

American College of Acupuncture & Oriental Medicine



Shaping The Future Of Health Care

2023-2024 Student Handbook

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**American College of Acupuncture & Oriental Medicine
Student Handbook 2021-2022**

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Welcome

Welcome to the American College of Acupuncture & Oriental Medicine (ACAOM). In addition to adhering to the policies of each individual academic program, individuals are also required to follow institutional policies listed in the catalog and the current student handbook. Student handbook is reviewed periodically to include updated school policies. Please refer to both catalog and student handbook for appropriate guidance as needed. We hope this information will help you have a successful and rewarding academic career at the College.

The vision and mission statement of the institution as well as the philosophies and objectives of each program are listed in the Catalog.

Academic Advising

Each student has an assigned academic advisor who will help monitor his/her progress through the program of studies. Each student, however, is responsible for following the catalog and completing coursework as outlined, especially regarding prerequisites. Before finalizing registration each semester, each student should meet with his/her advisor to ensure that he/she is progressing in a timely manner and will take the appropriate courses. A student who is not sure who his/her advisor is should check their student profile tab online in Populi at acaom.populiweb.com

Auditing a Course

Current active students and graduates may enroll in courses for auditing purposes if they have previously taken the course for credit, and if they obtain proper administrative approval. Audits will not be formally evaluated and will not earn any credits. All didactic audits must be approved by the Registrar, and all clinical audits must be approved by the Clinic Director. Students taking clinical courses for credit will receive priority scheduling. Clinical audits may not be available every semester due to scheduling and supervisor availability. Students who have not previously completed the course for credit are not allowed to audit those courses.

Meeting Degree Requirements

All students should closely monitor and regularly review their degree progress to help ensure an accurate record of successfully completed courses and semester hours of credits as they progress through the curriculum. It is the student's responsibility to ensure that all required courses and semester credit hours have been successfully completed and that all graduation requirements have been met. A Degree Plan can be obtained from the Registrar's Office and online in Populi, and the student's degree audit and transcript online in Populi can be used to assist the student in this regard.

Diagnostic Proficiency Examination (DAC/MAC Program)

Once a student enrolled in the DAC/MAC completes certain courses, they will be registered to take the Proficiency Examinations for that subject area (Western Medicine, Acupuncture, or Herbology). These exams are a diagnostic indicator to allow both the student and the student's academic advisor know where the student's strengths and weaknesses exist, so that a customized remedial and/or tutorial plan can be enacted for that student.

Comprehensive Examination (DAC/MAC Program)

To ensure that students acquire adequate knowledge before entering the internship, all students must pass all parts of the Comprehensive Examination prior to entering the Clinical phase of training. In order to preserve the educational standards and to protect patients, each section must be passed in order to begin clinical training.

Comprehensive exams are usually scheduled during the last month of the semester. No special administration or make-up examinations will be given for the Comprehensive Exam. If a student fails any of the components of the comprehensive exam three times or more, he/she will be required to do some remediation such as audit courses, receive tutoring of the component in which he/she has failed, or take a review course, as recommended by the Dean of Academic Affairs in consultation with the advisor before attempting the exam again.

Exit Examination (DAC/MAC Program)

A written Exit Examination is given to students at the end of Clinical Internship IV (MAC) & Clinical Internship V (DAC). Students must pass the Exit Examination, which is given during the last two weeks of each semester, before they can graduate from the College. The Exit Examination consists of an analysis of several cases, which includes all phases of patient contact, diagnosis, treatment, care, and a practical exam which covers the whole procedure of an initial patient's visit.

Students who fail the Exit Examination for Clinical Internship IV will receive a failing grade for the course, and must retake the course and the Exit Examination and receive a passing grade in order to complete their degree plan and graduate.

Graduates Returning to Take Additional Electives

Graduates from a program accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Acupuncture & Herbal Medicine may enroll for any course offered in the College curriculum, which was not taken during their degree program, including Special Topics courses offered on a periodic basis. Such courses may be taken for credit and, upon successful completion,

will be recorded on their transcript. The most current tuition rate in effect will apply in such cases.

Student Records

Permanent records and files are kept in the Registrar's Office. A student may review his/her own files by submitting a written request. Some limited documents, such as letters of recommendation or recommendation forms, are confidential.

Official Transcripts

Transcripts can be obtained from the Registrar's office with a written request. A complete student record must be on file and all holds and financial charges cleared before a transcript can be released. Normal process time is 48 hours; however additional time may be required at the close of the semester. Official copies of a transcript will be provided for a fee of \$5.00 each. Release of the transcript will require written permission from the student, including a signature, or electronic signature if submitted online. A transcript request form is available in the Registrar's Office, or on the school website.

Progress Reports/Academic Report Card

ACAOM does not issue interim student progress reports. Should a student inquire about one's progress during the semester, they can assess their academic progress by viewing their quizzes and midterm grades on Populi. Final grades are provided to the student online in Populi at acaom.populiweb.com after the completion of the semester.

