may seek removal of a transcript notation for a suspension one year after conclusion of the suspension by requesting a meeting with the Dean of Students and Equitable Community where the student will be given the opportunity to show cause as to why the transcript notation should be removed. Notations for expulsion shall not be removed. If a finding of responsibility is vacated for any reason, any such transcript notation shall be removed. "Violent Offenses" shall include the conduct violations which correlate with or are related to: Homicide, Robbery, Aggravated Assault, Burglary, Motor Vehicle Theft, Arson.

b. Appealing a Suspension or Expulsion

At Simon's Rock, appeals for conduct violations will be accepted solely on one or more of the following grounds:

Violation of procedure – An appeal will be accepted if the appellant demonstrates that the institution committed a material procedural error that was likely to adversely affect the result of the conduct adjudication. Minor or inconsequential deviations from procedure do not give rise to an appeal.

Previously unavailable information – An appeal will be accepted in circumstances where the appellant is able to provide relevant testimony or other evidence that (i) was unavailable to the individual submitting the appeal at the time of the adjudication process and (ii) would likely have affected the finding.

Students who meet the above listed criteria must initiate their appeal by notifying the Provost's Administrative Assistant of their intent to appeal within 48 hours of receiving a written sanction or upon receipt of previously unavailable information. Appeal notifications can be sent to dlenco@sr.bard.edu.

The Provost or their designee serves as the Chair of any appeals hearing. Pending an appeal of suspension or expulsion, the Provost, Vice Provost, or Dean of Students and Equitable Community will decide whether a suspended student must leave campus until final disposition of the case. The Dean of Students and Equitable Community, or their designee, will communicate such a decision on behalf of Simon's Rock.

The Appeals Committee, consisting of the Provost or their designee, a faculty member, staff member, and student, determines whether or not there are sufficient grounds for appeal. If the Committee rejects the appeal, the original decision stands and the case is closed. If the Committee determines that the appeal is warranted, they will schedule an Appeals Committee hearing and document any resulting decisions in writing.

When hearing an appeal, the Appeals Committee may request that the Code of Student Conduct Committee chair, members of the Campus Life and Campus Safety staff, and others, either file a written response or appear in person at the hearing.

Whenever possible, the chair will schedule the hearing within seven business days after an appeal is granted. All deliberations and decisions of the Appeals Committee will be confidential.

The Appeals Committee may take any of the following actions:

- Accept the original decision and dismiss the appeal;
- Affirm the original decision but alter the sanction(s) imposed;
- Reverse the original decision and dismiss the case.

4. Possible Sanctions for Code Violations for College and Academy Students

The Provost, The Dean of Students and Equitable Community, the Director of Campus Life, the Title IX Coordinator or a designee of one of these individuals, or the Code of Student Conduct Committee may find that a student has violated policy. Sanctions for violations of the Code of Student Conduct may include a disciplinary warning, educational activity, disciplinary probation, community service, loss of privileges, suspension, or expulsion.

Sanctions are described below:

1. **Disciplinary Warning:** A warning letter will be sent to the student via their Simon's Rock email address, informing them that their behavior violated policy and therefore is not acceptable. A copy of the letter will be sent to parents/guardians as well as the student's Academic Advisor and other department heads as appropriate. Multiple disciplinary warnings may lead to disciplinary probation/loss of privileges or other additional disciplinary actions.
2. **Educational Activity:** As part of Simon's Rock's commitment to fostering personal growth and learning, educational activity sanctions may be imposed on students who have violated college policies. These sanctions are designed to promote understanding, reflection, and positive behavioral changes. These sanctions may include attending workshops and seminars on relevant topics, writing reflective essays, participating in educational meetings or learning modules, or developing awareness campaigns. The specific sanction will be determined based on the nature and severity of the violation and the individual needs of the student. These activities are monitored and evaluated to ensure completion, with the aim of helping students develop critical thinking skills, ethical reasoning, and a deeper understanding of community values. Failure to complete assigned educational activities may result in additional sanctions.
3. **Disciplinary Probation:** Disciplinary probation is a sanction imposed for serious or repeated misconduct. This sanction places a student on notice that their behavior is unacceptable and must change; otherwise, the student will face suspension or expulsion. The probationary period may range from one week through one full semester (for Academy students) or from one semester through graduation (for College students) and – depending on circumstances and the student's previous disciplinary record – disciplinary probation may come with additional conditions or consequences. When a student is placed on disciplinary probation, the action is documented via email to their Simon's Rock email address and copied to parents or guardians, Academic Advisors, and other department heads as appropriate.
4. **Community Service:** The student will be assigned a predetermined number of community work hours, to be overseen by the Dean of Students and Equitable Community or their designee. If the student fails to complete these service hours within the time allotted, additional hours or a more severe sanction may be levied including more hours, loss of privileges, suspension, or expulsion.
5. **Loss of Privileges:** The student may lose one or more of the following privileges: participating in weekend activities; operating a motor vehicle on campus; hosting guests

on campus; remaining on campus during breaks; or other privileges as deemed appropriate.

6. Loss of Access to Campus Facilities: The student may be forbidden access to specific buildings or facilities.
7. Fines and Cost of Restitution: Parking in a fire lane, failure to present an ID card at the Dining Hall, and overdue library books are examples of situations that may result in automatic fines. Sanctions may also mandate restitution of costs for repair or replacement.
8. At-Home Suspension* (Applies only to Academy Students): Disciplinary at-home suspension is total separation from Simon's Rock for a period of one full day through an entire semester or more. A sanction of suspension may affect a student's future on-campus housing and may impact scholarships awarded by the institution. Suspension includes separation from classes, activities, services, facilities, and grounds for the duration of the suspension period. The Dean of Students and Equitable Community or their designee, will document such action in a letter with copies sent through Simon's Rock email to the student, parents or guardians, Academic Advisors, and other department heads as appropriate. The Dean of Students and Equitable Community, or their designee, may choose to require the suspended student to vacate campus immediately upon suspension, regardless of appeal status. **Academy students who are sanctioned an at-home suspension of a week or less may not appeal to the Conduct Hearing Committee. An Academy student sanctioned to an at-home suspension of longer than a week may appeal to the Conduct Hearing Committee.*
9. Suspension: Disciplinary suspension is total separation from Simon's Rock for a period of one full semester or more. A sanction of suspension may affect a student's future on-campus housing, federal financial aid, or study abroad opportunities and may impact scholarships awarded by the institution. Suspension includes separation from classes, activities, services, facilities, and grounds for the duration of the suspension period. The Dean of Students and Equitable Community, or their designee, will document such action in a letter with copies sent through Simon's Rock email to the student, parents or guardians, Academic Advisors, and other department heads as appropriate. The Dean of Students and Equitable Community or their designee may choose to require the suspended student to vacate campus immediately upon suspension, regardless of appeal status.

Readmission following a disciplinary suspension is not automatic but is at the will and discretion of the institution. The Academic Affairs office manages the readmission process and can provide further information about the process and deadlines upon request.

10. Expulsion: Expulsion is a complete and permanent separation from the institution. Such action will be documented via letter, generally emailed to the student, parents or guardians, Academic Advisors, and other department heads as appropriate.

A student who is suspended, expelled, or compelled to withdraw from the institution will receive no refund of any kind. This also is true for a student who is removed from campus housing but allowed to complete classes.

In extreme circumstances, the Provost, or their designee, may remove a student from campus immediately and/or file a report with local authorities. Such action will depend upon circumstances and on the judgment of the Provost, in consultation with the Vice Provost, the Dean of Studies, Dean of Faculty and Curricular Development, Dean of Students and Equitable Community, Title IX Coordinator, or Director of Campus Safety. Others who may be consulted include parents or guardians, College counselors, Wellness Center staff, Director Campus Life, Community Directors, Campus Safety staff, and/or outside professionals.

Any act that is alleged to violate federal, state, or local law – including fire safety regulations – may be referred to external authorities at the discretion of Simon’s Rock.

Unless otherwise directed, a student required to leave campus outside normal closure dates, regardless of circumstances (medical or personal leave, withdrawal, suspension, expulsion) must vacate campus within 24 hours. Alternative arrangements for departure must be made directly with the Dean of Students and Equitable Community or their designee. If a student leaves school during a semester, they or their parent or guardian will need to make arrangements with the Dean of Students and Equitable Community or their designee for any personal items left behind to be shipped to the student's home before departing campus. Items left behind without a plan within a week of a student's departure will be considered abandoned property, and may be discarded at will. The cost of shipping and handling is to be arranged by the student, or their parent/guardian. The student vacating campus is expected to turn in their ID card, room key, and all other campus keys to the Campus Safety office (via the Campus Life Office during business hours or to the Campus Safety Office at night and on weekends). Failure to do so may affect readmission or return from leave status. Upon scheduled return, students cleared by the Dean or Director who granted the leave will be allowed to retrieve their ID card and key(s).

5. Decisions of the Appeals Committee

Decisions of the Appeals Committee are final. The chair will communicate the Committee’s decision to the student appellant in writing via email and will provide any additional documentation necessary for Campus Life files.

a. Sanction Notifications

Due to the nature and responsibilities of their work, in addition to the Dean of Students and Equitable Community, the Director of Campus Life, Assistant Director of Campus Life, the Director of Campus Safety, and Community Directors may be informed of sanctions. Other Simon’s Rock officials with a need to know will be informed about the sanctions of specific incidents as appropriate. The Dean of Students and Equitable Community and/or the Appeals Committee chair, or designee, makes these notifications.

b. Notification of Parent or Guardian

A parent or legal guardian will be notified for every disciplinary warning or sanction for students in the Academy. With some exceptions to be determined by the Dean of Students and Equitable Community or their designee, a parent or legal guardian will be notified when a disciplinary warning or greater sanction is issued for students in the College under 18 years of age. College parents will be notified if there is a sanction of suspension or expulsion, no matter what the age of the student. In instances of substantial concern, a parent or legal guardian may be notified of a first warning. Typically, this contact is through the student's Community Director, the Director of Campus Life, Assistant Director of Campus Life, or the Dean of Students and Equitable Community. Parents may also receive a copy of any letter resolving a disciplinary matter or when fines or fees are assessed to a student account. At the discretion of the Campus Life staff, parents may be contacted to discuss a student's behavior. The Campus Life staff is always willing to speak with parents if they have questions or concerns about their student(s) in compliance with FERPA

c. Notification of Academic Advisor

The Campus Life staff will contact Academic Affairs staff if discussion of a student's behavior is warranted. The Academic Advisor is notified when a student is alleged to have violated Simon's Rock policy and also when a disciplinary matter is resolved.

d. Sanction Conditions

In addressing student violations of Simon's Rock policy, the Dean of Students and Equitable Community or designee, the Director of Campus Life, the Student Code of Conduct Committee, or the Appeals Committee may mandate one or a combination of the following conditions, often in tandem with one of the sanctions discussed previously.

6. Assessment and/or Counseling

Counseling may be recommended or required, either on or off campus. The student must absorb any costs of off-campus evaluation.

7. No Contact Directives

A No Contact Directive (NCD) is a formal administrative directive issued by the College requiring parties to have no direct in-person interaction or indirect interaction, including but not limited to written or electronic communication, or communication (i.e., letters, social media, text messages, airdrop messages, etc.), telephone, recordings, or third-party contact (i.e., friends, family members, acquaintances, etc.) and nonverbal communication. A NCD remains in effect until it is officially removed in writing by the College. NCDs may be issued for the following: harassment, threats, physical assault, stalking, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, retaliation or intimidation, or other behavior as outlined in the Student Code of Conduct. Simon's Rock may also limit an individual's access to certain Simon's Rock facilities or activities as part of the No Contact Directive. NCDs are strictly non-disciplinary and are not meant to or used to suggest that either party (or parties) have done anything that violates Simon's Rock policy or that Simon's Rock is taking a stance in regards to who is right or wrong in a situation. Both students receive the same

directive, which puts structures in place to allow for students who may be in conflict to take a break from one another while protecting and supporting all students involved. These directives do not go on a student's permanent record or transcript. NCDs typically remain in place until both or all students involved are no longer enrolled at Simon's Rock or until both or all parties independently request that they be lifted. Except when associated with an ongoing Title IX or Equity process, the steps for requesting and obtaining a NCD are:

1. A student may contact Campus Safety and request to speak with the Community Director (CD) on duty.
2. Meet with the CD on call who may suggest other actions in lieu of or prior to the issuance of a No Contact Directive.
3. In the event that the CD puts a temporary directive in place, the parameters will be explained with the student. The CD will promptly meet with the other student(s) to review the parameters as well. The CD will work in conjunction with the Administrator on Call (AOC).
4. Within 24 hours the Dean of Students and Equitable Community or their designee, will meet with all student parties involved to go over any questions, discuss potential next steps, and set up future check-in meetings and determine if a permanent No Contact Directive is needed going forward. The Dean of Students and Equitable Community or their designee will then place a written directive on file for all parties involved as well as relevant campus staff. A copy will be communicated directly to the student(s) via email.

If a student has a No Contact Directive in place and feels that it has been violated, the student should go to Campus Safety or meet with a Community Director or the Director of Campus Life immediately to report the incident.

V. ACADEMY AND COLLEGE CAMPUS LIFE POLICIES

This section includes policies that apply to both Academy and College students. Specific Academy and College policies can be found in the two immediately following sections.

Much of the student experience at Simon's Rock revolves around time spent outside of the classroom. For this reason, and because of its status as a high school and early college, Bard Academy and Simon's Rock at Bard College is primarily residential in nature.

This residential character permits and encourages students to combine experiences inside and outside the classroom in support of their full personal development. Day students and students who live off campus also are expected and encouraged to take part in activities that are central to the Simon's Rock experience.

All students, and their guests, are subject to Simon's Rock's policies. These include information in this Student Handbook as well as that in all opening, closing, break, and vacation notices, and other notices sent to all students, or to specific occupants of a residence hall, via their Simon's Rock email account.

A. HOUSING

Residential living provides opportunities to develop new friendships and skills within a caring community environment. Learning to share space, cooperate, and be respectful of others is part of the residential learning experience.

The residence halls offer double rooms. All residence halls have live-in staff. Select students, 18 and older, may also work as Peer Counselors in the residences.

Simon's Rock reserves the right to assign and reassign housing at will. The Campus Life staff, under guidance from the Director of Campus Life, or their designee, makes new students' initial assignments. Other students sign up each spring, for the coming academic year, via a lottery system, and housing is assigned during the summer. The Director of Campus Life, or their designee, emails information about the lottery procedures to all returning students late in the Spring semester.

Simon's Rock, in its sole discretion, may terminate any housing agreement and/or temporarily or permanently remove any student from housing or relocate any student to another residence hall or another room (i) in the event of any failure to comply with the policies set forth in this Student Handbook, any other Simon's Rock policies and procedures, or any applicable federal, state, or local law, regulation, or ordinance; (ii) to promote the health, safety, and wellbeing of any student and/or the Simon's Rock community; or (iii) in connection with the review or investigation of a crime or violation of law or policy. If appropriate under the circumstances, Simon's Rock will make reasonable efforts to provide students with advance notice of such termination, removal, or relocation.

To be eligible for housing, a student must be in good standing with the Student Financial Services. Social probation or other disciplinary status also may affect housing assignment. Other factors that

can affect housing include: history in lack of care of previous Simon's Rock residence, unauthorized moves or consistent violations of housing guidelines including non approved extensions of stay.

1. Assignment, Reassignment, and Room Changes

Students are assigned a room for an entire academic year. No re-assignments are allowed, aside from health related matters, during the orientation week or first two weeks of semester classes. Occupying a residential unit without proper assignment – or changing occupancy without prior authorization from the Director of Campus Life – is prohibited. Students who wish to change rooms must submit a petition to their Community Director. Mid-year reassignments are made based on space availability and the housing needs of the campus as a whole. Unauthorized moves may result in fines or sanctions and may affect future housing options and loss of privileges.

Simon's Rock reserves the right to assign and reassign space at will. Simon's Rock reserves the right to assign and reassign students' rooms to others for special programs, breaks and vacations, or in the event of emergency situations. Students whose rooms may be used will be given an opportunity to place their personal belongings in a designated storage area as time allows, particularly before a break or vacation.

Students are expressly forbidden to exchange room keys, even when an exchange of rooms is involved. Students will be fined \$100 if they return a key other than the one assigned to them. Students who make unauthorized moves, or who fail to comply with any part of Simon's Rock's room change procedure, will be fined and may have to return to their original rooms.

2. Shared Living Space

In shared campus living units, occupants are entitled to equal access to shared spaces. Any action on the part of one occupant – or their guest – that infringes on the rights of another occupant may violate Academy or College policy.

Occupants of shared living units are held collectively responsible for any prohibited activity or illegal items discovered in the space. This applies whether the occupants are present or not, at the time of discovery. Students will have an opportunity to clarify the extent of responsibility, if any, during follow-up conversations with the Director of Campus Life or their designee, or during the disciplinary process if they are charged with a violation.

If there is a room conflict, students are expected to attempt to work together to resolve the conflict. If the students are unable to resolve the situation, Community Directors may initiate conversations to resolve the conflict. At Simon's Rock, conflict is viewed as an opportunity for growth and learning.

3. Residency Requirement

All Bard Academy students must live on campus except day students, who commute from the primary residence of a custodial parent or guardian.

Simon's Rock at Bard College is primarily a residential college. All students must live on campus, with the following approved exceptions:

- Students who commute from the primary residence of a custodial parent or guardian.
- Seniors who choose to live off campus, and record that choice with the Director of Campus Life.
- Students 18 of age or older who are juniors or seniors not living on Bard's main campus.

As an early college, Simon's Rock does not have appropriate housing facilities for married students or for students with children.

Students living in the residence halls are expected to take a minimum of 12 credits. Any exceptions to this expectation need prior approval from the Academic Affairs in consultation with Wellness Center, Campus Life, and Student Financial Services.

4. Residential Accommodations

Requests for disability-related accommodations to these stated housing policies should be made through the Director of Accessibility and Learning Supports; jaltshuler@sr.bard.edu. All applications will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. Simon's Rock at Bard College and Bard Academy's disability policies, guidelines, and forms, including Simon's Rock and Bard Academy's Housing Accommodation policy, Service Animal Policy and Emotional Support Animal Policy, are available online at <http://simons-rock.edu/academics/academic-advising-and-support/disability-services.php>.

Students who have residential needs that are not related to disability should contact the Dean of Students.

5. Room Keys and ID Cards

Room keys are issued at Buildings and Grounds. Students sign for and are expected to return the specific key they were assigned. If they do not, a \$100 fee will be charged for missing, late and/or replacement keys. If a student loses a hallway key, the student will be charged for the core change for the door and replacement of all keys, a fee of \$500 will be charged for any missing hallway keys. If a student attempts to replicate a campus key, it will result in an immediate fine of \$1,000 for each offense. Additional sanctions may be incurred. Students are encouraged to be forthcoming if they have misplaced their keys. Requests for Keys and IDs go through Buildings and Grounds located on Main Campus.

Each student is also given a photo ID/key card. This ID/key card is used to access the exterior doors of a residence hall. Students are expected to keep the card on their person while on campus, and to present it to enter the dining hall at each meal. If this card is lost, a replacement card may be obtained at the mailroom in the Livingston Hall Student Union and a fee is charged to the student account. ID cards may not be altered in any way.

6. Lockout and ID Fines

Students are fined on a graduating scale for residence hall/room lockouts and/or for failing to present their ID card at the dining hall before entering for a meal. Extensive repeated lockout offenses may result in a loss of privileges.

Fines are graduated as follows:

<u>Lockouts and ID Violations</u>	<u>Fine</u>		
First Offense	\$ 0.00	Second Offense	\$ 5.00
Third Offense	\$10.00	Fourth and Subsequent Offenses	\$50.00

Students will be required to show their room key to the individual letting them into the room to demonstrate that they have not lost their key. Failure to produce a key will result in the initiation of a lost key fine and a core change.

B. SCHEDULED BREAK PERIODS

Housing is provided for students only while the Academy or College are in session, except as detailed below. Specific break notices, outlining relevant policies, and procedures for that particular break are distributed to all students via email approximately one month before each break. During scheduled breaks, Academy and College residence halls close. Students may return when the residence halls reopen. Students are expected to leave and return by the dates published in the specific Break Notice and the Academic Calendar available from Campus Life and the Registrar's offices, respectively. Students who remain in campus housing beyond the published closing time or return early without permission from the Director of Campus Life will be fined \$250 per day. Students will be asked to leave campus if they arrive early or stay beyond publishing closing times without permission. Students must receive permission from the Director of Campus Life two weeks prior to break. Personal property left after departure time without permission of the Director of Campus Life will be considered abandoned, and discarded or donated at will.

Students who remain on campus over breaks are expected to uphold all college policies outlined in the student handbook during breaks. The Office of Campus Life has the right to deny any student from remaining on campus during any and all breaks.

1. Break Housing: Academy

During all breaks, the Academy residence halls close and students must leave campus. Students are required to vacate these residences by the date publicized in the Academic Calendar and may not return before the residence halls reopen. Students are expected to inform Community Directors about their break travel plans (vacating and returning). Exceptions for international students can be made.

