

## **Proposed Faculty Assembly Ad-Hoc Committee: Disruptive Student Policy**

To: Faculty Assembly

From: Andrea Vickery, Personnel Policies Chair and Faculty Assembly Vice Chair and  
Gwen Kay, Faculty Assembly Chair

Date: October 27, 2025

### **Rationale**

At present, there is no campus guidance for faculty on how to manage or remove disruptive students in classroom and instructional settings. While the SUNY Oswego Student code of conduct notes behavior that “interferes with or is disruptive to the learning environment” is prohibited (<https://www1.oswego.edu/student-conduct/prohibited-conduct>), this code of conduct does not address what faculty can - or should - do to manage disruptive student behavior that interferes with the classroom climate and learning environment.

Other regional comprehensives in the SUNY system do have faculty policies for dealing with disruptive students in the classroom, including:

- SUNY New Paltz:  
<https://www.newpaltz.edu/media/academic-affairs/Policy%20on%20Classroom%20Civility%20and%20Dealing%20with%20Disruption%20rev%208.16.pdf>
- SUNY Brockport:  
<https://www.brockport.edu/live/profiles/5223-procedures-for-dealing-with-students-who-are>

These policies may serve as inspiration for SUNY Oswego’s campus, but any policy for SUNY Oswego should be developed by SUNY Oswego faculty and take into account the variety of learning environments at SUNY Oswego including online, graduate, lab, large lecture, small seminar, fieldwork, student performance, individual supervisory settings (research, internship, service-learning), and campus events where student behavior may disrupt the learning environment.

### **Charge**

Per faculty assembly bylaws, “subject to the approval of the Assembly, the chair of the Assembly may, from time to time, appoint ad hoc committees to report to the Assembly on special matters not covered by existing councils” (Article XII, Section 3).

The charge of this ad-hoc committee shall be:

- Review existing policies on student disruption at similar campuses
- Consult widely across the university community to gather different perspectives on student disruption and possible responses

- Draft a policy for the faculty handbook about disruptive students in the learning environment

This policy language should contain a set of concrete guidelines that align with the Student Code of Conduct. The work of this ad-hoc committee shall be completed when the draft of the policy language is presented to the Faculty Assembly for discussion and vote. It is recommended this work be completed during the 2025-2026 academic year.

### **Membership**

As an ad-hoc committee representing Faculty Assembly members, this committee shall involve members from existing councils and standing committees.

One (1) member from Personnel Policies Council

One (1) member from Priorities and Planning Council

One (1) member from Academic Policies Council

One (1) member from Graduate Council

One (1) member selected by the Staff Council

Volunteers shall self-nominate to the Personnel Policies Council Chair after the subcommittee charge is approved. In the event that any council is unable to fill a seat on this ad-hoc committee, additional members will be appointed at the discretion of the Faculty Assembly Executive Board. The Personnel Policies Council Member will convene the first meeting where a committee chair will be selected.

This committee shall invite representatives from the following units outside of the faculty assembly standing councils:

One (1) designee selected by the Provost

One (1) staff member from the Dean of Students Office

One (1) student representative selected by the Student Association

The Ad-hoc committee is expected to consult with Accessibility Services, Counseling Services, Penfield Library, and others in the development of the policy.

**Prepared by: Personnel Policies Council and Faculty Assembly Chair**