Grading Problems and Changes

On occasion an error may occur in recording the grade issued by the faculty member for a course. If a student suspects that such an error may have been made, the student may submit a written request to the registrar requesting a grade sheet review. If the registrar finds a discrepancy, the error will be immediately corrected. If no discrepancy is discovered, the student should contact the faculty member to inquire further. If the faculty member discovers there was an error in the grade submission, he or she will inform the registrar, and the grade will be corrected. The registrar is not authorized to change a student's grade without proper permission from the faculty member.

Special Topics

Special Topic courses will have a grade of Pass/Fail (P/F). Students who are absent will be automatically considered as withdrawn (W), and no refund will be given.

Policy on Clinic Training

Special policies relating to the clinical training portion of the curriculum are contained in the Clinical Training Handbook.

Additional Requirements for Clinical Training

All students should pay special attention to the requirements that should be completed prior to beginning the clinical training experience including training in OSHA, CPR & First Aid, Clean Needle Techniques, HIPAA, as well as the receipt of a Hepatitis B vaccination.

Clinical Training Schedule

Students should be aware that the clinical training schedule is different from the regular class schedule since the clinic is not closed during breaks between semesters. All students enrolled in clinical courses are required to attend clinical orientation every semester. Students should contact the Clinic Administrator for information regarding the clinic schedule. Clinical courses may not end at the same time as didactic courses, and therefore clinical course grades may take additional time to calculate and post. Clinic grades will show as "IP" or in-progress until they are finalized.

Clinical Training

ACAOM's clinical faculty share their knowledge and experience gained through years of practice and refinement. The acupuncture, herbal, and pain management training provide the knowledge and confidence required to move students into the field of practice. During the clinic training, students will treat patients under the direction and supervision of a licensed acupuncture clinician according to patient need by utilizing acupuncture, herbs, moxibustion, electrical acupuncture, heating devices, advanced acupuncture techniques, Tui-Na, scalp acupuncture, auricular acupuncture, and other modalities. The clinic also allows students to prescribe patented herbs and granules and to prepare loose herbs. Students will learn to apply the knowledge learned from classroom studies of about 300 herbs and 200 formulas. They will learn to recognize raw herbs, diagnose and treat patients, prepare and prescribe herbal formulas.

Student Services

Students may contact Registrar's Office for any student services listed below:

Tutoring Services

Students who wish to receive academic support for missed class, preparation of comprehensive exams, or review any portion of course materials should consult their advisor and schedule for tutoring services as needed.

Personal Counseling

The Leadership Team and counselors provide basic counseling for students. For more extensive issues, the staff will refer a student to certified personnel to provide counseling. Some organizations offer a sliding scale for students based on their income, such as www.familyservices.org, www.interface-samaritan.org

Use of Clinic

Students who are enrolled at ACAOM for six (6) semester hours or more during a semester are entitled to acupuncture treatments in the on-campus clinic at no charge. Should herbal prescriptions be needed, the student will receive discounts on the cost of the herbs. Students receive free treatments when times are available, priority in times will be given to regular patients. Failure to give cancellation notice 24 hours prior to their appointment are subject to \$10 no show fee.

Disability Services

Students with disabilities have equality of access to the College's classes and programs. Those who have special needs with academic adjustments and auxiliary aids should consult their faculty and submit written requests for academic support with Student Services.

Faculty Advising

Each new student is assigned to an academic advisor, and the advisor contact information is provided prior to (or at) orientation. Academic advising is available to students every semester. Students should consult their academic advisors prior to registering for new courses. Advising can be done in person, via phone, email or Populi.

Free Review Courses

Students can take review courses to prepare for each of the four NCCAOM exams. The review courses are free for first-time-takers, any students repeating the courses will pay the tuition fee of auditing a class.

Use of Library

Library hours are posted each semester. Many online library resources are available both on and off campus at all times. Students can submit special requests or any questions about the school collection to the librarian directly via library@acaom.edu

Online Access

Free use of the internet is available on the library desktop computers, as well as through campus Wi-Fi. Students will also be given an institutional email address during orientation. Students who need an address may contact the registrar.

Access to network services and all technology resources are intended to be used only for learning, teaching, and administrative purpose consistent with the College's mission and goals. Students should refrain from non-academic use of video streaming or social networking.

Notices to Students—Emails

A College-assigned student email account will be the official means of communication with all students. Students, staff, and faculty are required to follow all the policies and procedures related to the use of emails.

Email address

The College's internet website at mail.acaom.edu and the associated E-mail addresses are available to all students. This will be the primary channel of communication between the institution and the members of our academic community. This will include any major announcements, school closures due to weather or emergencies, and other institutional-wide announcements. All users must be responsible for their e-mail accounts and ensure that the content of the e-mails that are sent are professional. The school will not be liable for actions made by a member via the school e-mail address but has the right to suspend any member from using their e-mail accounts. Students not planning to check this email regularly should forward this mail to an address checked often, the librarian can assist with that forwarding activity. The school has the right to delete an email account once the student withdraws or graduates from the school.

Communication Policy

In order to foster efficient communication, school policy requires that all employees (faculty, staff and student workers) maintain a current and valid email address, and check and respond to their email at least every 48 hours during regular business hours, so that they are aware of upcoming meetings or school events, mandatory staff training, or other urgent issues, as well as students' questions or concerns about classes, advising, etc.