2. Break Housing: College

Break Housing is provided at the will of the College. Prior to each break, the Director of Campus Life will email a Break Notice to all students. All students are required to leave campus for each academic year break. Students who seek to remain on campus during break must submit a petition to the Director of Campus Life within the timeframe communicated, including:

a. Students living within the continental USA

Students who live further than 750 miles from the College may request permission to remain on campus during all or part of the scheduled break period.

b. Students living outside of the continental USA and Legally Emancipated Students

Students whose permanent address is not within the continental United States of America and students who are legally emancipated do not need to petition to stay for October, November, or Spring Breaks. However, these students must notify the Director of Campus Life about their plans prior to these breaks.

If students expect significant travel time to and from their break destination, they may petition to stay on a campus up to one day after the closing of residence halls or return one day prior to the opening of residence halls. It is imperative that students submit their petition by the date specified by the Director of Campus Life. Details are sent out each semester via email indicating deadlines along with requests for transportation.

c. Senior Thesis Students

Students who are writing their Senior thesis and have requirements during breaks may remain on campus with approval from their thesis advisor.

d. Student Break Fee

For those students who receive permission to remain on campus over a break, there is a student break fee of \$400 per week to cover the additional expense of housing, meals, and student support over breaks. Approved students seeking a waiver for financial hardship should petition soa@bard.edu at least two weeks before the start of break..

e. Break Support Services for Students on Campus

During breaks, there is a decrease in supervision, resources, and support services available since faculty and staff may also be on break. For students who remain on campus, minimal levels of campus services are available and for emergency purposes only.

- Wellness (medical and mental health services): Reduced hours during breaks.
- Dining Hall: Reduced hours and services.
- Campus Life: Reduced on-call staff and services.
- Academic Affairs: Reduced staff and services.
- Campus Security: Open 24/7.
- Other offices: May have reduced hours and services.

C. USE AND CARE OF PROPERTY, ROOM, AND RESIDENCE**1. Use of Campus Spaces**

Simon's Rock staff members work hard to keep the campus facilities and grounds clean, presentable, and ready for all our daily needs. The campus is well maintained by a small Physical Plant staff of very dedicated individuals. We ask that everyone help them by cleaning up and resetting rooms as we found them.

2. Room Health and Safety Standards

Rooms must be maintained in adherence to health and fire safety standards. Stale food, dirty clothing, and accumulations of trash create conditions detrimental to community living. Rooms found unacceptable must be cleaned by the residents within 24-hours of notification by the Community Director. Failure to do so will result in a fine, removal from housing, and can affect future housing options.

A resident who refuses to maintain reasonable cleanliness or causes severe damage to their room may be removed from or denied future Academy or College housing or may be suspended from the Academy or the College.

At the end of a semester, any student who leaves their living quarters in unacceptable condition will be charged for any necessary cleaning or repair. Students who share common space will be billed equally for cleaning costs or repair in those areas. Students occupying these main halls should remember that common spaces are for the use of all residents, and avoid leaving personal effects in these areas or using them in ways that preclude use by others.

3. Personal Property and Insurance

Simon's Rock assumes no responsibility for theft of, loss of, or damage to a student's personal property. This includes, but is not limited to, loss by fire, theft, unexplained disappearance, spoilage, water, vandalism, malfunction of electrical or mechanical systems, or any other hazards. Students acknowledge and agree that personal property insurance will be the sole means to recover for such losses. Students are strongly encouraged to obtain insurance to cover personal property if the homeowner's insurance carried by a resident's parent/guardian does not cover their property. Students who choose not to procure personal property insurance do so at their own risk. Simon's Rock also recommends that residents keep all housing unit windows and doors locked at all times. It is the student's responsibility to secure personal property during vacation periods and any belongings left behind during such periods are, and remain, the sole responsibility of the student.

Each student receives a room key, which can be replaced on request for a fee. Students are encouraged to take appropriate steps to safeguard and insure their property. If loss or theft occurs, students should file a theft report with Campus Safety so that an official record is available.

Simon's Rock may require that personal furnishings be removed from a living unit if, in the judgment of the Community Directors, they pose a fire or housekeeping hazard.

All personal furnishings and belongings must be removed from student residences when they are vacated at the end of the school year. Storage space is limited, and Simon's Rock assumes no responsibility for theft of, loss of or damage to any items stored anywhere on campus. Simon's Rock does not provide long-term or summer storage for students' personal property. Items left at the end of each academic year are considered abandoned property and will be donated to charity or discarded.

Students who are interested in off-campus storage may contact the campus contracted moving company (Dorm Room Movers) to arrange storage for their items at their own expense. The Director of Campus Life provides this information to students each spring. Items left at the end of each

academic year without written permission from the Director of Campus Life are considered abandoned and will be donated to charity or discarded.

Simon's Rock may remove, dispose of, or destroy, and will not be responsible for, any personal property not removed from student housing within 48 hours after a student vacates campus, including, without limitation, early termination due to withdrawal, expulsion, or violation of Simon's Rock policies.

Note: Students interested in purchasing renter's insurance may find more information at

<https://www.collegestudentinsurance.com>

4. Simon's Rock Property

All students living in Simon's Rock residence halls are individually and collectively responsible for Simon's Rock property. Students are expected to report to the Community Director any damage to their assigned rooms, to rugs, common rooms, hallways, bathrooms and other areas of the residence hall, whether accidental or not, so that immediate repairs can be made. In the case of a facility's emergency, contact Campus Security at 845-748-7460 (ext. 7460 from any campus phone).

If damage to common areas outside residence halls is not reported, and the person or persons responsible for the damage cannot be determined, all occupants of the building will be charged in equal proportion for repairs. A minimum charge of \$25, or the exact prorated amount per occupant, will be assessed.

Residents found to be responsible for damage or loss will be fined, will be subject to other disciplinary actions, and may be required to pay restitution. Anyone who commits an act of vandalism will be fined in addition to being assessed the cost of the repair or replacement.

Student occupants should email their Community Director to report damaged and/or misplaced furniture, before leaving campus each semester, even if such damage or loss is the responsibility of others. Failure to file such a report will void a student's right to exemption from payment once bills are issued.

a. Damage to College or Academy Property in Assigned Space

When the College or Academy assigns students to rooms, suites or apartments, it provides furniture that ranges from new to reasonably good condition. Students are expected to return the assigned unit and its furniture in a condition similar to the original, less reasonable wear and tear. Furniture returned in unsatisfactory or damaged condition (as determined by Simon's Rock staff) is strictly prohibited.

b. Misplaced College or Academy Property in Assigned Space

When the College or Academy assigns students to rooms it expects all College or Academy-provided furniture in the room on move-in day to be in the same living unit at the end of each semester. Students are prohibited from moving or removing furnishing, which may include beds, mattresses, dressers, chairs, etc. At the end of an academic year, such relocation

will require Simon's Rock staff to find and return inventoried items, which is labor intensive and costly. If these items cannot be retrieved in acceptable condition, occupants will be charged for each item.

c. Damage to College or Academy Property Held in Common

All occupants of a College or Academy residence hall share the use of and responsibility for common property in their building. Students are prohibited from damaging items in these spaces. Common property may include but is not limited to furniture, kitchen equipment, computers, and games. When damage occurs, Physical Plant and/or Campus Life staff will determine violations and assess assigned residents.

d. Misplaced College or Academy Property Held in Common

All occupants of a College or Academy residence hall share the use of and responsibility for common College or Academy property in their building. Students are prohibited from moving or removing such items from these spaces. Common property may include but is not limited to furniture, kitchen equipment, computers, TVs, and games. All assigned residents will be held accountable for misplaced common property. The staff of Physical Plant and/or Campus Life will determine violations.

5. Room Condition Reports

At the beginning of each semester, a Room Condition Report will be completed for each student room and keep them on file. Failure to complete the report in a timely manner could subject the student to fines for pre-existing damage. Students will have 5 days after moving in to complete their Room Condition Report. If a student moves out during the year, the room is re-inspected and any damage recorded on the Room Condition Report. Rooms are inspected at the end of each semester, and any damage beyond normal wear and tear is assessed to the student(s) who occupied that room.

All residents should notify the Community Director in writing of any damage or loss that may incur a charge, even if such damage or loss is the responsibility of someone who is not a current occupant. Such notification should be made so that costs can be accurately assessed. If written notification is not submitted before the last day of a student's occupancy, that student and any roommates will be charged, without exception.

6. Littering

Maintaining a clean campus environment is a shared value at Simon's Rock. To that end, preventing littering is the responsibility of all members. A fine of \$250 will be enforced for failure to comply.

7. Climbing on Campus Property

Students may not climb into, out of, or on buildings, walls, windows, utility poles, machinery, or trees. Any student found climbing on campus property will be in violation of the code of conduct and sanctions will be enforced.

8. Pets

Other than freshwater fish, which may be kept in student rooms, pets are not allowed on campus. In double rooms, this will require the consent of both residents. Tanks must be made of Plexiglass and be no more than 10 gallons in size. Owners are responsible for arranging for the care of their fish when the owners are away from campus. Fish may not remain on campus over the Intersession or during summer. If fish are abused or neglected, their owners will forfeit the privilege of having them.

a. Visiting Pets

When visiting friends or family members plan to bring a pet, a Campus Safety Officer or Community Director must give permission for the pet to enter the building, and have that authorization documented in the Campus Safety Log. Pets visiting the campus with a parent, guardian or friend must be leashed at all times and are not to be left anywhere unattended. Owners are responsible for proper disposal of pet-related waste, food, water, floor and wall clean-up, waste on campus grounds, or damage caused by their pet.

b. Pet Policy Violations

Unless **animals** are pre-approved by both the Director of Accessibility and Learning Supports and the Director of Campus Life and Housing or their designee, pet violations carry an automatic penalty of \$250 per night for the first two instances, and a fine plus disciplinary action for any further breach plus possible removal of the animal. Requests for disability-related accommodations to this policy should be made through the Director of Accessibility and Learning Supports; jaltshuler@sr.bard.edu. All applications will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

In the case of a shared, house or community pet, each student involved will be assessed a fine until the pet is removed or the owner takes responsibility.

9. Remotely Piloted Aerial Vehicles (Drones)

Remotely Piloted Aerial Vehicles (RPAV), including but not limited to remote control planes, helicopters, multi-copters, and drones, are permitted only on the soccer field when no other activity is scheduled. No one other than those using the RPAV should be in the area when the RPAV is flying. The Campus Safety Department must be informed before any RPAV is flown. Campus Safety will notify the local airport. Users must keep in mind that not only is drone use regulated by the Federal Aviation Administration, but also it presents the potential for property damage, personal injury, invasion of privacy and other violations of law, in addition to general safety concerns.

RPAVs may be used in other areas on campus under the direct supervision of staff or faculty. They must be used by FAA regulations for such devices, including being flown within line of sight and below 400 feet of altitude. No RPAVs may exceed 10 pounds in weight or operate using metal propellers. No RPAV may endanger persons or property on the ground. All RPAVs must give way to piloted aircraft. All pilots of RPAVs are subject to legal and disciplinary enforcement for careless or reckless operation. No RPAV may be used during campus-wide events such as Commencement.

All RPAVs must be registered with Campus Safety. A brief description of the RPAV (including the type of vehicle, weight, color, and number of propellers), and your FAA license number must be provided at the time of registration.

VI. BARD ACADEMY CAMPUS AND RESIDENCE HALL EXPECTATIONS

A. STRUCTURE OF THE ACADEMY SCHOOL DAY

1. Wake-up Knocks

The school day begins for ninth graders with a wake-up knock to their doors at 8:00 am. Tenth graders do not receive wake-up knocks, but parents or students may request a wake-up knock from a member of the Campus Life staff, most likely a Peer Counselor. In their second semester, ninth graders may elect not to receive a wake-up if they have demonstrated the ability to manage their time in the morning. The residence hall will open everyday at 8:00 am for students to be able to depart, exceptions can be made for specific activities through the Community Directors.

Breakfast is available from 8:00am-10:00am in the dining hall. On days when classes begin at 9:00am, all students will be out of the residence hall by 8:45am. On days when classes begin later than 9:00 am, students are required to leave the dorm *at least* 15 minutes prior to the start of class.

2. Classes

On most days, students will attend class from approximately 9:00am to 4:25pm. Most students will have a lunch break between 11:00 am and noon, though the length of lunch may vary, depending on class schedule. During classes (from 9:00am-4:25pm), the residence hall will be closed for reentry. Students may enter the residence halls during lunch period to retrieve necessary items from their rooms or rest briefly.

3. Dinner

Dinner is available between 5:00pm and 7:00pm on most weekday nights in the dining hall. On the weekend, dinner is available between 4:30 and 6:30pm. Students may also cook meals in the lounge kitchens of the residence hall or get a meal at the Rock Cafe (snack bar) when available.

4. Curfew

Curfew is 10:00pm on school nights (Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday) and 11:00pm on weekends (Friday and Saturday). Exceptions may be made for club meetings and other sanctioned events with prior approval from a Community Director.

All students must check in, in person, with a Community Director at curfew. Being out of the residence hall after curfew or leaving the residence hall after check-in without permission is a safety concern and thus a violation of our policy. Repeated instances of tardiness for curfew may warrant disciplinary action.

5. In-Room Time/Room Checks

Students are expected to be wrapping up their weeknight evening activities in the residence hall by 10:00pm. Each student, whether in 9th or 10th grade, is expected to be in their room by 10:30pm on weekday nights (Sunday-Thursday). On weekends (Friday-Saturday), each student is expected to be in their room by 11:30pm. Community Directors will complete rounds of the Academy Residence Halls to verify that students are in their rooms. Students found outside of their room after the expected in-room time may be subject to disciplinary action.

An earnest commitment to Bard Academy culture includes the practice of healthy lifestyle habits, adequate sleep being among those. If Community Directors notice that a student is not getting an appropriate amount of sleep, the student may be sent to meet with Wellness Center professionals for a consultation, or the Dean of Students and Equitable Community for added support.

B. ACADEMY DORM ROOM EXPECTATIONS

The following expectations are outlined to create safe and healthy boundaries between students, other students, and their guests to encourage healthy and productive peer relationships. These guidelines are meant to foster a respectful living environment for all Academy students.

Students should not enter or occupy a room if the residing student(s) are not present. In a double occupancy room, guests are only permitted upon the agreement of both roommates. When a student, and roommate when applicable, have fellow students or guests in their room, it is not a private space. A Community Director may request that the door be propped open as wide as the door swings. In these instances, doors to all rooms must be unobstructed and able to swing open fully.

Guests in other students' rooms are expected to conduct themselves respectfully and with care, exactly as they would in a common area.

Community Directors, Academy Proctors, Directors, Deans, and other members of the staff will periodically enter the rooms of Academy students while they are present as part of the normal course of operations. If a member of the Campus Life staff determines that a student's room is not in a clean and healthy state then a plan and follow-up room check will be made with the student(s).

Additionally, there will be a schedule of room inspections announced in advance and conducted by the Community Directors. During the week, room inspection will be announced and at other times throughout the semester such as prior to breaks.

Students are strongly encouraged to lock their dorm room doors when not present in the room.

Removing window screens is prohibited. If a screen is found displaced, Campus Life staff will work with the Academy student(s) to address the situation and the students living in the room may incur a fine for such replacement. It is imperative that students alert Campus Life of any issues with screens immediately. Repeated offenses could face disciplinary action.

C. ADDITIONAL ACADEMY CAMPUS LIFE POLICIES

1. Noise

Quiet hours are a time of no unreasonable noise in residences, common areas, and parking lots, to ensure that the environment is conducive to study, work, and sleep. Students should at all times demonstrate respect for others by maintaining this atmosphere. During the week (Sunday - Thursday) Campus quiet hours begin at 10:30pm and run until 8:00am the following morning. On weekends quiet hours begin at 11:30pm and run until 8:00am the following morning.

Students who disregard regulations governing noise and quiet hours may be required to dismantle any equipment causing the noise and place it in storage for the duration of the semester.

Headphones are strongly recommended during quiet hours.

2. Cooking

Students may not use cooking or heating elements in their residence hall rooms. The Academy provides kitchens for student use. To maintain safety, students are expected to be present in these kitchens at all times while cooking. They also are expected to clean up after themselves before leaving the kitchen. Misuse or abuse of Academy kitchens or communal cookware, or cooking anywhere other than in Academy kitchens, is a violation. Multiple violations may result in Academy kitchen privileges being revoked, until the matter is resolved. Students are asked to report related problems to a Community Director immediately.

3. Laundry

Washing machines and dryers are located in the residence hall and are available for use by all assigned students. Any machine malfunctions should be reported to a Community Director. Students are expected to do their own laundry with an appropriate degree of regularity. Care should be taken to ensure that all laundry is completed before in-room time as the laundry room is locked at that time. The machines are free of charge (not coin operated).

4. House Meetings

The purpose and role of House Meetings in residence halls is to allow students and Community Directors a major role in defining the character of their immediate community. All Academy boarding students are responsible for managing residence hall life and for contributing to the extracurricular life of the Academy as a whole.

House meetings will be scheduled throughout the school year. House meetings may be called suddenly to address campus and policy changes and to discuss pertinent topics to Bard Academy, the Simon's Rock community, as well as influential national and global topics and events. House meetings are a time to discuss life in the dorm, express challenges faced, plan events, announce upcoming events, discuss helpful strategies to manage life on campus and away from home, and to encourage conversation around student questions and concerns.

House Meetings must include the Community Directors and Academy Proctor; must occur on a regular schedule; and are mandatory for all residents of the house. Minutes of these meetings must be posted in the residence hall. Non participation in these meetings can result in disciplinary action.

5. Departures from Campus with an Adult (Non-Guardian)

Prior to any departure from the Simon's Rock Campus by an Academy boarding student with a party other than their legal guardian, parental permission must be received by a Community Director. Students are expected to sign out at the Campus Safety Office before departing campus on all occasions, even with parents. The Campus Safety Officer will confirm the identity of the adult taking the student away from campus with the parental permissions relating to the student.

All sign-out information is expected to be specific, accurate, and honest. Any misrepresentation to the school of a student's whereabouts when away from the school constitutes a violation of Academy policy, the result of which is the loss of weekend departure privileges for the remainder of the semester, or for the following semester if within four weeks of the end of the academic term.

Students signed out for the weekend are expected to return on Sunday evening. Whenever students return from an overnight stay away from campus, they are required to check in at the Campus Safety Office.

6. Transportation

Academy students and/or their guardians who are in need of any school-sponsored transportation to and from campus are expected to work directly with the Office of Transportation Services. Links to general information, forms, and contact information are listed on the Simon's Rock website.

7. Wellness and Recreation

As part of our commitment to the development of emotional intelligence and commitment to healthy living practices, all Bard Academy students participate in a Wellness and Recreation requirement. The curriculum covers various health-related topics including tobacco use; alcohol and other drug awareness; sleep and nutrition; human growth and development; mental, emotional and social health; healthy relationships and sexuality.

8. Sexual Intimacy

Under New York law, the age of consent for participation in sexual intercourse is seventeen years of age. The age of consent for touching the private areas of others is fourteen years of age. Such actions by or with persons under those ages, even if consensual, violate the law and are strictly prohibited by the Academy.

School authorities are considered "mandated reporters" under state law and required by law to report suspected abuse of minors, including sexual abuse, to the New York Department of Children and Families ("DCF"). If there is reasonable suspicion that a student under 17 has engaged in intercourse, the Academy has a legal obligation to report to DCF. The Academy will cooperate fully with whatever investigation is deemed necessary.

The Wellness team provides education, counseling, and support services to help students address all aspects of sexuality. As part of the curriculum, Academy students receive education on such topics as Healthy Relationships, Sexually Transmitted Diseases, Abstinence, etc. The classes are intended to foster thoughtful decision-making and help students create safe and healthy boundaries for their relationships.

Students with questions or concerns are encouraged to have discussions with their families, counselors, Wellness staff, or advisors.

D. ACADEMY DAY STUDENTS

Day students will be placed on a 10 meal/week plan so that they can enjoy meals on campus with their cohort. Additional meals may be purchased by adding declining balance funds to the student's meal card. Cash payment is accepted in the mailroom and the business office. Declining balance funds may also be added using credit/debit cards on the Dining Services website:
<https://simonsrockdining.catertrax.com/>

Day students are not allowed in the Residence Halls during regular class times (9:00am to 4:25pm). There are many common spaces across campus (Student Union, Library, DAC, etc.) for day and boarding students to gather and we encourage them to do so. Outside of class hours, Academy day students are permitted in Academy Residence Halls.

In the case of inclement weather, or in order to attend a special event, day students may request to stay on campus on a school night. Permission is at the discretion of the Community Directors, Director of Campus Life, or the Dean of Students and Equitable Community in coordination with both the student and their parents/guardians.

E. ACADEMY GUEST POLICY

Visitors and guests include individuals who do not reside on campus and are not enrolled in classes on the day of visitation. This includes parents, guardians, siblings, and friends.

All visitors and guests of current Bard Academy students must sign in upon arrival on campus at the Campus Safety Office in the Livingston Hall Student Union. Visitors must also sign out upon departing from campus at the end of their stay.

All visitors and guests are subject to the same rules that pertain to Academy students. Hosts are responsible for each guest's behavior, and if the guest violates Academy policy, the host will be held accountable as if it were their own offense.

