

STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY

RESPONDING TO DISRUPTIVE BEHAVIOR AND DISTRESSED STUDENTS

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Understanding your Role

- Balance:
 - Maintaining a Learning Environment & being a “First Responder”
- Clear boundaries prevent confusion
 - Knowing the limits of your role



You Are Not Expected to Be a Counselor

- Your Role:

- To recognize students in need
- Consult with Office of University Community Standards (2-6705)
- Connect student with resources on campus (ex. Counseling)



SIGNS OF A STUDENT IN DISTRESS

- Decline in academic performance
- Poor attendance
- Poor personal hygiene and grooming
- Social withdrawal
- Crying in class
- Sleeping during lectures
- Intense emotional response to situations
- Morbid, suicidal, or violent themes in written material
- Vague request for special considerations



DISRUPTIVE BEHAVIOR

Any behavior that disrupts the learning process, endangers the safety of others and/or interrupts the instructor from performing his/her duties.

-Office of Provost

Examples:

- Chronic Distraction/Interruption
- Verbally abusive speech
- Hostility and defiance
- Threats of physical violence
- Stalking behavior



RESPONDING TO EMERGENCIES

If faced with a threat to campus safety...

Trust your instincts, you are not alone

- Threats or acts of violence
- The presence of a weapon
- Stalking related behavior



**Immediately Call University
Police**



THREE RS OF RESPONSIBILITY

Recognize

Respond

Report/Consult



OBSTACLES TO REPORTING

- FEAR OF APPEARING INCOMPETENT
- FEAR OF “GETTING THE STUDENT IN TROUBLE”
- FEAR OF RETRIBUTION



BENEFITS OF EARLY REPORTING

- Early intervention = better outcome for student
- Reduced impact on campus community
- Address the situations **BEFORE** it escalates into a crisis



BEHAVIORAL ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE

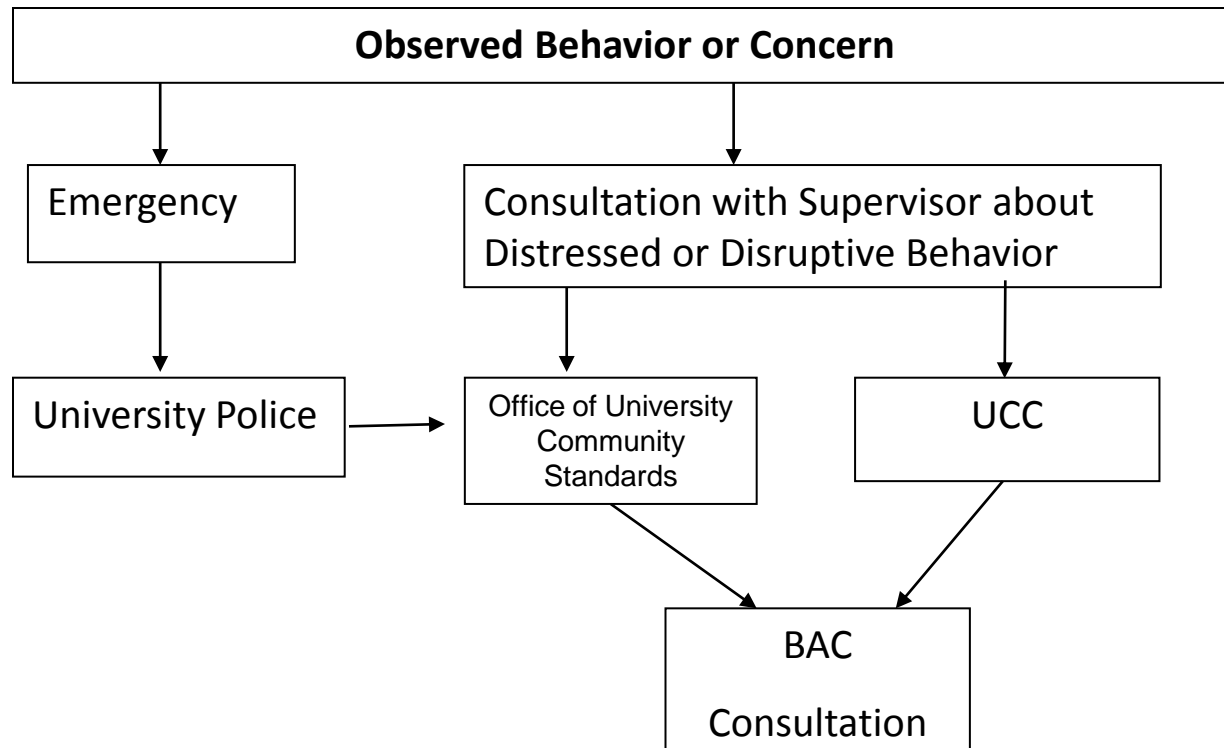


- *Multidisciplinary Committee*
 - *Evaluates risk factors and makes recommendations*

- *Goal is to increase student success and community safety*



WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU REPORT?



SCENARIO

“After the break up”



SCENARIOS

“Who the hell are you?”



RESOURCES AND IMPORTANT NUMBERS

University Police

- **(631) 632-3333** (from off-campus/cell)
- **911** – from on-campus phone

Office of University Community Standards

- **(631) 632-6705**
-

Other campus resources:

- **University Counseling Center**
 - **(631) 632-6720**
- **Center for Prevention and Outreach**
 - **(631) 632-2748**



CREATING A SAFE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

TAKE HOME MESSAGES:

- **WE ARE NOT ASKING YOU TO BE A THERAPIST**

- **BUT WE ARE ASKING YOU TO PLAY A ROLE IN EARLY INTERVENTION**

- **When in doubt, remember:**
 - If its an emergency- call University police
 - All other cases: report and consult with immediate supervisor

Thank you