School Cancellation and Other Announcements

Administrative bulletins and notices are posted on the College bulletin board to facilitate communication between the school and the student body during the school year. When the President decides that weather or civil emergencies require the school to be closed, an institutional-wide email will be sent to all students, staff, faculty. In addition, radio and television stations will be notified. Finally, no materials, circulars, advertisements, notices, etc... may be sold or distributed on the school campus unless the materials have been submitted to the administration for approval.

Notices to Students—Criminal Conviction

All students should be aware that a criminal conviction may render the student ineligible for a license to practice acupuncture in some states. ACAOM has the right to take precautionary or preventative measures to protect its members based on accusations or convictions that the institution deems to be a threat or potential threat. Students with a criminal history should inquire with the licensing authority in the state(s) they wish to practice prior to enrolling in any degree program that prepares them for a medical license.

Use of Cellular Phones

The use of cellular phones is prohibited in the clinic and in the classrooms when the classes are in session. Cellular phone owners should make sure that they are set on silent mode before attending classes or the clinic.

Copying of Required Textbooks

Use of photocopies of required textbooks as a substitute for the actual textbook is strictly prohibited and is in violation of United States copyright laws.

Books and Supplies

Models, charts, flashcards, T-shirts and other supplies may be available for sale in the administration. Credit cards may be used to purchase these items. The required textbooks for all courses are listed on the "info" tab for the course in Populi.

Copies

Copies at a cost of 10 cents per copy are available in the main office. Please ask for assistance from the Library or Registrar's Office.

Parking

Free parking is available in the front and back of the facility. ACAOM assumes no responsibility for stolen or damaged vehicles or items stolen from vehicles. Please lock your cars and take or hide any valuables inside.

Student Lounge

The student lounge is located in the commons area is available for student use. Please assist in keeping this area clean.

Change of Status

Change of Name or Address

All students are responsible for keeping ACAOM aware of any changes in name or address to minimize loss or delays of important correspondence. The registrar must be notified of such changes as soon as possible.

Drug Free Workplace & Puncture Accidents Policy

It is the policy of ACAOM to provide a safe work and learning environment, which is free from the unlawful use, consumption, sale, distribution, or possession of illegal drugs or alcohol in the workplace, on institution premises, on the premises of off campus clinics, or at any activity sponsored by the institution. Specifically, employees and students are prohibited from the unlawful manufacturing, distribution, dispensing, possession, use, or being under the influence of a controlled substance, as defined in state or federal law, during working hours or at a College related event outside normal working hours. Employees and

students in violation of this policy will be subject to disciplinary action. Such action may include mandatory drug rehabilitation, suspension, or dismissal from employment or from standing as a student after granting a due process hearing to the accused.

Drug Testing

Because ACAOM is a healthcare professional preparation institution, all employees and students may be subject to random drug testing for illegal drugs.

Puncture Accidents

If any employee or student is the source of any puncture accident(s), the individual will be sent to a medical doctor identified by the College for testing within 24 hours for HIV and Hepatitis (A.B.C) at the expense of ACAOM. Any individual in violation of this drug & puncture accident policy will be subject to disciplinary action.

Potential Exposure to Infectious Disease

If suspected positive for covid-19 or any infectious diseases, please report to administration immediately clinic@acaom.edu. If possible, get tested as soon as you can. ACAOM follows CDC most current protocols on testing and isolation recommendations.

Prohibited Weapons Policy

Pursuant to section 30.06, PENAL Code (Trespass by holder of license to carry a conceal handgun), a person licensed under sub-chapter H, Chapter 411, Government Code (Concealed Handgun Law), may not enter this property with a conceal handgun.

Pursuant to section 30.07, PENAL Code (Trespass by license holder with an openly carried handgun), a person licensed under sub-chapter H, Chapter 411, Government Code (Handgun Licensing Law), may not enter this property with a handgun that is carried openly.

Non-Smoking Policy

The campus is a non-smoking facility. Smoking is not allowed anywhere on campus, or at any of the off-campus clinic sites.

Filming/Recording Policy

No unauthorized filming, recording, or photographs will be permitted beyond the waiting room in the clinic to ensure safety and confidentiality of all patients. If you wish to record a didactic lecture, faculty approval must first sought *and obtained* before recording.

Student Government Association (SGA) Members

All ACAOM students become members of the Student Government Association (SGA) upon attending their first

class after completing enrollment. The College embraces the concept of shared governance and values the ideas, efforts, support, and creativity of its students, faculty, and staff. The SGA provides an opportunity for all students to participate in the academic, social, cultural, planning, and leadership efforts to improve the College.

Qualifications to serve as Elected Officers

Students enrolled in and earning at least 6 semester hours or more, who are in good academic standing (GPA of 3.0 or above) and in the second semester or later are eligible to seek an elected position in the SGA in the annual election. If a student does not meet these requirements, they can petition for special approval to be an officer, which will be reviewed by the Student Services Committee. The SGA annual election is held each fall semester during the second full week of November. A student may declare his/her candidacy for an SGA office by submitting a "Declaration of SGA Candidacy" form to the registrar by third Friday of October each year. The registrar will certify the declared candidates as eligible to serve as noted above if elected to the office to which they aspire by the end of October.