Current Bard Academy students are permitted to interact with Academy alumni in campus common spaces outside of the residence halls. Siblings of Academy students who attend the College are also permitted to visit campus common spaces outside of the residence hall. Faculty, other Academy and College professional staff, and approved adult tutors may be checked into the dorm with approval of an on-duty Community Director.

All guests, excluding approved overnight guests, must depart the Academy residence hall by curfew. (10pm Sun-Thurs / 11pm Fri, Sat).

1. Overnight Guest Policy

- Community Directors must be given a minimum advance notice of 24 hours if residential students wish to have overnight guests.
- Residential students must obtain and present permission from their guardian to have an overnight guest. Students must present a notice of permission from the visiting student's guardian.
- Students who share a room must have approval from their roommate to have an overnight guest stay in the room.
- Community Directors must be provided emergency contact information for the visiting student.
- Overnight guests are only permitted on Friday and Saturday nights.
- Residential students may have no more than one overnight guest at a time.
- Overnight guests may stay a maximum of four consecutive nights.
- Overnight guests must not be older than the age of 16, without permission of the Director of Campus Life or the Dean of Students and Equitable Community. **Parents and guardians are not permitted to stay overnight in the dorm.**
- Academy day students must adhere to the overnight guest policy and guidelines. Day students may also be granted overnight permission by the Director of Campus Life in the event of emergency, inclement weather, or other circumstances, with approval of parent or guardian.
- Any person who is not a currently-enrolled student must register with Campus Safety and provide photo identification (such as school ID or driver's license) before entering a residential building. Deans and Directors have the discretion to disallow a student to have a guest at any time, even if prior authorization was given.
- Students must register their guests in person at the Campus Safety Office.
- Individuals who are enrolled as college students at Simon's Rock at Bard College are not permitted as overnight guests in Bard Academy.
- Student hosts are responsible for their guests and are expected to be with them at all times, including escorting to and from the bathroom, or any other area in the residence halls.
- Student hosts are held accountable if they or their guests violate any Academy policy.

VII. COLLEGE CAMPUS AND RESIDENCE HALL EXPECTATIONS

A. COLLEGE CAMPUS LIFE POLICIES

1. Overnight Sign-out

Students under the age of 18 must inform their Community Director(s) if they leave the campus for an overnight or extended stay, including vacations. They must also provide the following emergency information before leaving:

- Their overnight destination(s)
- The name(s) of the individual they will be staying with
- A telephone number or numbers where they can be contacted
- Their personal cell phone number (if they have one)
- Expected date and time of return

Students may communicate this information to their Community Director via email. It is recommended that students inform their parent(s)/guardian of your plans in advance. Upper level students are also encouraged to communicate with their Community Director when they will be off campus overnight.

2. Common Areas

Common areas in residence halls are available for the use of occupants first, and then may be used by others with permission from the Community Director.

3. Cooking

Students may not cook in their residence hall rooms. Simon's Rock provides kitchens for student use. To maintain safety, students are expected to be present in these kitchens at all times while they are cooking. They also are expected to clean up after themselves before leaving the kitchen, so that the area is ready for the next use. Lack of respect for college kitchen spaces and cleanliness of dishes, surfaces, or equipment may result in restrictions of use, or adjusted protocols for use to ensure accountability as deemed appropriate by Campus Life staff. Misuse or abuse of kitchens, or cooking anywhere other than in a Simon's Rock kitchen, is a violation and students may be subject to sanctions, restrictions, or fines for damages for misuse of these common area kitchens.

Students should be sure to read the Fire and Life Safety policies and Procedures above, especially those relating to cooking. Students are asked to report related problems to a Community Director immediately.

4. Laundry

Washing machines and dryers are located in each residence hall and are available for use by all assigned students. Any machine malfunctions should be reported to a Community Director. Please follow the laundry room rules of the residence hall outlined in each location.

5. Noise and Quiet Hours

Quiet hours are a time of no unreasonable noise in residences, common areas and parking lots, to ensure that the environment is conducive to study, work and sleep. Students should at all times demonstrate respect for others by maintaining this atmosphere. Each residence hall sets its own hours during which particular regard for quiet is required. Audio/video players and televisions may be used in residence halls and houses provided that users respect the rights of other residents and honor quiet hours. Exceptions to quiet hours for special events may be granted by the Community Director in advance of the event.

Students who disregard regulations governing noise and quiet hours may be required to dismantle their audiovisual equipment and place it in storage for the duration of the semester. Headphones are strongly recommended.

6. Residence Hall House Meetings

Through participation in Residence Hall House Meetings students, House Leaders, and Community Directors will come together to define the character of their immediate community. House Meetings create an inclusive space for members within the immediate community to get to know one another, contribute their ideas, coordinate events, and share their concerns.

Community Directors and House Leaders must attend all House Meetings in their respective buildings. House Meetings are scheduled regularly and are open to all residents of their particular residence. Community Directors oversee a house budget drawn from the student activities fee, maintain accurate budgetary records, and process payments and reimbursements promptly under the Campus Life Office and Business Office practices. Participation of residents is strongly encouraged and some meetings may be deemed mandatory.

7. Parietals

During the academic school year, under the College's parietal system, Crosby, Dolliver, and Kendrick House are closed to nonresidents at midnight Sunday through Thursday, and at 1:00 am on weekends. Others (enrolled students or friends), unless they are guests registered with Campus Safety, are expected to vacate. These buildings reopen to all at 7:00 am.

B. COLLEGE GUEST POLICY

The Campus is private property, and the Provost, the Vice Provost, Dean of Students and Equitable Community, Director of Campus Safety, and the nightly Administrator On-Call have the authority to prohibit any individual from coming onto the campus. They may also revoke the visitation privileges of any student or guest at will, and may remove any person from campus for any reason. Simon's Rock also reserves the right to alter this policy at will.

Any student or former student who is unclear about the registration process needs clarification on the guest policy should contact Campus Safety at 413-528-7291 before being or bringing a guest to campus.

All visitors and guests of current students who are on campus must sign-in at the Campus Safety Office in the Livingston Hall Student Union. Visitors and guests include individuals who do not reside on campus and are not enrolled in classes on the day of visitation. This includes alumni, former students, parents, guardians, siblings, acquaintances, and friends. A visit during any part of the daily required sign-in period would constitute one visit.

Failure to register a guest with Campus Safety, or any other breach of this policy, may result in sanctions for the student, including but not limited to loss of housing privileges or suspension.

Please note:

- Any person who is not a currently enrolled student must register with Campus Safety and provide photo identification before entering a residential building. Students accompany their guest(s) in person to the Campus Safety Office to complete this registration.
- Students are limited to two overnight guests at any time and must have permission from their roommate(s) before inviting anyone to stay in a shared living unit.
- Each guest or visitor must provide a valid photo ID and contact information (including a working cell phone number) when registering, and must provide vehicle information if they have one on the campus.
- Student hosts are responsible for their guest(s) and are expected to be with the guests throughout their visit.
- Student hosts are held accountable if they or their guests violate any College policy.
- The individual guest may visit up to four (4) days per semester, and thereafter must have permission from the Director of Campus Life.
- Students are not allowed to have guests on campus until classes resume at the beginning of each semester. Overnight guests are not allowed on campus during move-in, Reading Period, Exams, Breaks, or during the W&T/Orientation period without advanced written permission from the Dean of Students.
- Guests who attend publicized events in public spaces on campus are not required to register for the event, but must still register with Campus Safety.
- Overnight guests must not be older than the age of 25, without permission of the Director of Campus Life or the Dean of Students and Equitable Community. **Parents and guardians are not permitted to stay overnight in the dorm.**

C. ENROLLED STUDENTS WHO RESIDE OFF CAMPUS

Enrolled students who reside off campus are allowed to be on campus in the library or other public space as long as the building remains open. If they are in a residential building after 9 pm, they must notify Campus Safety (845-758-7460) of their presence and depart no later than 12 am. If they plan to be in a residential building between the hours of 12 am and 8 am, they must follow the guest registration procedure outlined above.

Students who reside off campus are similarly limited to four (4) overnight visits. They may petition the Director of Campus Life to request additional overnight visits. Campus Safety, the Dean of Students, and the Director of Campus Life, have the right to revoke visitation permission at will, and current students can be held accountable for any violations of policy.

SIBLINGS IN THE COLLEGE AND ACADEMY

Academy students are permitted to visit with their siblings in their College rooms, the College siblings may not visit in the Academy student's room.

VIII. CAMPUS DEPARTMENTS, OFFICES, AND SERVICES

A. CAMPUS MAIL AND TELEPHONE

The Campus Mail Boxes are located on the 2nd floor of the East Wing, on the East end of the hall, near the Academic Conference room.

The Address for the Massena Campus is: 30 Seminary Drive, Barrytown NY 12507

2. Telephone Service (TBD)

The main Campus telephone number is . Simon's Rock staff located in the Livingston Hall Student Union answer calls from Monday through Friday, 8 am to 4 pm, while classes are in session.

Because of the improved but still limited nature of cell phone service on campus, students can choose to bring a landline phone for an extra cost. The landline phone in the student's room will not be turned on immediately at the beginning of the semester. If you and your roommate wish to receive voice messages from callers, you should plan to bring a telephone that has a built-in answering machine. Text messages can be sent and received from most locations on campus and are a good way to communicate and leave messages. Femtocells will not work on the Simon's Rock wired network.

Should a student choose to use the telephone line provided in their residence hall room, they will be responsible for informing Campus Safety. Campus Safety will ensure that the Simon's Rock's emergency communications system and other systems are updated appropriately. Phone is only one of many options Simon's Rock uses to contact students and to pass along important information.

A student phone list is available to community members online at the campus portal. Students are expected to refer to the student phone list for their personal college use; Switchboard and Campus Safety staff members are not responsible for connecting on-campus calls. Long-distance calls can be made using a prepaid calling card. Questions should be directed to

C. CAMPUS LIFE DEPARTMENT

The Campus Life Department is made up of staff from the following areas: Campus Safety (including the mail room and transportation), the Wellness Center, Residence Life and Housing, and Student Activities. The Campus Life staff works to support all aspects of life outside the classroom at Simon's Rock. The staff also works to develop and sustain an environment at Simon's Rock that is inclusive, encourages personal growth, and fosters a strong sense of community.

More specifically, the staff is expected to help students with transition to Academy and College life in these ways:

- Plan and execute meaningful educational programs and enjoyable social programs
- Connect students with campus activities, resources and support as needed
- Mediate roommate and other personal conflicts that can arise in close living situations
- Provide a link between student residents and others across the campus
- Intervene in potentially harmful situations
- Uphold community standards, guidelines and rules to help provide a safe environment

The Campus Life Office is located on the third floor of the Livingston Student Union.

D. CAMPUS LIFE ACTIVITIES

Student sponsored events and activities (whether arranged by individuals, groups, clubs, or organizations) are arranged and managed through the Director of Student Activities. The Director works with students, staff, and faculty to promote activities that allow digression from rigorous academics, and that foster leadership, engagement, inclusion, and the development of strong organizational skills. Additionally, many activities are planned by Community Directors and House Leaders.

Student input is integral to identifying events that serve an array of interests and constituencies. Biannual fairs involving student clubs and organizations help to gauge what appeals to current students, in order to create a successful calendar of programs. The breadth of activities may include dances, concerts, films, lectures, intramural matches, as well as community service efforts.

Besides identifying event initiatives, the Director of Student Activities, along with club and organization advisors, helps students address requests for funding of supplies and must approve procurement of space, transportation, audio/visual and tech support as well as the event management plan before funds or reimbursement are released. Use of facilities as well as funding for programming is coordinated with Physical Plant, Campus Safety, and other offices. To inquire about space availability, please email the Space Coordinators (space@simons-rock.edu).

Events must be planned in advance with the help of the Director of Student Activities to avoid space and scheduling conflicts, gain access to locked areas, arrange for setup, cleanup, and request audiovisual equipment. The events worksheet is available at: portal.simons-rock.edu.

The Director of Student Activities, or their designee, approves use of space in student residence halls and the Livingston Hall Student Union during the academic year. Common areas in residence halls are available for the use of occupants first, then by others with permission from the Community Director(s). Common space and meeting rooms in the Livingston Hall Student Union are available to all students and will not be designated for any group on a permanent or long-term basis. To reserve a space in the Student Union or for help reserving space in other campus buildings, contact the Director of Student Activities at 413-644-4284 and contact space@simons-rock.edu.

1. Student Government

Student Government meets weekly on Wednesdays when classes are in session. All Students are encouraged to attend and participate. The Student Government will operate according to its bylaws, published on the student portal.

As published on the meeting schedule (approximately once monthly), the Student Government will facilitate Community Meetings. No other student activities, including classes, will be scheduled during Community Meeting time in order to facilitate participation. This includes rehearsals, classes, tutoring, and meetings. All community members are encouraged to reserve this time for Community Meeting.

E. COMPUTING SERVICES (ITS: INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SERVICES)

Simon's Rock is served by a dedicated local area network (LAN) that provides students with access to the Internet and to campus computing resources and numerous printers throughout campus. This network and other campus technology resources are provided explicitly for academic purposes.

The network also supports the academic and communication needs of faculty and staff, including email from professors to their classes. Students are expected to respect fellow users by knowing and obeying Simon's Rock's Network/ITS Acceptable Use Policy, available at <https://simons-rock.edu/aup/acceptable-use-policy>, for all other Simons' Rock policies pertaining to information technologies, network usage, Internet etiquette and applicable law. Violation may result in restriction or suspension of network access, as well as Simon's Rock disciplinary proceedings. Questions about computer and network policies should be addressed to its@simons-rock.edu. The Network/ITS Acceptable Use Policy is not a static document and will likely change as new technology issues arise which are relevant. In the event of a change to the policy, campus wide announcements will be made to alert everyone, but the latest version of the document will always be available at that canonical URL.

Wireless access is available in all campus academic buildings and student residences, as well as most other buildings (e.g., dining hall), although the strength of wireless service may vary by location; wireless access on the campus outside of buildings is limited.

Students are encouraged to bring their own computers to campus. For those who do not, or who require supplemental applications, computer clusters are available at various places on campus including Alumni Library, Daniel Arts Center, and Fisher Science and Academic Center. These buildings house a mix of Windows and Macintosh computers with email, Web browsing and Microsoft Office capabilities.

Specialized graphics, digital photography, computer-aided design, desktop publishing, video editing, and mathematical and statistical modeling programs are available on select computers; write: its@simons-rock.edu or call the ITS Help Desk at 413-528-7371 to determine location(s).

1. Printing

Although Simon's Rock does not charge students for printing, it does use the PaperCut print management system to track usage and reduce paper and toner waste. Rather than sending a job directly to a networked printer, printing is a two-step process.

Students install the PaperCut client on their machines (all public computers on campus have the PaperCut client installed) and add one central printer queue, where all jobs are sent and held for up

to 36 hours. The print job can then be released by logging in with a set of Simon's Rock credentials at any Print Release Station, at which time the number of pages is deducted from a student's total allotment. Every student begins each semester with an initial allotment of 400 pages, but this can be refilled by contacting ITS and requesting a refill.

Print Release Stations are available at these campus locations:

- Livingston Hall Student Union
- Fisher Science and Academic Center
- Alumni Library
- Liebowitz Center for International Studies
- Daniel Arts Center
- Pibly Residence Hall

2. Support

Simon's Rock's Information Technology Services (ITS) department provides basic support such as installing virus protection, setting up wireless access and print management software, and troubleshooting basic hardware. It is recommended that students have a vendor support agreement to cover repairs and problems that are more complicated.

To get help with basic computer difficulties, students may send an email to its@simons-rock.edu or call the ITS Help Desk at 413-528-7371 and schedule an appointment between 9 am and 5 pm Monday through Friday.

Students should be ready to work directly with ITS staff or the Computer Assistant (CA) to diagnose and resolve any issues.

F. DINING SERVICES

Parkhurst Dining Services is the food service provider at Simon's Rock. Parkhurst strives to use fresh, locally grown, sustainable, and organic products. Parkhurst is committed to preparing foods that are delicious and nutritious, supporting our diverse community's wide-ranging dietary preferences and requirements.

1. Meals and Service Hours

Meals are served buffet style, with a variety of options at each meal, including vegetarian and vegan dishes. Fresh fruit is always available during service hours, as is a large and varied salad bar.

Two soups are made daily—one vegan and one vegetarian or protein based. Parkhurst offers several types of house made pizza during lunch and dinner periods Monday through Friday. To enter the dining hall, students must present their ID card.

<u>Monday through Friday</u>	<u>Offerings</u>
8:00 to 10:00 AM	Breakfast
11:00 to 1:00 PM	Lunch
4:00 to 7:00 PM	Dinner

<u>Saturday and Sunday</u>	<u>Offerings</u>
10:00 am to 12:30 PM	Brunch
4:30 to 6:30 PM	Dinner

2. On-Campus Meal Plan Options for Dormitory Housing and Snack Bar Equivalency

All students living on campus pay a residence fee that includes 19 meals per week and \$75.00 per semester in Declining Balance (Rock Dollars). Students may eat as much as they like at each meal. Food may only be removed from the dining hall if students are taking their meal TO GO. In lieu of visiting the dining hall for dinner, each student may exchange a dinner in the dining hall for an equivalency meal at the Snack Bar, Wednesday - Sunday between 7 pm and 10 pm (days can vary) when classes are in session and the Snack Bar is open. The Rock Café snack bar is located in the Livingston Hall Student Union and offers snacks, beverages, and food cooked to order, at a place to relax, study, or socialize. Students may use their Declining Balance (Rock Dollars) to pay for items at the Café, any overage on their equivalent meal, or to treat a friend or visiting family member to a meal in the Dining Hall. Additional Declining Balance funds may be added to your account as needed throughout the year on the Parkhurst Dining website:

<https://simonsrockdining.catertrax.com/>

3. On-Campus Meal Plan Options for Apartment Housing

The following is applicable to those currently assigned to the Mods and Pibly residents only. All meal options will still be accessible through the use of your ID card, which is the official identification card for Simon's Rock.

The chosen meal plan will apply to your student account on a semester-by-semester basis. If you plan on adjusting your meal plan for the spring semester, you will once again have a chance to indicate/choose your meal plan, so long as you remain in the housing options listed above. Here are the meal plan options:

- Nineteen - any nineteen (19ME) meals a week plan +\$75.00 per semester in Declining Balance
- Fourteen - any fourteen (14ME) meals a week plan +\$50.00 per semester in Declining Balance
- Seven – any seven (07ME) meal per week plan + \$25.00 per semester in Declining Balance

All meal plans begin with brunch on Sunday and end at dinner the following Saturday. The use of meal equivalencies is available for all meal plans and can be used to exchange a dinner in the Dining Hall for a dinner at the Rock Café Snack Bar in the Student Union.

The Campus Life office needs to receive dining plan selections by the end of business day on the first day of classes. Any student who has not received prior approval to be exempt from the meal plan or those who do not choose a meal plan by the deadline will default to the nineteen-meal plan.

Please note that Declining Balance Dollars included in one of the above meal plans do not roll over to future semesters. Additional Declining Balance Dollars added to your account during the semester will carry over to the next semester.

The zero-meal plan (00ME) is not an option. However, the Office of Campus Life recognizes that unique circumstances may exempt a student from the required meal plans listed above for documented disability, medical conditions, or religious dietary observance. If you have a disability including a medical condition which rises to the level of disability, you will need to provide documentation of need to the Director of Accessibility and Academic Support. All religious dietary observance requests for exemptions will need to be sent to the Dean of Students.

4. Meal Plans for Off-Campus Students

Cash payment is accepted in the mailroom and the business office. Declining Balance funds may also be purchased using a credit/debit card on the dining website:
<https://simonsrockdining.catertrax.com/>

Day students enrolled in the College and students living off campus may also participate in the above offered meal plans. All College students residing off-campus will default to the zero-meal (00ME) plan. You may purchase Declining Balance (Rock Dollars) to pay for your meals and/or purchase a meal plan. To participate in a meal plan, please contact the Campus Life office.

5. Declining Balance Meal Account

All students on a 19/14/7 meal plan will have Declining Balance (Rock Dollars) loaded onto their accounts at the beginning of each semester. These Rock Dollars expire at the end of each semester. They do not roll over to the next semester, and are not redeemable for cash. All Day or Off Campus students may initiate a voluntary Declining Balance Meal Account at the Business Office, Monday through Friday from 9 am to 4 pm. Once funds are deposited into a student's account, dining hall and snack bar purchases can be debited. A declining-balance plan is tax-exempt, so students pay no Massachusetts sales tax.

The Declining Balance Meal Account is a supplement to the meal plan for students paying the full residency fee.

All students can use their Declining Balance Meal Account at the Snack Bar, and residential students can use the declining balance to treat friends or visiting family members to meals in the Dining Hall.

Declining Balance Funds may be added to your declining balance account as needed throughout the year on the Parkhurst Dining website: <https://simonsrockdining.catertrax.com/> (preferred) using a credit or debit card to fund your purchase. Additional Bonus Bucks will be loaded depending on the amount you select. Funds can also be added to a student's account either in the mailroom (cash or checks accepted) or at the Business Office (cash or checks accepted) Monday through Friday from 9am to 4pm.