SGA Officers

The officers of the ACAOM Student Government Association shall be as follows: President, Vice President, and three at large Aldermen. The primary duties of the respective officers are as follows:

The President is the chief presiding officer of the SGA at the meetings and such specially called meetings as may be necessary, which are open to all students, faculty, staff, and interested guests. The President is also the designated ACAOM liaison to all internal and external groups or publics (except as noted for the V. P.) and serves in the capacity of a Goodwill Ambassador for the College to all constituents.

The Vice President assists the President in any and all ways including substitution when the President is unable to fill his/her normal role. In addition, the V. P. is the designated SGA liaison to the Executive Leadership Team and meets with them when requested.

The three Aldermen shall serve as event chairs for one annual major event (Chinese New Year, Graduation, Continuing Education) and one minor event each year (New Student Welcome/Open Forum) held each semester. The President shall consult with the elected aldermen and the Vice President of Operations before naming the respective chairs of the events.

Terms

Terms for all SGA elected officers are for one (1) year and run from January 1, following the election, to December 31, following the next election. Elected officers are eligible to serve a maximum of two (2) consecutive terms, but may

seek another office after serving two (2) terms in the first office.

A student who encounters an academic problem and is placed on probation shall be allowed to continue to hold the office to which he/she was elected until the end of the next semester by which time the student must have returned to good academic standing or he/she will be declared ineligible and must resign the office. SGA officers are also to remain enrolled students during their term of office.

Vacant Office/Special Election

Any elective SGA office that becomes vacant shall be filled with a special election if more than two (2) months remain in the term of the vacant position before the next regular annual election. The Vice President of Operations shall officially declare the position vacant and call for Declarations of Candidacy for the position to be filled by a special election. The Vice President of Operations shall set the date for the special election, provided, however, that at least two weeks shall be allowed from the time of the declaration of a vacancy until the date of the special election. Students wishing to file for the vacant position must possess the credentials of the candidates for the regular election and follow the procedure set forth for the regular election, except the registrar will certify all eligible candidates within two (2) days of filing their declarations.

SGA Sponsor

The SGA shall have a mentor/sponsor from the Executive Leadership Team which will normally be the Vice President of Operations unless the President designates someone else to serve in that capacity. The Vice President of Operations shall work with the SGA Officers to review all activities and to plan new events and activities which benefit all students and the College.

SGA Functions/Responsibilities

The SGA shall work with College personnel to assure success in all planned College activities and events such as, but not limited to:

- 1) Recruiting events/efforts
- 2) Orientation of new students each semester
- 3) New Student Welcome each semester
- 4) Open Forum each semester
- 5) Planning and conducting the annual election
- 6) Planning and celebrating the annual Chinese New Year celebration
- 7) The annual graduation in September of each year
- 8) The two annual Continuing Education events sponsored and held each year on the College campus
- 9) Other special events as identified and approved by the College

Intellectual Property

ACAOM encourages the production of scholarly works through research and other intellectual endeavors. These activities often result in the invention of new technology or the creation of new copyrighted material. Such results may have commercial value. While the production of commercially valuable intellectual property is not necessarily the purpose of ACAOM research and educational activities, nor the duty of anyone engaged in such activities, the Board of Governors desires that both society and the College, under the governance of the Board use all knowledge to the greatest possible benefit. Accordingly, when appropriate, the College will protect all intellectual property rights in technology and copyrighted material and use diligent efforts to make productive use of such rights for the good of the public, the author, and the College.

This Policy applies to faculty, staff (including student employees), graduate students, and contract employees (including visiting faculty, affiliate and adjunct faculty, consultant, etc.) who participate in research projects at this institution. The president will be responsible for approval of all intellectual property requests.

General Statement of Ownership

Except as noted below, all intellectual property shall be owned by the College if significant College resources were used or if it is created pursuant to a research project funded through corporate, federal or other external sponsors administered by the College.

(Eg: The College hires a person to perform a specific task which yields a product—written or invented—and the College provides the salary or the employee is paid from a grant, the property, invention, copyright, or patent belongs to the college.)

Exceptions to the General Statement of Ownership

The author shall retain ownership of the intellectual property developed without a significant use of College resources.

(Eg: The College hires an individual to teach courses and supervise students in the Clinical Training portion of the program and that individual publishes a book of his/her theories of how to enjoy a better night of sleep by using acupuncture. The individual owns the book copyright.)

Income Sharing

The College shall share royalties, equity and other income derived from the licensing of patented inventions and other transfers of technology (including licensing of non-patented technology, material transfer agreements, etc.) with the author, unless prohibited or restricted by a third party agreement. Details of the agreement will be reached prior

to marketing the intellectual properties to the public or third party.

(Eg: An employee agrees to produce a product—written or invented—if granted released time from normal duties. An agreement, reduced to writing, should be concluded in advance to share the royalties, equity, or other income.)

The Vice President of Operations (or his/her designee) shall carry out the intellectual property policy of the College as set forth and shall be charged with the following responsibilities:

- To determine whether or not the College has an interest in any invention or discovery made by a member of the faculty or staff, and shall act in accordance with the policy here set forth, and, when necessary, shall advise the President and the Board of Governors of the College what steps should be taken to protect, and, where desirable, to exploit the College's interest.
- To make such recommendations to the President with respect to any changes in the intellectual property policy of the College as may, from time to time, be deemed advisable.
- Should a claim of ownership become contested, the issue, if unable to be resolved amicably by the parties, shall be submitted to the American Association of Arbitrators (or another mutually agreed upon recognized neutral arbitrator association) for a resolution with the College and the employee mutually sharing equally the expense of the arbitration. The arbiter's decision shall be final.
- All funds received by ACAOM which are derived from intellectual property shared by ACAOM and an employee or student, shall be dedicated to professional development of ACAOM faculty and staff.

Policies

ACAOM's Honor Code of Ethical and Professional Conduct

ACAOM seeks to provide all students with an environment conducive to personal growth, academic achievement, individual responsibility, and respect for the rights and privileges of others. ACAOM takes very seriously any misconduct or unprofessional behavior of its students. Therefore, the ACAOM administration, the Board of Governors, the faculty, and the student body have adopted this Honor Code, which incorporates expectations for personal and professional conduct of all members of the college community.

The purpose of this Honor Code is to promote ethical and professional behavior among the ACAOM community. The success of this Honor Code is dependent on each student's commitment to abide by the Honor Code and his or her

intolerance for violations of the Honor Code by fellow students.

ACAOM cannot list every behavior that can be considered a violation of the Honor Code. Therefore, the Code seeks to describe generally what constitutes improper or unprofessional behavior. Honor Code violations generally include, but are not limited to, the following behavior or conduct:

1. Disruptive conduct on campus or at an ACAOM Clinic— Disruptive conduct on campus includes, but is not limited to, on-campus disruptive conduct that substantially or repeatedly interferes with a faculty member's ability to teach or a student's ability to learn; on-campus conduct that is threatening; on-campus conduct that incites others to breach the peace on campus; or on-campus violation of state or federal laws, including possession of firearms, explosives, and other prohibited offensive weapons.
2. Belligerence or insubordination to a faculty member, administrator, or other staff member.
3. Violation of ACAOM's Anti-Discrimination and Harassment Policy.
4. Cheating, plagiarism, forgery of documents, records, or identification. Cheating is defined as follows:
 - a. Giving or receiving help from another student during an examination including tests, quizzes, and other forms of work done for evaluation purposes.
 - b. Using books, notes, or any other sources of information without the permission of the instructor during the examination.
 - c. Misrepresenting the facts in order to obtain exceptions to fulfillment or timing of required course work or examinations.
 - d. Unauthorized reproduction and distribution of examinations.
5. Professional dress is expected while on campus and at on-campus clinics. Additional dress code rules apply for the Clinical Training component of the program. (See Clinic Handbook.)
6. Theft, vandalism, or property damage.
7. Violation of ACAOM's policy prohibiting smoking, illegal drugs, and alcoholic beverages on the main campus or in any off-campus clinics. Violation of ACAOM's Prohibited Weapons Policy.
8. Treating or attempting to treat a fellow student or other person, except when authorized to do so in an ACAOM clinic setting under the supervision of ACAOM clinical staff.
9. Allowing another student to treat you except when the other student has been authorized to do so in an ACAOM clinic setting while under supervision of ACAOM clinical staff.
10. Failure to responsibly select, use, and discard all acupuncture needles and related materials according to clinic and federal regulations.

11. Violation of federal laws regulating the duplication of copyrighted materials.
12. Violations of the Student Handbook, the Clinical Handbook, or the ACAOM catalog.

ACAOM has the right to take precautionary or preventative measures to protect its members based on accusations or convictions that the institution deems to be a threat or potential threat. ACAOM may place a student charged with violating the above Honor Code on probation, suspension, or expulsion. A student receiving such disciplinary action for violating the Honor Code shall have the right to due process and be given prompt notice of the charges, the conditions of probation, and an opportunity for a hearing within ten (10) school days before a tribunal of peers and ACAOM faculty chaired by the Vice President of Operations. The accused student shall have the right to counsel, the right to call witnesses, and to cross examine any who provide evidence. Restrictions may be imposed upon a student during any suspension/probation period. Violation of any condition of the interim probation or suspension shall be grounds for expulsion.

Cheating will be reported to the Vice President of Academic Affairs who will decide the appropriate actions to be taken which may include suspension, probation, or expulsion. The Vice President's decision is final unless appealed by the student within 48 hours after receiving notice of the decision. The President, through the Office of Compliance, will then make the final decision.

If a student is charged with a violation of any local, state, or federal law and the student's conduct involves a violation of the Honor Code, ACAOM will review the matter and decide upon disciplinary action independently of any governmental, administrative, or civil proceedings.

Plagiarism

- Plagiarism is a violation of the ACAOM honor code which you signed. Simply put, plagiarism is representing the ideas or work of another as your own. ACAOM will not tolerate plagiarism in your work. To avoid plagiarism
 - You will need to use appropriate citations in all of your work (text, graphics, video, audio) with correct references at the end.
 - You will need to use correct citations and references for web resources, books, articles, graphics, video, audio, and personal communications.
 - You will need to use appropriate techniques for paraphrasing, and quoting the work of another.
- The ACAOM penalties for plagiarism may include failing grades, suspension, probation, or expulsion.
- Self-plagiarism has also been called double-dipping, in which a student submits the same work for more than one course. Students who submit work that they

submitted in a prior course will face the consequences for plagiarism. Previous work may be submitted with appropriate citation after prior approval from the current faculty member.