6. Dietary Restrictions and Allergies

Parkhurst will help students to manage dietary restrictions and allergies. Its interactive website, <https://simonsrockdining.catertrax.com/> is updated regularly during the academic year and offers a nutrition journal, a monthly dining calendar, hours of operation and feedback opportunity. Menu signs in the Dining Hall have icons identifying the most common allergens (if they are present in the item). PLEASE notify the dining team and servers of any serious allergies so we can assist students.

7. Parkhurst Student Jobs

Parkhurst also employs students through the Simon's Rock student payroll office, both work-study and other. For additional information contact Parkhurst at 413-528-7290 or stop by our main office just inside the dining hall entrance, Monday through Friday from 10 am to 6 pm.

G. DISABILITY ACCOMMODATIONS

Simon's Rock at Bard College and Bard Academy is committed to providing individuals with disabilities equal access to its programs, services and facilities in accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and Title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. College and Academy students can find more information on the Simon's Rock Disability Services webpage <https://simons-rock.edu/academics/academic-advising-and-support/disability-services.php>

1. Certifying Eligibility

A student with a disability may be eligible for reasonable accommodation. Disability, as defined by civil rights law, must constitute a mental or physical condition that results in significant impairment in one or more major life functions. Disabilities include, but are not limited to, mobility and orthopedic impairments, sensory impairments, psychological disorders, chronic health impairments, and learning disabilities.

Any student who believes they have a disability not included in this list or who do not have current documentation are nevertheless encouraged to consult the Director of Accessibility and Learning Supports jaltshuler@sr.bard.edu to determine potential eligibility for services. Accommodation decisions are made on an individual, case-by-case basis.

2. Documentation for Accommodations

All students who request services or accommodation are advised to submit documentation to the Director of Accessibility and Learning Supports before, or at the time of, the initial meeting. Students are expected to review and update their information and request each semester. The amount and type of documentation will vary with the nature of the disability and the accommodation requested. Generally, any documentation should (a) be no more than three years old and (b) be provided by a professional with appropriate credentials.

Documentation should include the following information:

- Diagnosis that establishes the existence of a disability and description of the nature of the disability;
- Summary of a comprehensive diagnostic interview; or
- Diagnostic summary based on a comprehensive assessment;
- Specific recommendations for accommodation, and an explanation of need for each.

If the documentation submitted is inadequate in content or scope, reevaluation may be required before services and accommodations are provided.

3. Registering for Disability Accommodation

Students who wish to identify themselves as having a disability should schedule an interview with the Director of Accessibility and Learning Supports; jaltshuler@sr.bard.edu. At the interview, students should provide documentation of their disability, as noted above, and be prepared to discuss appropriate accommodation for that semester. Additional documentation may be requested at that time.

Once accommodation has been agreed on, the Director of Accessibility and Learning Supports will provide the student with a Letter of Accommodation verifying that they are eligible to receive accommodation and identifying the appropriate accommodation(s). Students are responsible for meeting with faculty to make arrangements for academic accommodations.

Procedures are in place for resolution, as needed, through the 504/ADA Coordinator for students. The Director of Accessibility and Learning Supports will be available to support the student in this process.

4. Reasonable Accommodation

Once students are determined eligible for services, they are entitled to reasonable accommodations. “Reasonable” here is understood to include accommodations which do not place an undue burden on Simon’s Rock at Bard College and Bard Academy, or which would require fundamental alteration of Simon’s Rock and Bard Academy’s programs or services.

Accommodations may include, but are not limited to:

- Assistive technology
- Digital textbooks for screen readers or audio versions
- Course materials provided in alternative formats
- Provision of open captioning, cart services or interpreters
- Note-taking assistance
- Testing modifications, such as extended time or distraction reduced location

Simon’s Rock at Bard College reserves the right to refuse a specific accommodation request if other accommodation will serve the student’s needs equally well and place less burden on the institution. However, any student who believes they have been discriminated against on the basis of disability, or denied reasonable accommodation, may file a grievance. Simon’s Rock at Bard College and Bard Academy’s Disability Accommodations Grievance Procedure for Students applies to disability accommodation requests and other concerns regarding disability accommodations specifically. This policy can be found in the internal portal under “Forms and Manuals” for students.

Individuals who file such reports are protected from any form of retaliation.

For more information on adaptive technologies, certifying eligibility, reasonable accommodation and registering for accommodation, contact the Director of Accessibility and Learning Supports.

H. EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE

1. While ON Campus

Dial “7777” from any campus phone to reach Campus Safety 24/7.

Dial 9-911 from any campus phone to reach local emergency services.

2. While OFF Campus

Dial 911 from any campus phone to reach local emergency services.

3. What To Say

Tell the dispatcher the following:

This is an Emergency; I need help. My name is . . .
I am calling from . . .

When needed, Campus Safety can contact local Emergency Services (9-911) and the Wellness Center staff.

4. Campus Staff on Duty 24/7

Simon’s Rock’s on-call staff (24/7) includes:

- Campus Safety
- Campus Life Staff (Community Directors and Peer Counselors)
- Executive (Provost, Dean, or Director)

I. FINANCIAL SERVICES

Students who have questions about their personal student account, should contact Student Financial Services (SFS) located in Brook House, 11 Woods Rd, on Bard’s main campus. Additionally, SFS can be located via email at: financialservices@bard.edu

1. Student Billing

Tuition, special instructional charges, a campus residence fee, an enrollment fee, a health services fee, and the student activity fee are billed to each student’s home address each term. Charges for books and other miscellaneous items are shown separately on the same bill. All bills are due when presented. A finance charge of 1.5% per month, with a minimum finance fee of \$75, will be assessed on outstanding balances. A student whose account is in arrears will not be permitted to register for the coming term until the bill is paid in full.

2. Special Charges

Some courses carry extra fees to cover special instruction, supplies, or equipment. These charges are clearly published in the Simon's Rock catalog and will be billed to students as appropriate following course selection.

An activity fee of \$210 per academic year for the College and \$420 per academic year for the Academy will be charged to each student account.

Simon's Rock charges all students a Health Services fee that covers all the basic services provided by the Wellness Center.

Student Health Insurance is required for all students and will be billed for the academic year with the Fall semester billing. Any waivers of the Student Health Insurance must be approved in writing by the Wellness Center.

Following reports of residence hall damage – or at the end of an academic term – all student occupants may be billed for destruction or loss. Simon's Rock will attempt to determine individual responsibility but, when this is not possible, costs will be prorated among assigned students.

Prorating may also be employed for vandalism in other areas on campus.

Students are expected to clean their dorm rooms of all trash and personal items following the end of the term/semester. Uncleaned rooms will be assessed a minimum fine of \$300 plus the cost of any additional time needed.

3. Financial Aid

Returning students must meet an April 12 application deadline for financial aid. Any student may apply for financial aid. Those who receive aid must reapply each year and must maintain satisfactory academic progress and social standing.

4. Refund Policy and Schedule

Following registration, no refund of any fees will be made if a student withdraws from the College for any reason, except as stated in the College catalog and restated in the Withdrawal Refund Schedule below. Federal aid will be adjusted based on a federally mandated formula.

Below is the College's refund schedule:

- Prior to arrival, the College retains the \$500 non-refundable enrollment fee and fully refunds all other charges.
- Within the first week after classes begin: 80% of tuition and the campus residence fee are refunded.
- Within two weeks after classes begin: 60% of tuition, and the campus residence fee, are refunded.
- Within four weeks after classes begin: 30% of tuition, and the campus residence fee, are refunded.
- Beyond four weeks of classes: No refunds will be given.
- Upon suspension or expulsion: No refunds will be given.

A student who is considering voluntary withdrawal may wish to confer with the Financial Services Office and/or the Financial Aid Office about potential refunds. The Dean of Studies must receive written notification of all withdrawals. The Financial Services Office must approve all refunds, based on withdrawal date.

5. Tuition Insurance

The College offers all students a tuition and refund insurance plan through A.W.G. Dewar, Inc. This plan, which requires a premium payment, complements the College's refund policy. A brochure with details is available in the Financial Services Office Office.

J. INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT

The Office of Institutional Advancement fosters continuing, lifelong relationships among alumni, parents, faculty, staff, students, and other friends of the College. It helps alumni stay in touch with each other, assists faculty or students seeking alumni connections, and serves as a place for alumni, parents, and friends to learn about the College's current initiatives.

Institutional Advancement – with the help of volunteers and the Board of Overseers – raises several million dollars each year to support scholarships, academic programs, internships, study abroad opportunities, and the physical plant at Simon's Rock. The Fund for Simon's Rock ("the annual fund") provides a reliable source of annual income for Simon's Rock.

Students are welcome to stop by the office to find out how Institutional Advancement can serve them.

K. INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SERVICES

Simon's Rock provides information and support to international students attending Simon's Rock on F-1 and other visas. We strive to be an advocate in interactions with the Simon's Rock community and with U.S. governmental agencies. Students attending Simon's Rock on an F-1 student visa will need to meet regularly with a Designated School Official (DSO) to maintain their status:

- On arrival at campus as a new student
- At the beginning and end of each semester thereafter
- Before seeking on-campus employment (note: international students generally cannot be employed off-campus)
- When seeking government authorization for off-campus Optional Practical Training (OPT)
- For an internship in the U.S., and applying for Curricular Practical Training (CPT)
- Before leaving the United States at any point during a Simon's Rock program of study

International students must maintain a passport from their country of origin that is valid for at least 6 months in the future at all times. They are responsible for notifying a Designated College Official if their student status changes. For assistance with F-1 and other visa issues, contact the Academic Affairs Office, Hall College Center.

L. LIBRARY SERVICES

The Alumni Library staff is dedicated to helping students find personal and academic success at Simon's Rock and beyond. The library responds to the needs of students by:

- Engaging with students and faculty through individualized, in-depth services
- Teaching students to be proficient, ethical information seekers
- Facilitating equitable access to information resources
- Providing welcoming spaces for intellectual discovery

To achieve these outcomes, library staff expect behavior that enables all library users to enjoy a safe library environment that contributes to academic excellence, research, reading, and study. All library users are expected to demonstrate respect, consideration, and courtesy to others through their behavior in the library.

1. Library Resources

The library's collections contain more than 75,000 books, DVDs, CDs, periodicals, and other media, augmented by an extensive suite of electronic information resources. The library home page provides a portal to all these resources. In addition to these collections, the building contains group and individual study areas and lounges.

2. Circulation and Reserves

Student ID cards serve as library cards and must be presented when borrowing library materials. Circulating materials (books, DVDs, scores, etc.) can be borrowed at the circulation desk in the main lobby. Materials placed on reserve by a faculty member for a course are available from the circulation desk as well, but loan periods for items on reserve are limited to 4 hours.

3. Reference and Interlibrary Loan Services

The library staff is dedicated to helping students make best use of library resources and students are encouraged to ask staff for help. Resources not available in the library or online may be obtained via interlibrary loan at no charge to students. Interlibrary loan requests can be submitted via the library website.

4. Food and Beverages in the Library

Small snacks (such as a piece of fruit or a granola bar) and beverages in closed containers (covered cups or bottles with caps) are allowed in the library if consumed responsibly. Meals may not be delivered to the library from restaurants or other food vendors or carried in from the Snack Bar or Dining Hall. Students are expected to clean up after themselves, discard trash and recyclables in appropriate containers, and notify staff immediately of any spills.

Check the library website at: www.simons-rock.edu/academics/academic-resources/library for further information and hours of operation.

M. CAMPUS SAFETY

The Campus Safety office in the Livingston Hall Student Union is staffed by a trained group of security officers that serve all members of the Simon's Rock community. The Campus Safety Director and officers work closely with the Director of Campus Life, the Wellness Center, Physical Plant, the Dean of Students and Equitable Community, and other members of the faculty and staff to maintain 24-hour coverage of the campus.

Campus Safety officers respond to all emergencies and maintain a regular patrol of the campus. Several officers are trained EMTs, and all officers participate in ongoing safety training programs.

We believe that campus safety is a collective responsibility. The Campus Safety Staff asks that everyone play an active role, immediately reporting suspicious activity, emergencies, and potentially unsafe conditions to a Campus Safety Officer or to a Community Director. In case of a facility emergency, contact Campus Safety at 413-528-7291.

Information about personal safety, fire safety, vehicle registration, and parking is outlined elsewhere in this Student Handbook and on the Simon's Rock website. For more information, contact any Campus Safety Officer or the Campus Life Office.

N. STUDENT EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL

The Employment & Payroll office is located on the second floor of Blodgett House. This office is where students, who plan to seek employment on campus, can pick up a listing of available jobs and pick up/turn in required payroll forms. It is the students' duty to reach out to the supervisor of the department where they would like to work to inquire about a campus job.

At Simon's Rock, there is never enough student employment to meet the demand. We recommend that students who plan to seek employment do so quickly after they arrive. Most jobs will be offered for the fall term and fewer openings are available for the spring term.

NOTE: It is the practice of Simon's Rock at Bard College to give employment priority to work-study eligible students. Work-study eligibility is noted on award letters from the Office of Financial Aid. Students who are offered campus employment but are not work-study eligible will need to have the hiring supervisor first receive authorization from the College's Director of Finance and Administration.

1. Hiring Process

Once students are offered employment they will need to complete the payroll forms, noted below, and turn them into the Payroll Office along with a form(s) of ID as required by federal law. The required payroll forms are available for download and printing online. Payroll forms should be submitted prior to starting work.

In order to be paid by the College a student will need to have a Social Security number.

International students can contact Academic Affairs to inquire how one would go about getting a social security number for employment.

Students who previously worked on campus should contact the Payroll Office letting the office know who they will be working for and if there is any change in the prior information given when first signed up for payroll. This is especially important for students who have been LTSA and now have returned to the Simon's Rock campus.

Required payroll forms:

- W-4 (Federal Income Tax Withholding form)
- M-4 (Massachusetts Income Tax Withholding form) as applicable. Students must complete this form only if their withholding allowance for Massachusetts' income tax will differ from that for federal income tax.
- Employment Permit Application for 14 through 17 year olds – Promise of Employment section should be filled out by the supervisor of the position student is being hired for.
 - For 14 and 15 year olds the Physician's Certificate of Health needs to be filled out by a student's physician or filled out by the Wellness Center. Contact the Wellness Center to schedule a time to do so. Also, a parent/guardian/custodian must also sign this form if they are approving the issuance of a work permit.
 - Direct Deposit Form – Simon's Rock mandates that student employees receive their wages or hours worked to be deposited into a checking or savings account. The following info is needed:
 - Bank's 9-digit routing number
 - Bank account number
 - Indicate if the account is a Checking or Savings account
 - Routing & account numbers are generally not the numbers listed on an ATM debit or check card. Banks will provide this information to customers by request. Students who intend to open a checking or savings account locally should do so before visiting the Payroll Office.
 - Typically, a parent or guardian must be present for signature approval on such an account.
- EEO-1 Self-Identification Form (Voluntary) – The College is subject to certain government recordkeeping and reporting requirements for the administration of Civil Rights laws and regulations. To comply with these laws, the College invites employees to voluntarily self-identify their race and ethnicity. Refusing to provide either will not be cause for any adverse treatment. All information is kept confidential and, when reported, will not identify any specific individual. Please submit the blank version of this form if you are declining to self-identify.

Students should pay close attention to the signature requirements for each form above. Once all necessary forms are complete, the payroll manager or assistant will issue a work authorization. That authorization must be presented to the hiring supervisor before employment can begin.

For further information or assistance, please contact the payroll office at payroll@simons-rock.edu, or 413-528-7206 or 413-528-7415 or fax to 413-528-7446.

Collection, maintenance, and disclosure of personal information is conducted in accordance with Massachusetts' privacy laws.

2. Allowable Work Hours

The College's Director of Finance and Administration and/or the Payroll Manager will determine the average hours per week a student may work each semester. This will be a rolling calculation based on Federal Work-Study award amount (if applicable), departmental budgets, number of workable weeks left in the semester, and employment start date. In most cases, student employees will not be allowed to average more than 5 to 8 hours per week (6 days a week) per semester regardless of how many student jobs they hold. Simon's Rock will comply with the Massachusetts Laws Regulating Minors' Work Hours and Occupation Restrictions and federal regulations relating to international student employment.

3. Wages

Student employees are paid bi-weekly on Thursdays, at the Massachusetts minimum hourly rate, for hours worked the previous two weeks. Each week runs from Sunday to Saturday. Time sheets should be signed by the student and the authorizing supervisor. All time sheets should be turned in on a weekly basis by 9:00 am on Monday mornings.

O. TRANSPORTATION

1. Airlines, Airports, and Break Shuttles

Please refer to www.simons-rock.edu/transportation

2. Area Ground Transportation (taxi, rail, bus)

Please refer to www.simons-rock.edu/transportation.

3. Personal Motor Vehicles

All enrolled students and their guests are subject to Simon's Rock's motor vehicle regulations.

The Campus Safety Department (413-528-7291) in Livingston Hall Student Union enforces motor vehicle and parking regulations on campus. Students receive an emailed copy of these regulations at the beginning of each academic year and can view them online at any time. All student drivers are expected to review and comply with them.

Students are permitted to keep a motor vehicle on campus after successfully completing two semesters in residence. First-year students of age 18 or older who are in good academic and social standing may petition for an exception in their second semester. Exceptions require approval from the Dean of Students and Equitable Community and the Director of Campus Safety. Other students are permitted to bring motor vehicles to campus subject to the College's motor vehicle policies. Students may register 1 (one) motor vehicle only. Students must provide a valid driver's license and vehicle insurance when registering their vehicles with Campus Safety. Registered vehicles must display the appropriate parking decal.

4. Driver Policies

Students are reminded that they are to abide by the conditions of their license, and the laws of the Commonwealth and local jurisdictions apply to all drivers. In Massachusetts, licensed drivers between the ages of 16-1/2 and 18 may not operate a motor vehicle between midnight and 5 am unless accompanied by a parent or legal guardian.

First-year students of age 18 or older who are in good academic and social standing may petition for an exception following their semester. Exceptions require approval from the Dean of Students and Equitable Community and the Director of Campus Safety. Other students are permitted to bring motor vehicles to campus subject to Simon's Rock's motor vehicle policies. Students may register 1 motor vehicle only.

5. Vehicles Privilege

The receipt of a permit to operate a motor vehicle while at Simon's Rock is a privilege and may be revoked at any time if the motor vehicle regulations, other College or Academy policy, or state laws are not followed. Revocation of privileges will apply to both driving and parking on College or Academy property. Student drivers will be held responsible for transporting, or attempting to transport, onto the campus alcohol/drugs, weapons or persons banned from campus.

6. Vehicle Registration

Student drivers must register personal vehicles with Campus Safety within the first seven (7) days of each semester. To register, a student must present their driver's license, vehicle registration papers, and evidence of liability coverage for any authorized operator. When the registration process is complete, the student will receive a Simon's Rock decal, which must be displayed on the driver side window of the vehicle. A vehicle without a current registration decal will receive a written warning; further violation will result in monetary fines.

Students who need additional time to obtain required documentation must apply for an extension from Campus Safety. Maximum extension time is two (2) weeks. Students whose vehicles are unregistered after that period may lose their driving privileges, and their vehicles will be subject to towing at the owner's expense.

7. Parking

Drivers must park in designated areas and must respect spaces made available for handicapped individuals. Do not park in the fire lanes, in front of buildings, or on the lawns at any time. Illegally parked vehicles will be ticketed and/or towed at the owner's expense.

8. Campus Speed Limit

The campus speed limit is 15 mph with the exception of the area between Kellogg and the lower gate on Fox Run, which has a speed limit of 5 mph.

9. Motorcycles and Mopeds

The operation of motorcycles, mopeds, and e-bikes on campus is confined to designated roadways. Drivers must abide by the campus speed limit and by campus motor vehicle policies, including

parking and registration. In accordance with Massachusetts's law, drivers and passengers must wear protective helmets at all times. No covered area is available to store motorcycles or mopeds, and they may not be parked in residence halls or other College or Academy buildings. All motorized vehicles must be street legal according to Massachusetts law.

10. Vehicle Violations

Individuals who park in unauthorized areas, or who fail to register their vehicles, will receive a written warning for a first offense, a \$25 fine for a second, and a \$50 fine for any subsequent violation. Students who receive more than four tickets for parking unregistered vehicles during a semester may lose the privilege of having a vehicle on campus.

Violation of the campus speed limit will result in a \$50 fine for a first-time offense and an additional \$50 fine for each subsequent offense. A third speeding violation may result in loss of vehicle privileges. Unsafe driving may result in a first-offense fine of \$50, and immediate suspension of vehicle privileges for a second offense.

Within 48 hours, students whose permission to have a motor vehicle has been revoked will be required to either (a) remove their vehicle from campus or (b) place the vehicle in a parking area, under the direction of Campus Safety, and file their license plates with the Director of Campus Safety.

If after one week a vehicle owner does not respond, the vehicle will be considered abandoned and towed off campus. Towing and storage charges will be the responsibility of the vehicle's owner.

11. Transportation to Religious Services

Simon's Rock recognizes and respects that religious observance is part of the life of many Simon's Rock students. Anyone who needs information about places of worship in Berkshire County or assistance with transportation to services may contact the Director of Student Activities or CEI Office.

P. WELLNESS CENTER

The Wellness Center (Health and Counseling Services) is located on the 3rd floor of the Livingston Hall Student Union, above the mailroom.