- Plagiarism may also occur when the student uses the services of an editor for their work and it is the responsibility of the student to ensure their work as submitted is not plagiarized. Students should consult with their faculty prior to engaging an editor for assistance.
- For more resources on plagiarism, visit the Office of Research Integrity of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services at <https://ori.hhs.gov/avoiding-plagiarism-self-plagiarism-and-other-questionable-writing-practices-guide-ethical-writing> (link verified 4/20/21)

Populi

- All students and faculty will utilize Populi for online coursework.
- Students will be required to have a telephone, computer, internet access, and a webcam.
- Students will keep their Populi username and password secure and never share it with any other person.
- Faculty will set guidelines for how often students shall access Populi on a weekly basis for each course.

Online Communication Policies

- At all times, students and faculty will maintain professional and respectful communications and honor confidentiality.
- Faculty will respond to student communications within 48 hours and within work hours (M-F 8 AM – 6 PM) unless other arrangements have been made.
- To facilitate communication, faculty and students may forward their ACAOM email account to their personal email. To facilitate discussions in Populi, students and faculty may set discussions to Get Email Updates. (Computer screen will show button to say Stop Email Updates).

Late Work Policies

- You are expected to submit all assignments and projects by the due dates published in the course syllabus. At their discretion, faculty may assess penalties for late work or not accept late work. Certain course activities may not be eligible for submission after the conclusion of the week or unit. These include, but are not limited to, discussion boards, seminars, quizzes, and exams. No late work will be accepted after the end of term without an Incomplete Grade approval
- You may request an extension or alternative arrangement, preferably prior to the due date, but I will respect and uphold the laws and traditions that govern my profession and adhere to its ethical principles and abide by the Honor Codes of

your request does not automatically result in a waiver of the due date or of the penalties for late submissions. Your professor will determine whether an exception to the college late policy is appropriate. S/he may also require you to provide documentation of the reason. If your faculty determines that an extension is warranted, s/he will provide you with the expectations for your submission or assignment in writing.

- We know that extenuating circumstances can interfere with timely submission of your work. Extenuating circumstances include, but are not limited to, personal/family member hospitalization, family member death, a severe weather event, a natural disaster, and an active military assignment that prevents internet connectivity. Computer-related issues, Internet connectivity, and account blocks are generally not considered extenuating circumstances.
- It is your responsibility as the student to contact your professor as soon as possible to discuss your issue of late work and to make arrangements.

Discussion Posts

- Each faculty member will specify the timing and frequency of discussion posts appropriate for their particular class.
- Discussion posts will be awarded full points when they demonstrate insight, understanding, and clear relationship to the original question and subsequent posts and threads.
- An exemplary discussion post will provide relevant links to supporting materials with appropriate citations and references.
- Students will respond to their colleagues and their faculty with their personal opinions in an appropriate style.
- Posts will be readable, without spelling and grammatical errors.
- For optimal learning, a discussion will evolve into a series of posts that build one upon another to develop a depth of understanding.

Medical Pledge and Declaration

ACAOM adopts a ceremony at new student orientation and graduation in which students declare their commitment to assume the responsibilities and obligations of medical profession:

From this day forward, I pledge and commit myself to the ethical, responsible, and diligent practice of my medical profession.

American College of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine.

I will treat my teachers, coworkers, patients, and fellow students with respect. I pledge to uphold the highest standards of professional and personal integrity and, through my words and actions, encourage others to do the same.

I will hold sacred the professional confidences shared with me. I will enter into professional discussions with an open mind and a collegial spirit.

I promise to honor and serve patients and profession, by striving for the highest level of competence in my discipline. I will be a contributing member of the community of health professions scholars and enrich the classroom and clinic with my reasoned ideas and opinions.

I will contribute to the professional advancement of others by sharing traditional and innovative methods of practice and mentoring those who would gain from my knowledge and experiences.

I will consistently behave in a way that brings honor upon my College, my University and my discipline. I will not glory in my reputation. I will not discredit other acupuncturists and medical professionals while I praise my own virtues.

From this day forward, I am a professional, and may my thoughts, words and deeds forever proclaim this fact to the society I pledge to serve.

Thus, I shall fulfill my responsibilities and my destiny as a (potential) acupuncturist (medical professionals) until I am no longer capable of fulfilling my obligations, or until the end of my lifetime.

Civil Rights and Non-Discrimination Policy

1.0 Policy Statement:

ACAOM is committed to the principle of equal opportunity in education and employment. ACAOM prohibits discrimination against and harassment of any student, employee, applicant for employment, third party or community member because of race; color; national or ethnic origin; age; religion; disability; sex; sexual orientation; gender; gender identity and expression; including a transgender identity; genetics; veteran status; retaliation; and any other characteristic protected under applicable

federal or state law, herein called "protected categories." The College expects all ACAOM employees, students, and community members to join with and uphold this commitment. ACAOM also prohibits retaliation based on a protected activity, such as the filing of a complaint of discrimination or participation in the investigation of such a claim. Any witness, complainant or respondent involved in an investigation ought not to be retaliated against for their participation in the fact-finding process. All ACAOM personnel at the exempt level who are responsible for hiring, promoting, and managing employees and/or College programs are required to promptly escalate all potential violations of this policy to a manager or supervisor, a dean, any senior member of the College administration, directly to the Office of Compliance (tligon@acaom.edu). ACAOM's Office of Compliance is also responsible for planning and implementing the College's affirmative action program and monitoring affirmative action-related decisions and activities in accordance with state and federal law. ACAOM seeks to maintain an internal system of audit and reporting that shall facilitate the identification and removal of inequities and deficiencies in its employment and those policies and practices that could preclude the fair and equal treatment of minorities, women, individuals with disabilities, and all protected veterans.

2.0 Definitions

Unlawful discrimination occurs when a person is harassed or treated arbitrarily or differently because of the person's real or implied membership in a "protected category" such as race; color; national or ethnic origin; age; religion; disability; sex; sexual orientation; gender; gender identity and expression; including a transgender identity; veteran status; genetics; retaliation; and any other characteristic protected under applicable federal or state law.

For the purposes of this policy, protected veteran status includes (1) disabled veterans; (2) recently separated veterans; (3) active duty wartime or campaign badge veterans; and (4) Armed Forces service medal veterans. The classifications of protected veterans are defined as follows:

- A "disabled veteran" means: (1) a veteran of the U.S. military, ground, naval or air service who is entitled to compensation (or who but for the receipt of military

retired pay would be entitled to compensation) under laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, or (2) a person who was discharged or released from active duty because of a service-connected disability.

- A "recently separated veteran" means any veteran during the three-year period beginning on the date of such veteran's discharge or release from active duty in the U.S. military, ground, naval or air service.
- An "active duty wartime or campaign badge veteran" means a veteran who served on active duty in the U.S. military, ground, naval or air service during a war or in a campaign or expedition for which a campaign badge has been authorized, under the laws administered by the Department of Defense. For additional information see:

<http://www.opm.gov/staffingportal/vgmedal2.asp>.

- An "Armed Forces service medal veteran" means any veteran who, while serving on active duty in the U.S. military, ground, naval or air service, participated in a United States military operation for which an Armed Forces service medal was awarded pursuant to Executive Order 12985 (61 FR 1209). For additional information see:

<http://www.opm.gov/staffingportal/vgmedal2.asp>

In the employment context, discrimination may begin with an adverse employment action, which is something an employer has done that is unfair to an employee (for example: terminating the employee or not selecting him or her for hire or a promotion, harassing the employee, denying the employee's request for a reasonable accommodation, etc.). If the Office of Compliance determines, through fact-finding, that the employee or applicant's membership in a protected category was the reason for the adverse employment action, this may lead to a policy violation of the non-discrimination policy and/or any other policy herein.

Personality differences or conflicts, general mistreatment not based on the above protected categories, or a response to poor performance are usually employee relations issues, not discrimination matters. Contact the VP of Operations at aguinara@acaom.edu with any questions regarding potential employment discrimination.

Similarly, if a student or community member believes that s/he was treated differently in their education program or activity because of their real or implied membership in a protected category as defined above, you may contact the Office of Compliance (tligon@acaom.edu) with their concerns.

3.0 Complaint Procedures

Begin by contacting the Office of Compliance (Theresa Ligon, tligon@acaom.edu) with the details of

The Discrimination Complaint, or Angelia Guinara (aguinara@acaom.edu) regarding employment-related complaints.

The Office of Compliance reviews each case uniquely and the formal process is sometimes not linear

or fixed. In most cases, the investigative process will take approximately 60 business days, though more complex cases may take longer. If a complaint is filed before summer, before finals or before a college break, there may be a delay in the investigative process.

Once a complaint is submitted in writing, it will be shared with the respondent and should include things like date, time, location and enough details for the Office of Compliance to investigate the allegations and for the respondent to understand the nature of the complaint.

The Office of Compliance will assign an investigator who will complete interviews with the complainant, respondent and/or any witnesses. The investigator will also gather any documentation and evidence relevant to the complaint. ACAOM does allow one support person with the complainant or respondent in each meeting/interview. Witnesses are not allowed to bring a support person to their interview or meeting. Parties should inform the investigator at least a day prior to an interview if they plan to bring a support person to a meeting with the Office of Compliance. Support persons will not be allowed to engage with or interact with the investigator during these meetings but are allowed to confer with the party if they wish. If a support person interrupts or is disruptive in these meetings they will be asked to leave the meeting.

Parties may request an accommodation at any point in this process by contacting the Office of

Compliance at 713-780-9777, or tligon@acaom.edu.

4.0 Preliminary Findings Report

The investigator will complete a fact-finding report with preliminary findings. This report will be shared with the complainant and respondent. Note that reports may be partially redacted for reasons of confidentiality. Parties will need to request access for their support person, if necessary.

Both the complainant and respondent have the opportunity to submit an appeal or rebuttal within seven (7) days. The Office of Compliance reviews any final due process information. If no further investigation is required, the Office of Compliance will make a final decision as to a violation of policy. A letter of outcome will be delivered to both parties in writing and will outline any policy violations and other relevant information.