The Wellness Center is staffed by the director, nurses, mental health counselors, a consulting psychiatrist, and a front office administrator, who work collectively to foster a healthy living/learning community through high-quality care for students. Within the context of a preventive health model, individual student needs are assessed. The services include the treatment of acute illness, treatment of minor illness, laboratory testing, contraception, health care education, mental health counseling, crisis intervention and assessment, psychiatric medication management and referral to outside specialists as necessary.

In addition to one-on-one care, staff provide educational programs, literature, workshops and group discussions. Topics have included student health issues, stress reduction, building resilience,

by-stander training, substance use, harm reduction, sexual health, body image concerns, gender diversity, grief and loss, mindfulness and meditation.

1. Wellness Center Hours

Offices are open from 9AM to 5PM, Monday through Friday, when the College or Academy is in session. Counselors and a nurse triage team remain on call nights and weekends when the College or Academy is in session for urgent care needs. Outside of open hours, any student who is feeling ill and/or in crisis may ask a Community Director or contact Campus Safety (413-528-7291 or dial 0/zero from any campus phone) to discuss their concerns. The Community Director and/or Campus Safety will discuss the situation with the student and connect the student to the appropriate resource on campus.

2. Counseling Services

The Wellness Center provides counseling services that support the successful experience of being at Simon's Rock at Bard College and Bard Academy. We work with students to navigate the numerous challenges faced while adjusting to campus life and help students to move towards growth and empowerment.

Some common counseling issues include, but are not limited to: anxiety, depression, campus life adjustment; family/relationship issues; LGBTQ+ support and advocacy; academic difficulties; stress-related concerns; self-esteem; body image and eating disorders; substance use; self-harm; trauma; sexuality; and social/interpersonal struggles.

Counseling is free for all currently enrolled students. Appointments for psychiatric evaluation and medication management are available only for those students covered by the school insurance plan and are billed through that plan. Applicable co-pays and missed session fees for psychiatrist appointments are included on family invoices through the business office. Psychiatric appointments are scheduled by referral from a Counseling Services clinician.

To request a counseling appointment, please complete and submit online the Counseling Request Form on the Wellness Center pages of the Simon's Rock website.

3. Health Services

A nurse will assess each presenting student and recommend a course of action. A nurse triage team is available after open hours when Simon's Rock is in session for urgent care needs. After a nurse consultation, an appointment with an outside physician can be arranged.

4. Immunizations and Medical Records

To register for classes, all first-year students must submit specific health information forms to the Wellness Center. By Massachusetts's regulation, a record of required immunizations must be received before a student can occupy campus housing or attend classes. All medical forms can be completed and/or downloaded from the Simon's Rock portal.

5. Health Services Fee and the Student Health Insurance Plan

The Health Services Fee and the Student Health Insurance Plan are required for all enrolled students at Bard Academy and Simon's Rock at Bard College. Our students are younger than most who arrive on college campuses, and often require increased attention and support. In addition, our students have generally not yet managed their own healthcare.

The Health Services Fee and the Student Health Insurance Plan help to cover services offered on and off campus, including a broad spectrum of health and counseling interventions while the College and Academy are in session. These services include:

- Health support, assessment and intervention with staff nurses during open hours.
- Ongoing, scheduled counseling sessions with staff clinicians.
- Counseling support for urgent concerns during open hours.
- Emergency access to on-call health and counseling staff, outside of open hours.
- Psychiatric evaluation and medication management, as recommended by the counselor and authorized by parents/guardians, as appropriate. Co-pays and missed session fees apply.
- Basic lab tests on the premises, while other necessary lab work can be drawn and sent out.
- Notification and collaboration with parents/guardians in emergency/urgent situations.
- Collaboration with parents in other situations, as clinically appropriate, and with proper authorization to release/obtain information.
- Referral, coordination and collaboration with local hospitals, providers and specialists.

Please note:

- Families will be responsible for the payment of services outside of the Wellness Center, if not covered by the student's insurance plan.

6. Confidentiality

Records and the information discussed are kept confidential and are not disclosed to anyone outside of the Wellness Center without proper written consent. There are some specific exceptions within federal confidentiality guidelines, which will be reviewed with students utilizing Wellness Center services.

The Wellness Center encourages students to keep their families apprised of their personal wellbeing. However, due to confidentiality guidelines, the staff will not automatically notify parents or guardians of office visits. While this may represent a change in how families have approached the student's healthcare, it is important that students learn to access care themselves and that they feel free to discuss personal concerns with our healthcare staff.

The Wellness Center will notify parents or guardians when a student is treated in the emergency room or is hospitalized for any reason regardless of age. Family/guardians will also be informed, if their student has an illness that may require an extended absence or withdrawal from the College or Academy.

7. Health Related Leave and Withdrawal

In unusual circumstances, the Wellness Center professional staff, in consultation with the Dean of Students, may recommend or compel a student to take a health-based extended absence or withdrawal for the student's own wellbeing and safety, or for the wellbeing and safety of the community. For students enrolled in the Academy, Deans may compel such a leave or withdrawal as warranted. For full information about the Policy on leave and withdrawal, see III Academic Affairs. Prior to returning to Simon's Rock, a parent/guardian must speak with the Wellness Director to determine when and how the student returns to school after time away for health-related issues in order to ensure the appropriate supports are available and in place. Recommendations will then be shared with the Dean of Students and Equitable Community.

8. Prescription Medication Policies

a. Academy Prescription Medication Policy

The Academy forbids the misuse or misappropriation of prescription drugs. Misuse includes taking a prescription drug or being in possession of a prescription drug that has been prescribed for a different person. Misappropriation includes acquiring drugs from any source other than the student's healthcare provider or the Wellness Center; it also includes cases when a student provides a prescription drug to another student who is not the intended recipient of that drug. Psychotropic medication, a class of medication that requires special supervision, may only be used in strict accordance with the Psychotropic Medication Policy, which is available upon request from the Wellness Center and is outlined below.

Residential students of the Academy are permitted to have prescription medications in their rooms with the exception of psychotropic medications, such as:

- Stimulants (Ritalin, Concerta, Vyvanse, Adderall, etc.)
- Opiate pain medication (Percocet, Codeine, Vicodin, etc.)
- Anxiety medications that are benzodiazepines (Xanax, Ativan, Klonopin, etc.)
- Antipsychotics (Seroquel, Abilify, etc.)
- Sleeping pills (Ambien, Restoril, etc.)

Psychotropic medications will be dispensed by the Wellness Center staff weekly at a time determined with the student. It is the responsibility of the student to pick up the medication and take it at the prescribed time. Parents/guardians will be notified if student compliance is inconsistent.

b. College Prescription Medication Policy

College students are allowed to keep their personal prescription medication in their assigned living unit, and are expected to manage it, as would any reasonable person under the proper care of a physician. Misuse or abuse of any medication is a violation of the Code of Student Conduct and will be addressed accordingly. The College is not responsible for replacing prescription medication that is lost or stolen from living units or personal belongings.

Simon's Rock forbids the misuse or misappropriation of prescription drugs. Misuse includes taking a prescription drug or being in possession of a prescription drug that has been prescribed for a different person. Misappropriation includes acquiring drugs from any source other than the student's healthcare provider or the Wellness Center; it also includes cases when a student provides a prescription drug to another student who is not the intended recipient of that drug.

9. Prescription Refills

Students can work with the Wellness Services staff to arrange for prescription refills at a local pharmacy. Simon's Rock works directly with Lenox Village Integrative Pharmacy in Lenox, MA, which will deliver individually packaged medications to the Wellness Center Monday through Friday. To arrange such service, students should contact the Wellness Center via email or phone to arrange a consultation with a nurse. Alternatively, students may choose to pick up their own prescription medication from other pharmacies in Great Barrington.

10. Transportation to Health Related Appointments

By request, the staff can assist students as they arrange their own transportation to off-campus medical appointments. The transportation is typically arranged with a transportation service and will be contingent on the available transportation options at the time of the request. The Wellness Center works in collaboration with Transportation to assess available options. Transportation costs are the responsibility of the student and/or family.

APPENDIX A: NOTIFICATION OF RIGHTS UNDER FERPA

The **Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)** protects the privacy of student education records. FERPA gives parents certain rights with respect to their children's education records. These rights transfer from the parent to the student when the student reaches the age of 18 or attends a postsecondary institution at any age. Students to whom the rights have transferred are "eligible students."

Parents or eligible students have the following rights:

- The right to inspect and review the student's education records within 45 days after the day that Simon's Rock receives a request for access. A parent or eligible student should submit to the registrar or dean, a written request that identifies the record(s) the parent or eligible student wishes to inspect. The school official will make arrangements for access and notify the parent or eligible student of the time and place where the records may be inspected. If the records are not maintained by the school official to whom the request was submitted, that official shall advise the parent or eligible student of the correct official to whom the request should be addressed.
- The right to request the amendment of the student's education records that the parent or eligible student believes is inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the privacy rights under FERPA. A parent or eligible student who wishes to ask Simon's Rock to amend a record should write to the Dean of Studies, clearly identify the part of the record that they want changed, and specify why it should be changed. If Simon's Rock decides not to amend the record as requested, Simon's Rock will notify the parent or eligible student in writing of the decision and the parent or eligible student's right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the parent or eligible student when notified of the right to a hearing.
- The right to provide written consent before Simon's Rock discloses Personally Identifiable Information (PII) from the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent. Simon's Rock discloses education records without a parent or eligible student's prior written consent under the FERPA exception for disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official is typically a person employed by Simon's Rock in an administrative, supervisory, academic, research, or support staff position (including Campus Safety, Campus Life, and the Wellness Center staff); a person serving on the board of trustees; or a student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee. A school official also may include a volunteer or contractor outside of Simon's Rock who performs an institutional service or function for which the school would otherwise use its own employees and who is under the direct control of the school with respect to the use and maintenance of PII from education records, such as an attorney, auditor, or collection agent or a student volunteering to assist another school official in performing their tasks. A school official typically has

a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill their professional responsibilities for Simon's Rock.

- The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the Simon's Rock to comply with the requirements of FERPA.

The name and address of the office that administers FERPA is: Family Policy Compliance Office
U.S. Department of Education 400 Maryland Avenue,
SW Washington, DC 20202

FERPA permits the disclosure of PII from students' education records, without consent of the parent or eligible student, if the disclosure meets certain conditions found in § 99.31 of the FERPA regulations. Except for disclosures to school officials, disclosures related to some judicial orders or lawfully issued subpoenas, disclosures of directory information, and disclosures to the parent or eligible student, § 99.32 of FERPA regulations requires the institution to record the disclosure. Parents or eligible students have a right to inspect and review the record of disclosures. A postsecondary institution may disclose PII from the education records without obtaining prior written consent of the parent or eligible student —

- To other school officials, including teachers, within Simon's Rock whom the school has determined to have legitimate educational interests. This includes contractors, consultants, volunteers, or other parties to whom the school has outsourced institutional services or functions, provided that the conditions listed in § 99.31(a)(1)(i)(B)(1) - (a)(1)(i)(B)(3) are met. (§ 99.31(a)(1))
- To officials of another school where the student seeks or intends to enroll, or where the student is already enrolled if the disclosure is for purposes related to the student's enrollment or transfer, subject to the requirements of § 99.34. (§ 99.31(a)(2))
- To authorized representatives of the U. S. Comptroller General, the U.S. Attorney General, the U.S. Secretary of Education, or State and local educational authorities, such as a State postsecondary authority that is responsible for supervising the university's State-supported education programs. Disclosures under this provision may be made, subject to the requirements of §99.35, in connection with an audit or evaluation of Federal- or State-supported education programs, or for the enforcement of or compliance with Federal legal requirements that relate to those programs. These entities may make further disclosures of PII to outside entities that are designated by them as their authorized representatives to conduct any audit, evaluation, or enforcement or compliance activity on their behalf. (§§ 99.31(a)(3) and 99.35)
- In connection with financial aid for which the student has applied or which the student has received, if the information is necessary to determine eligibility for the aid, determine the amount of the aid, determine the conditions of the aid, or enforce the terms and conditions of the aid. (§ 99.31(a)(4)) To organizations conducting studies for, or on behalf of, the school, in order to: develop, validate, or administer predictive tests; (b) administer student aid programs; or (c) improve instruction. (§ 99.31(a)(6))
- To accrediting organizations to carry out their accrediting functions. (§ 99.31(a)(7))
- To parents of an eligible student if the student is a dependent for IRS tax purposes. (§ 99.31(a)(8));
- To comply with a judicial order or lawfully issued subpoena. (§ 99.31(a)(9));
- To appropriate officials in connection with a health or safety emergency, subject to § 99.36. (§ 99.31(a)(10));

- Information the school has designated as “directory information” under § 99.37. (§ 99.31(a)(11))
- To a victim of an alleged perpetrator of a crime of violence or a non-forcible sex offense, subject to the requirements of § 99.39. The disclosure may only include the final results of the disciplinary proceeding with respect to that alleged crime or offense, regardless of the finding. (§ 99.31(a)(13))
- To the general public, the final results of a disciplinary proceeding, subject to the requirements of § 99.39, if the school determines the student is an alleged perpetrator of a crime of violence or non-forcible sex offense and the student has committed a violation of the school’s rules or policies with respect to the allegation made against him or her. (§ 99.31(a)(14))
- To parents of a student regarding the student’s violation of any Federal, State, or local law, or of any rule or policy of the school, governing the use or possession of alcohol or a controlled substance if the school determines the student committed a disciplinary violation and the student is under the age of 21. (§99.31(a)(15))

1. Disclosure of Directory Information

In addition, Simon’s Rock may disclose, without consent, student “directory” information to third parties and has designated the following as directory information:

- Student name
- Address (home and email)
- Hometown
- Home telephone number
- Concentration or field of study
- Date and place of birth
- Full-or part-time status
- Current class year (e.g., sophomore)
- Dates of enrollment
- Date of graduation (past or anticipated)
- Graduation information as published in the College commencement program
- Academic awards and honors
- Most recent previous educational institution attended
- Study abroad programs

Third parties include but are not limited to:

- Prospective employers
- Other institutions of higher education
- Honor societies
- Licensing agencies
- Government agencies
- Lending agencies
- Insurance companies

Under FERPA, parents and eligible students have the right to withhold the disclosure of directory information. Requests to withhold must be filed with the Office of the Registrar within 10 days of the start of an academic semester. The form for making such requests can be obtained from the Registrar.

APPENDIX B: EQUITY AND TITLE IX: POLICY AND PROCEDURE

NOTE: Bard Academy and Simon's Rock at Bard College share a unified campus, faculty, staff, and administration. As such, a single Title IX and Equity Policy will apply equally to both institutions. Where there are procedural differences depending on the status of the student, such differences will be noted. For the purposes of this Policy, “the Institution” or “Simon’s Rock” will be understood to comprise both Simon's Rock at Bard College and Bard Academy at Simon’s Rock. “Student” will be understood to describe either a student of Simon's Rock at Bard College or a student of Bard Academy at Simon’s Rock.

A. INTRODUCTION

Simon’s Rock expects that no member of the Simon’s Rock community will discriminate against any other member – or any member’s guests. We see all community members as interdependent, yet functioning in roles that are far from interchangeable. We believe in respecting members of the Simon’s Rock community for their differing abilities, differing backgrounds, and differing contributions. We also believe that these differences can successfully mesh for a greater common good.

Within our diverse community, members will disagree from time to time. Simon's Rock expects that such disagreements will be addressed peacefully, through discussion and debate, rather than through force or confrontation. Therefore, while Simon's Rock seeks to ensure the rights of all to express themselves in words and actions, it also prohibits behavior that infringes on the rights of others or that digresses from Simon's Rock’s educational mission and purpose.

Because Simon's Rock takes allegations of discrimination, harassment, and sexual misconduct seriously, we will respond promptly to complaints in accordance with the procedures set forth herein; if such inappropriate conduct has occurred, we will act promptly to eliminate the conduct and impose such corrective action as is necessary, including disciplinary action where appropriate.

Simon's Rock, as well as state and federal laws, also prohibits retaliation against any person who, in good faith, reports, assists in reporting, or participates in an investigation of possible gender-based misconduct. Any retaliation against an individual who has complained about discrimination or harassment, or sexual misconduct or retaliation against individuals for cooperating with an investigation of a discrimination, or harassment, or sexual misconduct complaint is unlawful and will be investigated as a separate incident of harassment.

While overt forms of discrimination and harassment may be obvious, more subtle forms may be difficult to identify. It is also possible for words or behavior to be misunderstood, for personal conflicts to be misconstrued as harassment based on racial, sexual, or other differences, or for legitimate disagreement to feel like harassment to a person who holds an unpopular opinion. It is therefore incumbent on all members of the Simon's Rock community to recognize the seriousness of discriminating against or harassing someone and the seriousness of charging someone with these acts.

To ensure compliance with federal and state civil rights laws and regulations, and to affirm its commitment to equity in all aspects of its educational program or activity, Simon's Rock has developed the following internal policies and procedures that provide a prompt, fair, and impartial process for those involved in an allegation of discrimination or harassment on the basis of protected class status, allegation of sexual misconduct, or allegation of retaliation.

B. REPORTING HARASSMENT, DISCRIMINATION, OR SEXUAL MISCONDUCT

Any person may report harassment or discrimination whether or not the reporting individual is the person alleged to be the victim of conduct that could constitute discrimination, harassment, or sexual misconduct. Simon's Rock will respond promptly and meaningfully to any report. Additionally, all persons have the right to notify campus safety, local law enforcement, and/or state police; to be assisted by campus authorities in notifying law enforcement authorities if the individual so chooses; and to decline to notify such authorities. Students also have the right to receive assistance from appropriate Simon's Rock personnel in accessing off-campus resources to assist them in initiating legal proceedings in family court or civil court.

Any report of harassment or discrimination on the bases of a protected class other than sex may be directed to either:

Lauren Gretina
Interim Title IX Coordinator
Building: Bard Annandale Campus
Email: titleix@bard.edu
Phone Number: (413) 644-4252

Sarah Porter-Liddell
Dean of Students and Equitable Community
Building: Livingston Student Union
Email: sporterliddell@simons-rock.edu
Phone Number: (413) 644-4711

Reports of sexual harassment, discrimination on the basis of sex, or sexual misconduct may be directed to:

Lauren Gretina
Interim Title IX Coordinator
Building: Bard Annandale Campus
Email: titleix@bard.edu
Phone Number: (413) 644-4252

Monk Schane-Lydon
Deputy Title IX Coordinator
Building: Daniel Arts Center
Email: mschanelydon@simons-rock.edu
Phone Number: (413) 528-7277

Reports concerning harassment or discrimination of or by an employee on the bases of a protected class other than sex may additionally be directed to:

Phillip Morrison
Director of Finance and Administration
Building: Blodgett House
Email: pmorrison@simons-rock.edu
Phone Number: (413) 528-7204

Brendan Mathews
Dean of Faculty
Building: Hall College Center
Email: bmathews@simons-rock.edu
Phone Number: (413) 644-4710

1. Student Bill of Rights

All Students have the right to:

1. Make a report to local law enforcement and/or state police;
2. Have disclosures of domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, and sexual assault treated seriously;
3. Make a decision about whether or not to disclose a crime or violation and participate in the judicial or conduct process and/or criminal justice process free from pressure by the institution;
4. Participate in a process that is fair, impartial, and provides adequate notice and a meaningful opportunity to be heard;
5. Be treated with dignity and to receive from the institution courteous, fair, and respectful health care and counseling services, where available;
6. Be free from any suggestion that the reporting individual is at fault when these policy violations are committed, or should have acted in a different manner to avoid such policy violations;
7. Describe the incident to as few institutional representatives as practicable and not be required to unnecessarily repeat a description of the incident;
8. Be protected from retaliation by the institution, any student, the accused and/or the respondent, and/or their friends, family and acquaintances within the jurisdiction of the institution;
9. Access to at least one level of appeal of a determination;
10. Be accompanied by an advisor of choice who may assist and advise a reporting individual, accused, or respondent throughout the judicial or conduct process including during all meetings and hearings related to such process; and
11. Exercise civil rights and practice of religion without interference by the investigative, criminal justice, or judicial or conduct process of the institution.
12. Be presumed not responsible for the alleged conduct until a determination of responsibility is made at the conclusion of the grievance process.

2. Privacy and Parent Communication

Simon's Rock will make every effort to preserve the privacy of a report made to the Title IX Office. Simon's Rock will not share the identity of any individual who has made a report or is named in a report except as permitted by FERPA, as required by law, or as necessary in order to carry out a Supportive Measure, Investigation, or hearing resulting from this policy and procedure. The circle of people with this knowledge will be kept as tight as possible to preserve the parties' rights and privacy.

Due to the nature of the Investigative and Hearing procedures, Simon's Rock recognizes that students may benefit from additional communication with parents and/or guardians. As permitted by FERPA, Simon's Rock may communicate with parents/guardians in the following circumstances, but will usually consult with the student first before doing so:

- When there is a significant and articulable health and/or safety risk to a student;

- Where the nature of the report necessitates a mandated report of sexual abuse to the state of Massachusetts;
- When an Academy student who is under the age of 16 seeks supportive resources related to a matter that could rise to the level of a policy violation;
- When any Academy student participates in a Title IX and Equity process as a Complainant, Respondent, or as a Witness;
- When a College student who is under the age of 18 participates in a Title IX and Equity process as a Complainant or Respondent;
- When any student receives a disciplinary sanction of Social Probation or higher, with some exceptions to be determined by the Title IX Coordinator and/or the Dean of Students and Equitable Community or designee.

3. Time Limits on Reporting

There is no time limitation on providing notice/complaints to the Title IX Coordinator. However, if the Respondent is no longer subject to Simon's Rock's jurisdiction and/or significant time has passed, the ability to investigate, respond, and provide remedies may be more limited or impossible. When notice/complaint is affected by significant time delay, Simon's Rock will typically apply the policy in place at the time of the alleged misconduct..

4. Requests for Anonymity

A Complainant may, in certain circumstances, remain anonymous for the purposes of receiving Supportive Measures. However, upon the filing of a Complaint, triggering the grievance process, both parties will receive written notice of the pertinent details of the incident under investigation, which will include the identity of the Complainant, if known.

5. Filing an Anonymous Report

Anyone with knowledge of a potential violation of this policy may submit an anonymous report by visiting the Title IX Office's page on the Campus Portal.

6. 24/7 Reporting Access.

Community members may contact Campus Safety to speak with a Campus Safety Officer in order to file a report 24/7. When classes are in session, students may also request to speak with a Confidential Resource Provider. In all such circumstances, the reporting community member will be given information regarding their options, including the importance of preserving evidence and obtaining a sexual assault forensic examination. Campus Safety Officers will provide privacy, but will need to inform the Title IX Coordinator regarding the disclosure. Confidential Resource Providers will maintain confidentiality pursuant to college policy and state reporting requirements and will not need to inform the Title IX Coordinator regarding the disclosure.

C. REPORTING OBLIGATIONS

Any employee with knowledge of sexual harassment or sexual misconduct involving members of the Simon's Rock at Bard College community must notify the Title IX Coordinator. In addition, employees who are designated as Campus Safety Authorities under the CLERY Act must provide

the following information to the reporting individual at the first instance of disclosure of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking:

- You have the right to make a report to Campus Safety, local law enforcement, and/or state police, or choose not to report.
- You have the right to report the incident to your institution, Simon's Rock at Bard College.
- You have the right to be protected by Simon's Rock from retaliation for reporting an incident.
- You have the right to receive supportive measures, assistance and resources from Simon's Rock.

Employees are not, however, mandated to disclose when they themselves are a target of harassment or other misconduct under this policy.

Generally, in the College program, the following will not mandate a reporting obligation unless the Complainant clearly indicates that they desire a report to be made or seek a specific response from the College:

- Disclosures in climate surveys,
- Disclosures in classroom writing assignments or discussions,
- Disclosures made as human subjects research.

1. Privacy vs. Confidentiality

Most employees cannot offer full confidentiality. Confidentiality refers to the ability of identified confidential resources to not report crimes and violations to law enforcement or campus officials without permission from the disclosing party.

However, campus employees who cannot guarantee confidentiality will maintain privacy to the greatest extent possible. Information disclosed will be shared as necessary. Simon's Rock will limit the disclosure as much as practicable, even if the Title IX Coordinator determines that the request for confidentiality cannot be honored.

2. Mandated Reporter

Members of the Simon's Rock community who hold certain positions are considered "mandated reporters" under state law and required by law to report suspected abuse of minors, including sexual abuse, to the Massachusetts Department of Children and Families. These positions include, but are not limited to, teachers, educational administrators, police officers, physicians, nurses, medical treatment providers, social workers, preschool and after-school program staff, child-care providers, clergy, and guidance or family counselors. Reporting suspected abuse to Simon's Rock does not fulfill a mandated reporter's responsibility to report the abuse to the state.

D. TITLE IX and EQUITY POLICY

1. Applicability and Scope

Who This Policy Applies To: All members of the Simon's Rock community, including students, faculty, staff, and applicants for admission or employment, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity; and third parties (i.e., visitors, independent contractors, and others who are neither students nor employees), where their conduct is directed toward or otherwise affects Simon's Rock community members.

Where This Policy Applies To:: Conduct that occurs on campus, including online or electronic conduct initiated or received on campus or through use of College computing or network resources; and Conduct that occurs off campus, including online or electronic conduct, when the conduct: occurs in the context of an employment or education program or activity of Simon's Rock; has, or may have, the effect of continuing adverse effects on campus, including adverse impact on any member of the Simon's Rock community; has continuing adverse effects in an off campus employment or education program or activity, such as travel abroad, research, or internship programs; or has, or may have, the effect of contributing to a hostile environment in a Simon's Rock program or activity.

2. Prohibited Conduct

a. Discrimination

Simon's Rock at Bard College does not discriminate in admission, employment, education, or services on the basis of:

- Race;
- Color;
- Sex;
- Creed;
- Age;
- Gender identity or expression;
- Sexual orientation;
- Religion;
- National or ethnic origin;
- Disability;
- Marital status;
- Genetic information;
- Previous military service;
- Natural or protective hairstyles historically associated with race; or
- Any other class protected under state or federal law.

This policy is consistent with state mandates as well as federal statutes and regulation, including but not limited to, Executive Orders 11246 and 11375 as amended, Massachusetts Executive Order 74, Section 504 of the federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, and Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

Any member of the Simon's Rock community whose acts deny, deprive, or limit the admission, employment, education, services, benefits, and/or opportunities of any member of the Simon's Rock community, guest, or visitor on the basis of that person's actual or perceived membership in the protected classes listed above will be considered in violation of this policy.

b. Discriminatory Harassment

Discriminatory harassment is defined as unwelcome conduct by any member or group of the community on the basis of actual or perceived membership in a class protected by policy or law. Simon's Rock does not tolerate discriminatory harassment of any employee, student, visitor, or guest. Such conduct violates campus policy if it has the purpose or effect of creating a hostile environment.

For the purposes of this definition, a hostile environment is one that unreasonably interferes with, limits, or effectively denies an individual's educational or employment access, benefits, or opportunities. This discriminatory effect results from harassing verbal, written, graphic, or physical conduct that is severe or pervasive and objectively offensive. Simon's Rock will act to remedy all forms of harassment when reported, whether or not the harassment rises to the level of creating a "hostile environment."

c. Sexual Harassment:

- i. An employee of Simon's Rock conditioning the provision of an aid, benefit, or service of Simon's Rock on an individual's participation in unwelcome sexual conduct;
- ii. Unwelcome conduct determined by a reasonable person to be so severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive that it effectively denies a person equal access to Simon's Rock's education program or activity;
- iii. A single instance of Sexual Assault (rape, fondling, incest or statutory rape), Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, or Stalking.
 1. Sexual Assault: Any sexual act directed against another person, without the consent of the victim including instances where the victim is incapable of giving consent including:
 - a. Rape: The penetration, no matter how slight, of the vagina or anus with any body part or object, or oral penetration by a sex organ of another person, without the consent of the victim. Attempts or assaults to commit rape are also included; however, statutory rape and incest are excluded. This definition of rape includes:
 - i. The slightest penetration of the vagina by a penis without the consent of the victim, including instances where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of their age or because of

their temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity;

ii. Oral or anal sexual intercourse with another person, without the consent of the victim, including instances where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of their age or because of their temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity; or

iii. To use an object or instrument to unlawfully penetrate, however slightly, the genital or anal opening of the body of another person, without the consent of the victim, including instances where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of their age or because of their temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity. An “object” or “instrument” is anything used by the offender other than the offender’s genitalia, e.g., a finger, bottle, stick etc.

b. Fondling: The touching of the private body parts of another person for the purpose of sexual gratification, forcibly and/or against that person's will or not forcibly or against the person's will in instances where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of their age or because of his/her temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity.

c. Sexual Assault, Non-Forcible: Unlawful, non-forcible sexual intercourse including:

i. Incest: Sexual intercourse between persons who are related to each - other within the degrees wherein marriage is prohibited by law.

ii. Statutory Rape: Sexual intercourse with a person who is under the statutory age of consent, 16 in Massachusetts, in which there is no force or coercion used.

2. Domestic Violence: An act of violence committed:

a. By a current or former spouse or intimate partner of the victim;

b. By a person with whom the victim shares a child in common;

c. By a person who is cohabitating with, or has cohabitated with, the victim as a spouse or intimate partner;

d. By a person similarly situated to a spouse of the victim under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction in which the crime of violence occurred;

e. By any other person against an adult or youth victim who is protected from that person’s acts under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction in which the act of violence occurred.

3. **Dating Violence:** Violence committed by a person who is or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the victim. For the purposes of this definition:
 - a. The existence of such a relationship shall be determined based on the reporting party's statement and with consideration of the length of the relationship, the type of relationship, and the frequency of interaction between the persons involved in the relationship.
 - b. For the purposes of this definition, dating violence includes, but is not limited to, sexual or physical abuse or the threat of such abuse.
 - c. Dating violence does not include acts covered under the definition of domestic violence.
4. **Stalking:** Engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to fear for the person's safety or the safety of others; or suffer substantial emotional distress. For the purposes of this definition:
 - a. Course of conduct means two or more acts, including, but not limited to, acts in which the stalker directly, indirectly, or through third parties, by any action, method, device, or means, follows, monitors, observes, surveils, threatens, or communicates to or about a person, or interferes with a person's property.
 - b. Reasonable person means a reasonable person under similar circumstances and with similar identities to the victim.
 - c. Substantial emotional distress means significant mental suffering or anguish that may, but does not necessarily, require medical or other professional treatment or counseling.

d. Sexual Misconduct:

Sexual misconduct is a broad term encompassing any unwelcome behavior of a sexual nature that is committed without consent or by force, intimidation, coercion, or manipulation. Sexual Misconduct can be committed by a person of any gender, and it can occur between people of the same or different gender. Examples of Sexual Misconduct may include but are not limited to:

- iv. *Sexual Exploitation:* Sexual exploitation refers to a person taking sexual advantage of another, for their own benefit or for the benefit of anyone other than the person being exploited, without that person's consent.

Examples of behavior that could rise to the level of sexual exploitation include:

- Invasion of sexual privacy;
- Prostituting or soliciting another person or causing the prostitution of another person;
- Causing, or attempting to cause, a person to become incapacitated in order to take sexual advantage;
- Exposing one's genitals outside of consensual circumstances, or compelling another to expose their genitals;
- Viewing, video-recording, audio-recording or photographing sexual activity without consent of the all persons engaged in the sexual activity or enabling the same;
- Allowing third parties to observe consensual or non-consensual sexual acts;

- Knowingly infecting another person with a sexually transmitted infection or disease;
- Engaging in voyeurism;
- Distributing intimate or sexual information about another person without their explicit permission or consent.

- v. *Non-consensual Sexual Contact*: Non-consensual sexual contact involves intentional and unwelcome sexual touching, however slight, usually but not necessarily involving contact with genitals, breasts, groin, or buttocks by a body part or object, that is without consent. This definition includes making someone touch you or themselves on these same body parts or making intentional physical contact in a sexual manner, even if it does not involve contact with or by these body parts.

e. Retaliation

Retaliation constitutes any action that would intimidate, threaten, coerce, or discriminate against any individual for the purpose of interfering with any right or privilege secured by this policy, or because the individual has made a report or complaint, testified, assisted, or participated or refused to participate in any manner in an investigation, proceeding, or hearing. Such action will constitute a violation of this policy regardless of whether or not the action itself constitutes discrimination or harassment. Because Simon's Rock is obligated to ensure that the grievance process is not abused for retaliatory purposes, when a counterclaim is filed Simon's Rock will assess whether the allegations in the counterclaim are made in good faith or made for purposes of retaliation.

E. ADDITIONAL DEFINITIONS

1. Complainant

Complainant means an individual who is alleged to be the victim of conduct that could constitute a violation of the Title IX and Equity policy.

2. Complaint

Complaint means an oral or written request to Simon's Rock that objectively can be understood as a request for Simon's Rock to investigate and make a determination about alleged discrimination under this Policy.

3. Respondent

Respondent means an individual who has been reported to be the perpetrator of conduct that could constitute a violation of the Title IX and Equity policy.

4. Parties

Refers to Complainant(s) and Respondent(s) involved in a grievance process.

5. Consent

Consent is a knowing, voluntary, and mutual decision among all participants to engage in sexual activity. Consent can be given by words or actions. For behavior that is classified as sexual activity as defined below, consent must be affirmative which means that those words or actions create clear permission regarding willingness to engage in the sexual activity. In all circumstances, the following principles underscore the definition of Consent and Affirmative Consent:

- Although consent does not need to be verbal, verbal communication is the most reliable form of asking for and gauging consent.
- Silence or lack of resistance, in and of itself, does not demonstrate consent.
- Consent to any sexual act or prior consensual sexual activity between or with any party does not necessarily constitute consent to any other sexual act.
- Consent is required regardless of whether the person initiating the act is under the influence of drugs and/or alcohol.
- Consent may be initially given but withdrawn at any time.
- Consent cannot be given when a person is incapacitated, which occurs when an individual lacks the ability to knowingly choose to participate in sexual activity. Incapacitation may be caused by the lack of consciousness or being asleep, being involuntarily restrained, or if an individual otherwise cannot consent. Depending on the degree of intoxication, someone who is under the influence of alcohol, drugs, or other intoxicants may be incapacitated and therefore unable to consent.
- Consent cannot be given when it is the result of any coercion, intimidation, force, or threat of harm.
- When consent is withdrawn or can no longer be given, sexual activity must stop.
- Whether a person has taken advantage of a position of influence over another person may be a factor in determining consent.
- Consent cannot be obtained when a person has a mental, intellectual, or physical disability which limits their capacity to give consent or is under the legal age to give consent. The legal age of consent for non-penetrative sexual touching in Massachusetts is 14. The legal age of consent for penetrative sexual activity in Massachusetts is 16.
- The definition of consent does not vary based upon a participant's sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression.

The burden of proof of consent or non-consent is not placed on either party involved in a case. Rather, the burden remains on Simon's Rock to determine whether policy has been violated.

6. Sexual Activity

Sexual Activity is defined as:

- Contact between the penis and the vulva or the penis and the anus, and for purposes of this subparagraph contact involving the penis occurs upon penetration, however slight;
- Contact between the mouth and the penis, the mouth and the vulva, or the mouth and the anus;
- The penetration, however slight, of the anal or genital opening of another by a hand or finger or by any object, with an intent to abuse, humiliate, harass, degrade, or arouse or gratify the sexual desire of any person; or

- The intentional touching, either directly or through the clothing, of the genitalia, anus, groin, breast, inner thigh, or buttocks of any person with an intent to abuse, humiliate, harass, degrade, or arouse or gratify the sexual desire of any person.

7. Incapacitation

Incapacitation is the inability to make informed, rational, reasonable judgments and decisions, because the person lacks the ability to understand their decision. Someone who is unconscious, asleep, or involuntarily restrained cannot consent to sexual activity. If alcohol or drugs are involved, incapacitation may be measured by evaluating how the substance affects a person's decision-making capacity, awareness, and ability to make informed judgments.

Incapacitation is a state beyond drunkenness or intoxication. The impact of alcohol and drugs varies from person to person; however, warning signs of possible incapacitation include but are not limited to; slurred speech, unsteadiness, impaired coordination, inability to perform personal tasks such as undressing, inability to maintain eye contact, vomiting, and sudden change in emotion.

With regard to consent, the question is whether the Respondent knew, or a sober, reasonable person in the position of the Respondent should have known, that the other person was incapacitated by alcohol or otherwise.

Incapacitation is determined by a student conduct or investigation process based on available evidence, acknowledging that in almost no cases will scientific evidence of alcohol or drug level (such as a breathalyzer taken at the time of the assault) be available. There is no single standard or number of drinks that leads to incapacitation. This level varies for different people, and may depend in part on their age, gender, height, weight, metabolism and whether and how much they have recently eaten. This provision does not mean that individuals cannot affirmatively consent to sexual activity or contact when they have been drinking or using drugs. Such individuals may still affirmatively consent through words or actions that clearly indicate interest in engaging in the activity.

8. Coercion

Coercion is unreasonable pressure used to compel someone to engage in sexual activity against their will. Coercion may include intimidation, manipulation, or threats. Coercion is evaluated by assessing the duration, frequency, and intensity of the verbal and/or physical conduct, as well as the degree of isolation or confinement. When a person makes clear that they do not want to participate in sexual activity, that they want to stop sexual activity, or that they do not want to go past a certain point of sexual interaction, continued pressure can be coercive.

9. Hostile Environment

An intimidating or offensive environment that causes a person to be fearful or a setting that denies, limits, or interferes with a person's ability to participate in or benefit from a program, activity, or job.

10. Title IX Coordinator

The Title IX Coordinator or their designee has the primary responsibility for coordinating Simon's Rock's efforts related to the intake, investigation, resolution, and implementation of supportive measures to stop, remediate, and prevent discrimination, harassment, and retaliation prohibited under this policy.

11. Decision-Maker

The Decision-Maker will either be an employee of Simon's Rock trained in adjudications of misconduct, or, at the discretion of the Title IX Coordinator, a neutral third party selected by the Title IX Coordinator. The Decision-Maker is responsible for overseeing the hearing, maintaining an orderly, fair, and respectful hearing. The Decision-Maker will ask relevant questions of any party or witness during the hearing.

12. Investigator

Investigations will be conducted by a trained, impartial Investigator who may, at times, be assisted by one other investigator. The investigator(s) will either be an employee of Bard College or Simon's Rock at Bard College trained to conduct such investigations; the Title IX Coordinator or Deputy Title IX Coordinator; or a neutral third party selected by the Title IX Coordinator.

13. Hate Crime

A hate crime is motivated by bias and can include the types of incidents described in this policy, but it includes a definable crime, such as: threats of violence, property damage, personal injury, and other illegal conduct. If you think you have been the victim of a hate crime you may, in addition to the reporting mechanisms described herein, file a report with the Massachusetts State Police or local law enforcement agency. What constitutes a criminal act will be defined by the penal code of the jurisdiction in which the misconduct allegedly occurred. The Simon's Rock system and the legal system have investigation processes that work independently of each other and can happen concurrently.

14. Bystander

Bystander means a person who observes a crime, impending crime, conflict, potentially violent or violent behavior, or conduct that is in violation of rules or policies of an institution.

F. RESPONDING TO REPORTS

1. Supportive Measures

Simon's Rock will provide supportive measures to the complainant whether or not a grievance process is initiated. In the case that a grievance is filed, these supportive measures will also be offered to the Respondent, if known. Supportive measures are non-disciplinary, non-punitive

individualized services designed to restore or preserve equal access without unreasonably burdening the other party. Confidentiality as to any supportive measures provided will be provided to the extent that maintaining such confidentiality would not impair the ability of Simon's Rock to provide the supportive measures. Simon's Rock will determine the necessity and scope of any supportive measure and has the discretion to issue, modify, or remove any supportive measure or accommodation due to new information or change in circumstances. Supportive measures may be offered at Simon's Rock's discretion regardless of whether or not the alleged conduct would constitute a violation of the Title IX and Equity policy. The range of supportive measures may include but are not limited to:

- Mutual No-Contact Directives;
- Academic accommodations, including a change in class schedule, taking an incomplete, dropping a course without penalty, attending a class via Zoom or other alternative means, providing an academic tutor, or extending deadlines for assignments;
- Change of residence hall assignment;
- Change in work assignment or schedule;
- Counseling available to students through our Wellness Center;
- Safety Planning

Both the Respondent and the reporting individual shall, upon request and consistent with the Simon's Rock's policies and procedures, be afforded a prompt review, reasonable under the circumstances, of the need for and terms of any such supportive measure and accommodation that directly affects them, and shall be allowed to submit evidence in support of their request.

Within five (5) calendar days of receiving notice of any supportive measure, any party may seek to modify or reverse the decision regarding the implementation of any supportive measure applicable to them, if the decision to provide, deny, or modify the supportive measure is inconsistent with the definition above. Students may also seek to modify supportive measures in the event of a material change of circumstances.

2. Mutual No-Contact Directives

When the Respondent or Complainant is a student, the Complainant or Respondent may request that Simon's Rock issue a "no contact order" consistent with institution policies and procedures, whereby continued intentional contact with the other party would be a violation of institutional policy subject to additional conduct charges.

Simon's Rock may establish an appropriate schedule for the Respondent and Complainant to access applicable institution buildings and property at a time when such buildings and property are not being accessed by the other party.

Both the Respondent and the Complainant shall be afforded a prompt review, reasonable under the circumstances, of the need for and terms of a no contact order, including potential modification, and shall be allowed to submit evidence in support of his or her request.

3. Protective Orders

No contact orders are institutional documents that do not have the legal effect of orders of protection, which are obtained through a court. Students have the right to be assisted in obtaining a protective order or, if outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, an equivalent protective or restraining order.

When a student, either Complainant or Respondent, receives a copy of an order of protection or equivalent, they will be given an opportunity to seek assistance in connecting with an appropriate resource, either on-campus through Campus Safety or off-campus through the Elizabeth Freeman Center, to explain the order and answer questions about it, including information from the order about the accused's responsibility to stay away from the protected person or persons.

4. Amnesty

The health and safety of every student is of utmost importance. Bard College and Bard Academy at Simon's Rock recognize that students who have been drinking and/or using drugs (whether such use is voluntary or involuntary) at the time that violence, including but not limited to domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, or sexual assault occurs may be hesitant to report such incidents due to fear of potential consequences for their own conduct. Bard College and Bard Academy at Simon's Rock strongly encourage students to report any potential domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, or sexual assault to institution officials. A bystander acting in good faith or a reporting individual acting in good faith that discloses any incident of domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, or sexual assault to Bard College and Bard Academy at Simon's Rock's officials or law enforcement will not be subject to Bard College and Bard Academy at Simon's Rock's code of conduct action for violations of alcohol and/or drug use policies occurring at or near the time of the commission of the domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, or sexual assault.

Further, such amnesty will be additionally extended 1) to protect any bystander acting in good faith or a reporting individual acting in good faith that discloses a potential violation of any other provision contained within the Title IX and Equity policy and 2) to provide amnesty for any other minor policy violations of the Student Code of Conduct or Employee Handbook as deemed appropriate by the Title IX Coordinator.

Simon's Rock may, however, initiate an educational discussion or pursue other educational remedies regarding alcohol or other drugs. The amnesty policy applies to Simon's Rock's student conduct process and processes pursuant to the Employee Handbook. The Title IX Coordinator, Deputy, or designee will determine what policy violations will be considered "minor" and therefore eligible for amnesty in this context.

G. CONFIDENTIAL RESOURCE PROVIDERS

Confidential Resource Providers (CRPs) are designated individuals who can connect students with supportive measures and information about the policies and processes within the Title IX Office. If you report an incident to a CRP, that individual will not contact the Title IX Office without your permission. A CRP will:

- Provide required information to the reporting party, including the reporting options and information on the disciplinary process and legal processes.
- Review a reporting party's rights and the institution's responsibilities regarding a protection order, no-contact order and any other lawful orders issued by the institution or court.
- Coordinate on-campus or off-campus sexual assault crisis service center or domestic violence program.
- Arrange possible interim school-based supportive measures to allow the reporting party to change academic, living, campus transportation, or working arrangements in response to the alleged sexual misconduct.

Students may submit a request to meet with a CRP at the Wellness Center via the request form located at portal.simons-rock.edu.

H. FILING A COMPLAINT

In cases where Students, Faculty, or Staff have experienced misconduct prohibited under the Title IX Policy and the Equity Policy they may file a Complaint by:

- Meeting in person with the Title IX or Deputy Title IX Coordinator
- Emailing a written Complaint to the Title IX or Deputy Title IX Coordinator
- Mailing a written Complaint to the Title IX or Deputy Title IX Coordinator

Lauren Gretina
Interim Title IX Coordinator
Building: Bard Annandale Campus
Email: titleix@bard.edu
Phone Number: (413) 644-4252
Address: 84 Alford Road, Great Barrington MA 01230

Simon's Rock has determined that the following administrators are Officials with Authority who may also accept Complaints on behalf of the Title IX Coordinator:

Monk Shane-Lydon
Deputy Title IX Coordinator
Building: Daniel Arts Center
Email: titleix@simons-rock.edu
Phone Number: (413) 644-4252
Address: 84 Alford Road, Great Barrington MA 01230

Jacob Testa
Interim Deputy Title IX Coordinator
Building: Bard Annandale Campus
Email: titleix@simons-rock.edu
Phone Number: (413) 528-7277
Address: 84 Alford Road, Great Barrington MA 01230

Sarah Porter-Liddell
Dean of Students and Equitable Community
Building: Livingston Student Union
Email: sporterliddell@simons-rock.edu
Phone Number: (413) 644-4711

Brendan Mathews
Dean of Faculty and Curricular Development
Building: Hall College Center
Email: bmathews@simons-rock.edu
Phone Number: (413) 644-4710
Address: 84 Alford Road, Great Barrington MA 01230

Phillip Morrison
Director of Finance and Administration
Building: Blodgett House
Email: pmorrison@simons-rock.edu
Phone Number: (413) 528-7204
Address: 84 Alford Road, Great Barrington MA 01230

In instances where the person who has experienced the alleged conduct is enrolled in the Academy or seeking to access the educational programs of the Academy, Simon's Rock recognizes that the parent or legal guardian of that student may file a Complaint on behalf of their student and represent their student during any investigation or proceedings.

When submitting a Complaint, the Complaint should take care to describe the incident in as much detail as possible including full names (when known), dates, times and locations.

Simon's Rock does not limit the timeframe for filing a Complaint. Individuals may come forward at any time, including after they are no longer enrolled or employed. Simon's Rock may pursue a report made at any time; however, the passage of time may limit Simon's Rock's ability to investigate and respond.

Requests for Confidentiality

A reporting party may disclose an incident but request confidentiality, that no investigation into the particular incident be pursued, and/or that no action through Simon's Rock's process be taken. In such instances, if the Title IX Coordinator has made an initial assessment that the conduct as alleged would constitute Prohibited Conduct, the Title IX Coordinator will assess whether the conduct alleged by the complainant presents an imminent and serious threat to the health or safety of any individual, or prevents Simon's Rock from ensuring equal access based on sex to Simon's Rock's education program or activity.

A range of factors may be considered in making this assessment, including, but not limited to:

- The complainant's request not to proceed with a Complaint or to remain anonymous;
- The complainant's reasonable safety concerns regarding the initiation of a Complaint;
- Whether the alleged act was committed with a weapon;

- The risk that additional acts of Prohibited Conduct would occur if a Complaint were not initiated;
- The severity of the alleged conduct, including whether, if Prohibited Conduct were found to have occurred, the sanction would require the removal of the respondent or imposition of another disciplinary sanction to end the conduct and prevent its recurrence;
- The age and relationship of the parties, including whether the respondent is a Simon's Rock employee;
- The scope of the allegations, including whether there is a pattern of ongoing conduct or similar conduct is alleged to have affected multiple individuals;
- The availability of evidence; and
- Whether Simon's Rock could end the alleged conduct or discrimination and prevent its recurrence without initiating the grievance procedures in this policy.

The presence of one or more of these factors could lead Simon's Rock to investigate and, if appropriate, pursue action against the accused party. Simon's Rock will notify the reporting party and may address any safety concerns of the reporting party or others by implementing supportive measures prior to initiating the investigation. If none of these factors are present, Simon's Rock will likely respect the reporting party's request.

Similarly, a reporting party may desire to have investigatory or disciplinary action taken, but may wish to have their identity as the reporting party kept confidential. Depending on the circumstances, this may or may not be possible. If any number of people could have reported the incident (for instance, if it occurred in the classroom), it may be possible for the reporting party's identity to remain confidential and not shared with the responding party. However, in other cases, it may not be possible to proceed with investigatory or disciplinary action without revealing the identity of the reporting party.

If Simon's Rock honors a reporting party's request for confidentiality and the reporting party decides not to participate in an investigation, and/or makes an anonymous complaint, Simon's Rock's ability to meaningfully investigate the incident or pursue action against the accused party may be limited.

If Simon's Rock determines that it cannot maintain a reporting party's confidentiality, Simon's Rock will inform the reporting party prior to an investigation and, to the extent possible, share information only with a limited number of personnel responsible for handling Simon's Rock's response. Simon's Rock will not require a reporting party to participate in any investigation or disciplinary proceeding. Simon's Rock will take ongoing steps to protect the reporting party from retaliation or harm and work with the reporting party to create a safety plan.

Because Simon's Rock is under a continuing obligation to address the issue of discrimination, harassment, and sexual or gender-based misconduct campus-wide, reports of that nature (including non-identifying reports) will also prompt Simon's Rock to consider broader remedial action—such as increased monitoring, supervision, or security at locations where the reported acts occurred; increasing education and prevention efforts, including to targeted population groups; and/or revisiting its policies and practices.

Filing a Criminal Report

Grievance proceedings under this policy are not criminal proceedings. To file a criminal report, individuals may contact:

Great Barrington Police Department
465 Main Street
Great Barrington, MA 01230
Business Line: (413) 528-0306
For emergencies, dial 911

Massachusetts State Police
Phone: (508) 820-2300
470 Worcester Road
Framingham, MA 01702

I. PRELIMINARY REVIEW AND NOTIFICATION

All Complaints will be reviewed by the Title IX Coordinator. At their discretion, the Title IX Coordinator may convene a panel to consider whether or not a Complaint describes a potential violation of the Equity and Title IX policy. Members of this panel may include but are not limited to: the Deputy Title IX Coordinator, the Director of Finance and Administration, the Vice Provost, the Dean of Students and Equitable Community, the Dean of Studies, and the Dean of Faculty and Curricular Development.

1. Acceptance of a Complaint

If the Title IX Coordinator determines that a Complaint describes a potential violation of the Title IX and Equity Policy, the Title IX Coordinator will notify both the Complainant and Respondent. This notification will include:

- Notice of Simon's Rock's Title IX and Equity Policy and Grievance Process.
- Notice of the allegations and sufficient details known at the time the notice is issued, such as the identities of the parties involved in the incident, if known, including the Complainant and the date and location of the alleged incident, if known.
- A statement that the Respondent is presumed not responsible for the alleged conduct and that a determination regarding responsibility is made at the conclusion of the grievance process.
- A statement that the parties may have an Advisor of their choice, who may be, but is not required to be, an attorney.
- A statement that before the conclusion of the investigation, the parties may inspect and review evidence obtained as part of the investigation that is directly related to the allegations raised in the Complaint, including the evidence upon which Simon's Rock does not intend to rely in reaching a determination regarding responsibility, and evidence that both tends to prove or disprove the allegations, whether obtained from a party or other source.
- A statement that Simon's Rock prohibits knowingly making false statements or knowingly submitting false information during the grievance process.
- Notice that if during the course of the investigation additional allegations give rise to additional Complaints, the parties will be notified in writing.

2. Ongoing Notice

If, in the course of an investigation, Simon's Rock decides to investigate allegations about the Complainant or Respondent that are not included in the Notice of Allegations or a new Complainant

is submitted in relation to the same matter, Simon's Rock will notify the parties whose identities are known of the additional allegations. The parties will be provided sufficient time to review the additional allegations to prepare a response before any initial interview regarding those additional charges.

All notices provided throughout the process will be delivered by campus email. Students are therefore expected to remain diligent in checking their campus email each day. Failure to check a campus email account will in and of itself not constitute a reasonable cause for delay.

3. Dismissal of a Complaint

At any time, Simon's Rock may dismiss a Complaint if, among others:

- Simon's Rock is unable to identify the Respondent after taking reasonable steps to do so;
- The Respondent is not participating in Simon Rock's education program or activity;
- The Complainant voluntarily withdraws any or all of the allegations in the Complaint and provides Simon's Rock with written notice of the withdrawal; or
- The allegations would not constitute Prohibited Conduct even if proved.

Such a dismissal does not preclude action under another provision of the Employee Handbook, the student code of conduct, or the equity policy.

Upon a dismissal, written notice of the dismissal and reason(s) will be provided simultaneously to the parties and will contain written notice of their right to appeal.

In the interest of preserving a fair process for all involved and the timely resolution of a Complaint, in instances where a Complaint is dismissed in response to a request to withdraw the Complaint by the Complainant, the Complaint may not be reinstated at a later date if the matter has already proceeded to investigation at the time that the request to withdraw the Complaint was submitted.

J. ADVISORS OF CHOICE

Both the Respondent and the Complainant have the right to one Advisor of their choice. An Advisor serves as a support person for the parties during investigative meetings and the hearing. If requested, the Title IX Coordinator will work with the Complainant and the Respondent to connect each with a faculty or staff member who can act as an Advisor. Advisors are not permitted to advocate for their party or speak on their behalf during any meeting with the investigator, the Title IX Coordinator, or during the hearing. Simon's Rock will not intentionally schedule meetings or hearings on dates where the Advisors for all parties are not available. However, Simon's Rock expects that Advisors act reasonably in providing available dates and work collegially to find dates and times that meet all schedules.

Simon's Rock's obligations to investigate and adjudicate in a prompt timeframe under Title IX and other campus policies apply to matters governed under this Policy, and Simon's Rock cannot agree to extensive delays solely to accommodate the schedule of an Advisor. The determination of what is reasonable shall be made by the Title IX Coordinator or designee. Simon's Rock will not be obligated to delay a meeting or hearing under this process more than five (5) business days due to

the unavailability of an Advisor, and may offer the party the opportunity to obtain a different Advisor or utilize one provided by Simon's Rock. The Title IX Coordinator will consider requests made to delay or reschedule a meeting or other proceedings and will make the final determination with respect to that request.

The Advisor's name and relationship to a party (e.g., student, faculty member, family member, attorney, etc.) will be disclosed to the investigator or Decision-Maker 24 hours prior to any meeting with the investigator or Decision-Maker.

K. EMERGENCY REMOVAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE LEAVE

1. Emergency Removal

Simon's Rock retains the authority to remove a Respondent from Simon's Rock's program or activity on an emergency basis, where Simon's Rock (1) undertakes an individualized safety and risk analysis and (2) determines that an immediate threat to the health or safety of any student or other individual, including the Respondent, arising from the allegations of covered sexual harassment justifies a removal. This safety and risk analysis may be performed by or in consultation with the Title IX Coordinator, the Director of Wellness, the Dean of Students and Equitable Community, the Director of Campus Safety, or any of their designees. Emergency removals include but are not limited to:

- Restricting a student's access to campus as a whole;
- Restricting access to Simon's Rock's campus and educational program as a whole;
- Restricting participation in extracurricular activities, student employment, student organizational leadership, or athletics.

When an emergency removal is performed in response to a report of sexual misconduct, the Complainant will be informed of the emergency removal of the Respondent.

2. Safety and Risk Analysis

When performing a safety and risk analysis, Simon's Rock will consider many factors relevant to the individual circumstances. These factors may include but are not limited to:

- The existence of an immediate threat to the health or physical safety of one or more individuals, including threats of physical self-harm;
- The Respondent's propensity, opportunity, and ability to effectuate a stated or potential threat;
- Risk and protective factors;
- Objective evidence;
- Current medical knowledge or information provided by a licensed evaluator.

The determination will be fact-specific and nuanced, subject to a careful evaluation whether appropriate supportive measures are a more appropriate and less restrictive means to negate or sufficiently minimize the likelihood of a threat's occurrence.

If Simon's Rock determines such Emergency Removal is necessary, the Respondent will be provided notice and an opportunity to challenge the decision immediately following the Emergency Removal.

When the Respondent is given notice of the Emergency Removal, such notice will include a written summary of the basis for the emergency removal and the opportunity to appeal the emergency removal through a meeting with the Title IX Coordinator where the Respondent will be given the opportunity to show cause as to why the removal should not be implemented.

3. Administrative Leave

Simon's Rock retains authority to place a non-student employee Respondent on administrative leave during any Grievance Process, consistent with the Employee Handbook.

L. INVESTIGATION

When a Complaint is accepted Simon's Rock will open an Investigation. Investigations will be conducted by a trained, impartial investigator who may, at times, be assisted by one other investigator. The investigator(s) will either be an employee of Bard College or Simon's Rock at Bard College trained to conduct such investigations; the Title IX Coordinator or Deputy Title IX Coordinator; or a neutral third party selected by the Title IX Coordinator.

The investigator will speak with the parties, as well as all relevant witnesses, and will gather and review all information and evidence.

After speaking with each individual, the investigator will document the conversations. The Investigator will also provide the parties and witnesses with an opportunity to review and verify the Investigator's summary notes from interviews and meetings with that specific party or witness. Each party will be allowed the opportunity to suggest questions they wish the Investigator(s) to ask of the other party and witnesses. Conversations with the investigator are not confidential and information disclosed to the investigator may be incorporated into the investigative report regardless of whether or not the witness or party participates in the review process. While the decision to participate in any interview with the investigator is voluntary, requests to withdraw testimony once provided to the investigator will not be granted.

The Investigator will also gather any available physical or medical evidence, including documents, communications between the parties, and other electronic records, each as provided by the parties or witnesses, as appropriate. In gathering such information, the investigator will comply with applicable laws, regulations, and campus policies. As part of the investigation, Simon's Rock will provide an equal opportunity to present witnesses, and other inculpatory and exculpatory evidence. The investigation will be thorough, impartial, and fair, and all individuals will be treated with appropriate sensitivity and respect.

1. Notice of Meetings

Parties whose participation is invited or expected will be given written notice of the date, time, and location of any meeting with the investigator with sufficient time for the party to prepare.

2. Evidence Review

Prior to the completion of the Investigation, the parties will have an equal opportunity to inspect and review evidence obtained through the investigation. The purpose of the inspection and review process is to allow each party the equal opportunity to meaningfully respond to the evidence prior to conclusion of the investigation.

Evidence that will be available for inspection and review by the parties will be any evidence that is directly related to the allegations raised in the Complaint. It will include any:

- Evidence that is relevant;
- Inculpatory or exculpatory evidence (i.e. evidence that tends to prove or disprove the allegations) that is directly related to the allegations, whether obtained from a party or other source.

All parties must submit any evidence they would like the investigator to consider prior to when the parties' time to inspect and review evidence begins.

Simon's Rock will provide the evidence to each party and each party's Advisor, if any, to inspect and review through an electronic format or a hard copy. Simon's Rock is not under any obligation to use any specific process or technology to provide the evidence and shall have the sole discretion in terms of determining format and any restrictions or limitations on access.

The parties will have ten (10) business days to inspect and review the evidence and submit a written response by email to the Investigator. The Investigator will consider the parties' written responses before completing the Investigative Report. Simon's Rock will provide copies of the parties' written responses to the Investigator to all parties and their advisors, if any.

Evidence obtained in the investigation that is determined in the reasoned judgment of the Investigator not to be directly related to the allegations in the Complaint will not be disclosed, or may be appropriately redacted before the parties' inspection to avoid disclosure of personally identifiable information of other students.

All parties and Advisors must agree to the conditions put forth in the Agreement Regarding Evidence Disclosed (Appendix B.1).

3. Follow-up Interviews

If additional evidence is proposed by either party in response to the Evidence Review or if new witnesses are identified, the Investigator may determine that it is necessary to interview further witnesses or that it is necessary to re-interview witnesses and parties involved in the Investigation. Summaries of additional interviews will be provided to both parties and they will have ten (10) business days to submit a written response which the Investigator will consider prior to completion of the Investigative Report.

4. Final Report

The Investigator will create an Investigative Report that fairly summarizes relevant evidence. At least ten (10) business days prior to adjudication, the Title IX Coordinator will provide to both Complaint and Respondent and their Advisors the Investigative Report in an electronic format or a hard copy for their review and written response.

The Investigative Report is not intended to catalog all evidence obtained by the investigator, but only to provide a fair summary of that evidence. Only relevant evidence (including both inculpatory and exculpatory – i.e. tending to prove and disprove the allegations) will be referenced in the Investigative Report. All related and relevant evidence will be included in the report's appendices.

The Investigator may redact irrelevant information from the Investigative Report when that information is contained in documents or evidence that is/are otherwise relevant.

M. ADJUDICATION: HEARING

Adjudication of Complaints will proceed under a hearing process. Simultaneous with the ten (10) days in which they are reviewing the final Investigative Report, the parties will have ten (10) days to submit (i) a written adjudication statement; and (ii) additional written, relevant questions that a party would like tasked of any party, witness, or Investigator to a Decision-Maker. The Decision-Maker, joined by two non-voting panelists from the Code of Conduct Committee or from the Adjudicatory Pool (the "Equity Hearing Panel"), will then conduct follow up interviews and pose any questions asked by the parties that are determined to be relevant by the Decision-Maker during a live meeting. In most cases, parties and their advisors will be provided with written summaries of answers simultaneous with the delivery of the determination regarding responsibility. In extraordinary circumstances where the content of such answers warrants further review, the Decision-Maker may determine that it is necessary to provide such written summaries simultaneously with a limited opportunity for follow-up questions from each party may be permitted. A reasonable timeline for such an exchange will be determined at the sole discretion of the Decision-Maker.

1. Appointment of the Decision-Maker

The Title IX Coordinator or their designee will designate a Decision-Maker. The Decision-Maker will either be an employee of Simon's Rock trained in adjudications of misconduct, or, at the discretion of the Title IX Coordinator, a neutral third party selected by the Title IX Coordinator or their designee. The Decision-Maker will not be the Title IX Coordinator or the investigator assigned to the same matter.

Should a party wish to object to the Decision-Maker or any of the panelists on the grounds of bias or conflict-of-interest, such notice must be delivered to the Title IX Coordinator within five (5) business days of the hearing.

2. Evidentiary Standard

In any adjudication under the Title IX Policy and Equity Policy, the Respondent's responsibility will be determined by a preponderance of the evidence standard, which is whether the information

provided supports a finding that it is “more likely than not” that the Respondent is responsible for the alleged violation(s).

3. Notice of Hearing

At least ten (10) business days prior to the hearing, the Title IX Coordinator or the Chair will send notice of the hearing to the parties including:

- Notice of Simon's Rock's Title IX and Equity Policy and Grievance Process;
- The time, date, and location of any meeting conducted as part of the hearing;
- Any necessary instructions pertaining to the use of any technology that will be used to conduct the hearing;
- Information about the right to request that the hearing be conducted virtually to the extent that parties may remain in separate rooms for the duration of the hearing;
- A list of all those who will attend any meeting conducted as part of the hearing, including the names of the Decision-Maker and panelists.;
- A statement that if any party or witness does not appear at a meeting conducted as part of this hearing, the hearing may continue in their absence at the Title IX Coordinator's discretion;
- Instructions on how to arrange for disability accommodations in regards to the hearing.

4. Determination of Relevance

Only relevant questions may be asked of a party or witness. In determining whether a question is relevant, the Decision-Maker will focus on evidence pertinent to proving whether facts material to the allegations under investigation are more or less likely to be true.

Questions and evidence about the Complainant's sexual predisposition or prior sexual behavior are not relevant, unless (1) such questions and evidence about the Complainant's prior sexual behavior are offered to prove that someone other than the Respondent committed the conduct alleged by the Complainant, or (2) if the questions and evidence concern specific incidents of the Complainant's prior sexual behavior with respect to the Respondent and are offered to prove consent. This bar on questions and evidence about a Complainant's sexual predisposition or prior sexual behavior does not apply to Respondents, and any such questions, if deemed relevant, may be asked.

Similarly, evidence and information is not relevant if (a) the information protected by a legally recognized privilege; or (b) relates to any party's medical, psychological, and similar records unless the party has given voluntary, written consent. Questions that are duplicative or repetitive may fairly be deemed not relevant and thus excluded.

5. New Evidence

No new evidence, including new witness testimony, may be presented at the hearing. Any evidence or witnesses who were not included in the investigation must be brought to the attention of the investigator prior to the hearing. In the event that such new evidence or new witness is presented, the

investigator will re-open the investigation for the limited purpose of including such evidence or witness testimony, which each party shall have the opportunity to review.

6. Advisor for the Purposes of the Hearing

Parties may opt to have the same Advisor during investigatory meetings and during the hearing or may opt for a different Advisor during the hearing. If a party does not have an Advisor present at the live hearing, Simon's Rock will provide without fee or charge to that party an Advisor. Should a party wish for Simon's Rock to provide an Advisor, they must inform the Title IX Coordinator five (5) business days before the hearing is scheduled to commence. If a party has not chosen an Advisor or asked that Simon's Rock provide an Advisor within (2) business days of a hearing, Simon's Rock will appoint an Advisor for the party. The Advisor is not prohibited from being a witness in the matter. The Advisor may not advocate or speak on behalf of a party at any time during the hearing.

7. Failure to Appear

The parties cannot waive the right to a hearing. Simon's Rock will not threaten, coerce, intimidate or discriminate against any party or witness in an attempt to secure the party's participation in the hearing.

Simon's Rock may still proceed with the live hearing in the absence of a party, and may reach a determination of responsibility in their absence.

The Decision-Maker will not draw an inference about the determination regarding responsibility based solely on a party's absence from the live hearing or refusal to answer questions.

8. Virtual Hearings

Upon a party's request, the live hearing will be conducted with the parties located in separate rooms with technology enabling participants to see and hear each other. Upon the decision of the Title IX Coordinator, any hearing may be conducted virtually via audio and visual conferencing software.

9. Recording

An audio recording of any live hearing will be made available to the parties for review.

10. Participant Conduct

Participants in the live hearing, including Advisors, must conduct themselves appropriately and respectfully towards all other participants. Participants and Advisors may not act in a way that may be considered by a reasonable person to be abusive, intimidating, harassing, or disrespectful. Notably, Parties and Advisors must: (1) refer to other parties, witnesses, advisors, and staff using the name and gender used by the person and shall not intentionally mis-name or mis-gender that person; (2) not act abusively or disrespectfully during the hearing toward any other party or to witnesses, advisors, or Decision-Makers; and (3) take no action at the hearing that a reasonable person in the shoes of the affected party would see as intended to intimidate that person (whether party, witness, or official) into not participating in the process or meaningfully modifying their participation in the process.

Advisors, witnesses, and parties may be removed if their conduct violates, in the Decision-Maker's discretion, the expectations set forth herein. The Decision-Maker, in their sole and absolute discretion, may adjourn the hearing and exclude the offending person. Repeat offenders of such conduct may face additional sanctions under other campus policies.

Evidence of violation(s) of these policies will be gathered by the Title IX Coordinator. The Advisor accused may provide an explanation or alternative evidence in writing for consideration by the Director of Finance and Administration for cases involving employees or the Title IX Coordinator for cases involving students. Such evidence or explanation is due within fifteen (15) business days of receipt of a notice of a charge.

The finding shall be issued in writing to all parties and Advisors within thirty (30) business days unless extended for good cause. There is no appeal to this finding.

N. DETERMINATION OF RESPONSIBILITY

The Decision-Maker will reach a determination of responsibility by a preponderance of the evidence standard. Once they have reached a determination, they will provide written notice to both parties including:

- Identification of the allegations;
- Information about the policies and procedures used to evaluate the allegations;
- An evaluation of the relevant evidence;
- Conclusions regarding the application of Simon's Rock's applicable policies to the facts;
- A statement of, and rationale for, the result as to each allegation, including a determination regarding responsibility, any disciplinary sanctions Simon's Rock imposes on the Respondent and whether remedies designed to restore or preserve equal access to the education program or activity will be provided to the Complainant; and
- Procedures and permissible bases for the Complainant and Respondent to appeal.

Notice of the determination regarding responsibility will be provided to the parties simultaneously. The determination regarding responsibility becomes final either on the date that Simon's Rock provides the parties with the written determination of the result of an appeal if an appeal is filed. If an appeal is not filed, the determination becomes final on the date by which an appeal would no longer be considered timely. Any remedies or sanctions provided in the determination of responsibility will not take effect until the determination of responsibility becomes final. The Title IX Coordinator is responsible for effective implementation of any remedies.

O. SANCTIONS

The following sanctions may be imposed following adjudication in regards to a student Respondent:

Disciplinary Warning: A warning letter will be sent to the student via their Simon's Rock email address, informing them that their behavior violated campus policy and therefore is not acceptable.

Multiple disciplinary warnings may lead to social probation/loss of privileges or other additional disciplinary actions.

Social Probation: Probation is a sanction imposed for serious or repeated misconduct. This sanction places a student Respondent on notice that their behavior is unacceptable and must change; otherwise, the Respondent will face termination or expulsion. The probationary period may range from one semester through graduation and – depending on circumstances and the student Respondent's previous disciplinary record – may come with additional conditions or consequences.

Campus Service: A student Respondent may be assigned a predetermined number of campus work hours, to be overseen by the Dean of Students and Equitable Community or their designee. If the student Respondent fails to complete these service hours within the time allotted, additional hours or a more severe sanction may be levied including more hours, loss of privileges, suspension, or expulsion.

Loss of Privileges: A student Respondent may lose one or more of the following privileges: operating a motor vehicle on campus; hosting guests on campus; remaining on campus during breaks; attending commencement proceedings; or other privileges as deemed appropriate.

Suspension: Disciplinary suspension is total separation from Simon's Rock for a period of one full semester, two full semesters, three full semesters, or four full semesters. A sanction of suspension may affect a student Respondent's future on-campus housing, scholarships, federal financial aid, or study abroad opportunities but not scholarships awarded by Simon's Rock. Suspension includes separation from classes, activities, services, facilities, and grounds for the duration of the suspension period. Readmission following a disciplinary suspension is not automatic but is at the will and discretion of Simon's Rock. The Academic Affairs office manages the readmission process, how suspension affects financial aid and can provide further information about the process and deadlines upon request.

Expulsion: Expulsion is a complete and permanent separation from Simon's Rock. Such action will be documented via letter, generally emailed to the student, parents or guardians, Academic Advisors, and other department heads as appropriate. For information about departing campus after expulsion, see Vacating Campus for Leave or Withdrawal.

Sanctions may also be accompanied by: a change in academic or employment schedule, change in residence, removal from on campus or institution-owned housing, a permanent No Contact Order, educational programming, counseling, a combination of these, or any sanction deemed just and proper.

Employee Matters: The following sanctions may be imposed following adjudication in regards to an employee Respondent:

For employees, disciplinary action may call for any of four steps—verbal warning, written warning, suspension with or without pay, or termination of employment—depending on the severity of the problem and the number of occurrences. There may be circumstances when one or more steps are bypassed. Progressive discipline means that, with respect to most disciplinary problems, these steps will normally be followed: a first offense may call for a verbal warning; a next offense may be

followed by a written warning; another offense may lead to a suspension; and, still another offense may then lead to termination of employment.

Simon's Rock recognizes that there are certain types of employee problems that are serious enough to justify either a suspension, or, in extreme situations, termination of employment, without going through the usual progressive discipline steps.

Sanctions may also be accompanied by the following restrictions:

- Change in employment schedule;
- Loss of supervisory or oversight responsibilities;
- Removal from on campus or institution-owned housing;
- Permanent No Contact Order.

Sanctions may also be accompanied by the following conditions:

- Educational programming;
- Counseling;
- Required letter acknowledging impact of the misconduct.

P. APPEAL PROCEDURE

Both parties will be offered an appeal from a determination regarding responsibility or non-responsibility, and from Simon's Rock's dismissal of a Complaint or any allegations therein, on the following bases:

- Procedural irregularity that affected the outcome of the matter;
- New evidence that was not reasonably available at the time the determination regarding responsibility or dismissal was made, that could affect the outcome of the matter; or
- The Title IX Coordinator, Investigator(s), or Decision-Maker had a conflict of interest or bias for or against Complainants or Respondents generally or the individual Complainant or Respondent that affected the outcome of the matter.

Dissatisfaction with the outcome does not constitute grounds for appeal.

The Title IX Coordinator or designee will appoint an appeal officer to determine the viability of the Appeal, who will be free of conflict of interest and bias, and will not serve as Investigator, Title IX Coordinator, or Decision-Maker in the same matter. Should an appeal be filed on the grounds that the Title IX Coordinator was biased, the Vice-Provost will designate an appeal officer to determine the viability of the appeal. In either case, anyone who has served as the Decision-Maker for a particular matter will not be appointed as the appeal officer for that same matter.

Parties will have five (5) business days to file an appeal following receipt of the written notice of determination of responsibility. Appeals must be filed in writing and describe the eligible grounds on which the party wishes to appeal. In order to effectuate an appeal, the parties may request to review a copy of the Investigative Report, any adjudication statements, and the hearing audio recording, as applicable, all pursuant to campus policy governing privacy and access to personal information within five (5) business days from the date of the outcome notification. Parties may request to have the time period for submitting an appeal extended to five (5) business days from the date of their

review of the audio-recording of the hearing. The Title IX Coordinator or designee will notify the other party in writing when an appeal is filed.

If an appeal is determined by the appeal officer to meet one or more of the bases stated above the appeal will be shared with both parties and both will have five (5) business days to submit a written statement in support of, or challenging, the outcome. If both the Complainant and the Respondent appeal, the appeals will be considered concurrently.

The appeal officer will consider the appeal, the statements filed by the parties upon the acceptance of the appeal, and any documentation or evidence pertaining to the original investigation and hearing. The purpose of the appeal is not to re-weigh evidence. If an appeal is granted, the appeal officer will either:

- Issue a decision advising that the appeal was granted and which, if any, sanctions or determinations of responsibility are upheld, overruled, or modified; or
- Remand the case for a new hearing or further investigation if the appeal officer determines that new evidence should be considered or that a procedural error has occurred.

If an appeal is denied or results in no alteration of the original outcome, the parties will be notified and the matter will be closed. When an appeal is remanded for a new hearing, the finding or sanction can be appealed one final time on the grounds listed above and in accordance with these procedures.

Q. EXCLUSIONS AND OTHER PROVISIONS

1. Ensuring Impartiality: Any individual materially involved in the administration of the resolution process may not have nor demonstrate a conflict of interest or bias for a party generally, or for a specific Complainant or Respondent. The parties may, at any time during the resolution process, raise a concern regarding bias or conflict of interest. The Title IX Coordinator will determine whether the concern is reasonable and supportable. If supportable, the Title IX Coordinator will remove that person from the process.
2. False Allegations and Evidence: Deliberately false and/or malicious accusations under this policy will be subject to appropriate disciplinary action.
3. External Remedies: Members of the Simon's Rock community are always subject to local, state, and federal laws, and nothing in these procedures is intended to limit or postpone the right of an individual to file a complaint or charge with appropriate federal, state, or local departments or agencies. An individual is not required to use this complaint resolution procedure before pursuing other remedies. Inquiries or complaints that involve potential violations by Simon's Rock may also be referred to: Department of Education, Office of Civil Rights, 617-289-0111; The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, 800-669-4000; and The Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination, 413-739-2145.
4. Reasonably Prompt Timeframes: Simon's Rock will attempt to resolve a Grievance process within one hundred and twenty (120) business days. Both parties will be informed, in writing, if a reasonable delay is to occur. Each party may request a one-time delay in the Grievance Process of up to five (5) days for good cause provided that the requestor provides reasonable notice and the delay does not overly inconvenience other parties. For example, a request to take a five (5) day pause made an hour before a hearing for which multiple parties

and their Advisors have traveled to and prepared for shall generally not be granted, while a request for a five (5) day pause in the middle of investigation interviews to allow a party to obtain certain documentary evidence shall generally be granted. The Title IX Coordinator shall have sole judgment to grant further pauses in the process.

5. Disability Accommodations: This Policy does not alter any institutional obligations under federal disability laws including the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Parties may request reasonable accommodations for disclosed disabilities to the Title IX Coordinator at any point before or during the Grievance Process that do not fundamentally alter the Process.

The Title IX Coordinator will not affirmatively provide disability accommodations that have not been specifically requested by the parties, even where the parties may be receiving accommodations in other institutional programs and activities. If a party or Advisor discloses a disability under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) or Section 504 that requires accommodations, Simon's Rock will work with that party or Advisor to provide a reasonable accommodation. Parties or Advisors may contact the Title IX Coordinator to disclose a disability and request accommodations. Disclosures and requests must be made timely. Simon's Rock will agree to short delays to ensure access for a covered disability, but this must not be used as a tactic for delay of the proceedings.

6. Consolidation of Investigations: The Title IX Coordinator reserves the right to consolidate Complaints against more than one Respondent, or by more than one Complainant against one or more Respondents, or by one party against the other party, where the allegations arise out of the same facts or circumstances. The Title IX Coordinator reserves the right to consolidate investigations of a Complaint with investigations under the student code of conduct where the allegations arise out of the same facts or circumstances. When the same set of facts and circumstances gives rise to both a potential violation of the bullying policy in the Academy and a potential violation of the Equity and Title IX policy, the investigation may be consolidated and conducted according to the procedures set forth herein.
7. Effect of Legal Proceedings: Because the standards for finding a violation of criminal law differ from the standards for finding a violation of this policy, criminal investigations are not determinative of whether misconduct, for purposes of this policy, has occurred. Conduct may constitute misconduct under this policy even if law enforcement agencies lack sufficient evidence of a crime or decline to prosecute. The filing of a complaint of misconduct under this policy does not depend on any criminal investigation or proceeding and, except in limited and extenuating circumstances, Simon's Rock will not wait for the conclusion of any criminal investigation or proceedings to commence its own investigation; to implement supportive measures; or to implement disciplinary proceedings.
8. Withholding Diploma: Simon's Rock may withhold a student's diploma for a specified period of time and/or deny a student participation in commencement activities if the student has an allegation pending against them. Such action will be subject to the same form of appeal as an Emergency Removal.
9. Recordkeeping: Simon's Rock will maintain for a period of seven years records of any actions, including any supportive measures, taken in response to a report or Complaint of

harassment or discrimination. Additionally, Simon's Rock will maintain for a period of seven years records of each investigation including:

- Any determination regarding responsibility;
- Any audio recording of any hearing;
- Any disciplinary sanctions imposed on the Respondent;
- Any remedies provided to the Complainant designed to restore or preserve equal access to Simon's Rock's education program or activity;
- Any appeal and the result therefrom;

These records will include those resulting from truncated investigations that led to no adjudication because the acts alleged did not constitute a violation of this policy and in which the Complaint (or allegation therein) was dismissed.

10. Recording: No unauthorized audio or video recording of any kind is permitted during any meeting held pursuant to the procedures outlined in this policy including investigation interviews.
11. Federal Timely Warning Obligations: Parties reporting sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and/or stalking should be aware that under the Clery Act, Simon's Rock must issue timely warnings for incidents reported to the institution that pose a serious or continuing threat of bodily harm or danger to members of the campus community. Simon's Rock will ensure that a Complainant's name and other identifying information is not disclosed, while still providing enough information for community members to make safety decisions in light of the potential danger.
12. Federal Statistical Reporting Obligations: Certain campus officials – those deemed Campus Security Authorities – have a duty to report the following for federal statistical reporting purposes (Clery Act) including homicide, sexual assault, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, motor vehicle theft, and arson; hate crimes; domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking; arrests and referrals for disciplinary action for weapons-related law violations, liquor-related law violations, and drug abuse-related law violations. All personally identifiable information is kept private in Clery reports.
13. Academic Freedom: This policy is not intended to restrict teaching methods or freedom of expression, nor will it be permitted to do so. Offensiveness of conduct, standing alone, is not sufficient for the conduct to constitute prohibited misconduct. The conduct must be sufficiently serious to interfere with an individual's ability to participate in employment or educational programs and activities.
14. Revision of this Policy and Procedures: This policy and procedures may be amended at any time. Any amendments will be published widely to the Simon's Rock community.
15. Transcript Notations for Suspension, Expulsion, and Withdrawal: For crimes of violence (as defined below), Simon's Rock will make a notation on the transcript of students found responsible after a Title IX and Equity process that they were “suspended after a finding of responsibility for a code of conduct violation” or “expelled after a finding of responsibility for a code of conduct violation.” If a finding of responsibility is vacated for any reason, any

such transcript notation shall be removed. “Crimes of Violence” shall include the conduct violations which correlate with: Criminal Homicide, Rape, Fondling, Incest, Statutory Rape, Robbery, Aggravated Assault, Burglary, Motor Vehicle Theft, and Arson.

APPENDIX B.1: Agreement Regarding Evidence Disclosed

What does this Agreement cover?

This Agreement governs access to evidence as specifically provided for under the Title IX and Equity Policy and Procedures.

The Agreement does not prohibit the Parties from generally discussing the allegations under investigation with a parent, friend, or other source of emotional support, or with an advocacy organization, nor otherwise prohibit the Parties from speaking with their Advisor or Advisors about the facts and evidence of this case.

However, this Agreement clarifies that the Parties may not discuss information that does not consist of the allegations under investigation, including evidence related to the allegations that has been collected and exchanged between the Parties and their Advisors during the investigation, or the Investigative Report summarizing relevant evidence sent to the Parties and their Advisors.

This Agreement shall survive any amendments to or withdrawal of the Title IX Final Rule published by the U.S. Department of Education in the Federal Register and/or any amendments to or withdrawal of campus policy. It is binding upon heirs and assigns. It may not be revoked.

Parties are Responsible for their Advisors' Conduct

Parties are responsible for themselves, their Advisor or Advisors, anyone who has access to their computers or other devices that may be used to access the evidence and records covered by this case, and anyone who has access to their Advisor's computers or other devices that may be used to access the evidence and records covered by this case. Penalties for violations, whether knowing or negligent, include sanctions under other provisions of the Code of Conduct, and for Advisors, ineligibility for a term or permanent ineligibility to serve as an Advisor of Choice in future cases.

The rules and standards apply equally to all parties and their Advisors regardless of sex, gender, or other protected class, and regardless of whether they are in the role of Complainant or Respondent.

Waiver of Disclosure to Advisors

By default, access to records will be shared separately with parties and Advisors who have been designated in writing by the party. If the party DOES NOT want the records shared with their Advisor, they must indicate such a request in writing to the Title IX Coordinator. If the party does so, they may not share or disclose the records to their Advisor or any other person.

Evidence Sharing Process

Simon's Rock will provide access to the Investigation Report and Evidence prior to the hearing. Access to the records will be provided by the Title IX Coordinator. Parties and Advisors are barred from printing, copying, taking photos or videos of the screen, audio or video recording a reading of the material, or otherwise using analog or technological methods, known or unknown to capture the content of the records.

Upon request, Simon's Rock shall provide paper copies of the records at a hearing which may be utilized by parties and Advisors.

Security and Confidentiality Protocols

The party or Advisors agree that they will maintain a password or other security on any device that they are using to access the records, and that they will not share or disclose access to the records or their password or security process used to access the records to any person, including family, friends, those with whom they live, witnesses, other parties, or their Advisor. Each party and Advisor shall receive a separate link and links should not be shared or forwarded to anyone.

Further, parties and Advisors agree that they will not physically share the space for review with any other person with the limited exception that Advisors may physically share the space looking at the records with other persons in their professional capacity who are assisting them in preparing for their role as an Advisor in this case (for instance, an Associate in a law firm). The Advisor, and the party in turn, is responsible for that additional person or persons who access the content alongside the Advisor.

Disability Accommodations

If a Party or Advisor discloses a disability under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) that requires a different method of providing access to the records in place, Simon's Rock will work with that Party or Advisor to provide reasonable accommodations pursuant to the Policy.

Discipline and Sanctions for Violations of the Agreement

If Simon's Rock learns of a re-disclosure, it may bring charges under the Student Code of Conduct or Employment Handbook for Parties or Advisors, may review the Degree or credits earned of former students/alumni, and may undergo a process to bar permanently or temporarily Advisors from serving in that role.