5.0 Resolution of Complaint and Corrective Actions

The Office of Compliance does not make disciplinary decisions and refers the final report and letter of outcome with policy violations (if any) to the relevant decision-makers for any relevant action consistent with the final Office of Compliance decision. Relevant decision-makers may include the HR Department, a respondent's supervisor, department chair, Dean, Vice President, President, or other member of leadership.

6.0 Interim Measures

At any point in the investigative process, including at the beginning, middle or conclusion of an investigation and/or at the disciplinary stage, the College may implement interim remedial measures to address the safety of the complainant, other witness(es), or the ACAOM community. Interim measures may also be available to those who decide against filing a formal complaint or choose not to pursue a complaint.

If you would like to request an interim measure or other support, please contact the Office of Compliance at 713-780-9777, or tligon@acaom.edu.

7.0 Informal Process

Alternative dispute resolution such as mediation or facilitated conversations are available as an option and alternative to the formal process in appropriate cases. Complainants may be able to choose anonymity in this process and the Office of Compliance staff will work with the complainant as to what to include in any discussion or conversation. Note that this option is not appropriate for cases involving sexual or other discriminatory assault or other sexual or discrimination related violence.

8.0 Privacy and Confidentiality

Cooperation and truthfulness from all participants is expected in all Office of Compliance investigations. The College recognizes the importance of privacy and confidentiality in these matters and the Office of Compliance will uphold the privacy and confidentiality of all parties to the extent practicable.

Some individuals filing complaints or involved in an investigation may want their identity to remain confidential. In informal instances, the respondent can be spoken to without the complainant being identified. In other cases, issues of confidentiality must be balanced against the College's need to investigate and take appropriate action. While discretion remains important, parties are not restricted from discussing and sharing information relating to their complaints with others who may support them or assist them in presenting their case.

Regardless of the process used in an individual case, Office of Compliance will maintain its investigative files (including policy related decisions, if any and if known) for compliance-related interests. Any and all documents retained at the conclusion of a formal or informal resolution of a complaint will be maintained by the College in a safe and confidential manner.

Freedom from Retaliation

Any member of the College community has the right to raise concerns about or file a good faith complaint of discrimination without fear of retaliation. It is unlawful and a violation of school policy to retaliate against an individual for filing a complaint of discrimination or for cooperating in a

discrimination investigation. Retaliation is strictly prohibited against anyone who reports an incident of discrimination or brings forward a complaint or who in any way participates in an inquiry or investigation of discrimination. Retaliation is also prohibited against anyone who opposes, in a reasonable manner, an act or policy believed to constitute a violation of the ACAOM non-discrimination policies.

Retaliation may include things like hostility, intimidation, threats, exclusion or in any way discriminating against an individual because of the individual's complaint or participation (or perceived participation) in the investigative process. Any person who retaliates against an individual reporting discrimination, filing a discrimination complaint, or participating in a discrimination investigation is subject to disciplinary action up to and including termination from the school.

Sexual Harassment

1.0 ACAOM's Policy Statement on Sexual Misconduct

To maintain a campus environment emphasizing the dignity and worth of all members of its community, ACAOM is committed to creating and maintaining an educational environment free from all forms of sex discrimination, and strictly prohibits all sorts of sexual misconducts including the offenses of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking.

It is the policy of ACAOM that, upon learning that an act of sexual misconduct has taken place, immediate actions will be taken to address the situation. These include seeking disciplinary action through the college and working with State and local law enforcement to bring possible criminal charges.

ACAOM encourages the reporting of sexual misconduct that is prompt and accurate. ACAOM is committed to protecting the confidentiality of victims, and will work closely with students who wish to obtain confidential assistance regarding an incident.

It is the collective responsibility of all members of ACAOM community to foster a safe and secure

campus environment. In an effort to promote this environment and prevent sexual misconducts from happening, the College engages in on-going prevention and awareness education programs that require all incoming students and new employees to participate.

2.0 Legal Requirements

2.1 The Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 prohibits discrimination (including sexual harassment and sexual violence) based on sex in the College's educational programs and activities. Title IX also prohibits retaliation for asserting or otherwise participating in claims of sex discrimination. Educational programs and activities that receive ED funds must operate in a nondiscriminatory manner. Some key issue areas in which recipients have Title IX obligations are: recruitment, admissions, and counseling; financial assistance; athletics; sex-based harassment; treatment of pregnant and parenting students; discipline; single-sex education; and employment.

2.2 The Clery Act (20 U.S.C. §1092(f)) requires annual reporting of statistics for various criminal offenses including forcible and non-forcible sex offenses and aggravated assault.

2.3 The Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act (VAWA) adds domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking to the existing regulations. The definitions are:

- "Domestic violence" includes asserted violent misdemeanor and felony offenses committed by the victim's current or former spouse, current or former cohabitant, person similarly situated under domestic or family violence law, or anyone else protected under domestic or family violence law.
- "Dating violence" means violence by a person who has been in a romantic or intimate relationship with the victim. Whether there was such relationship will be gauged by its length, type, and frequency of interaction.
- "Stalking" means a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to fear for her, his, or others' safety, or to suffer substantial emotional distress.

2.4 Per Texas Penal code 1.07(a)(11), “Consent’ means assent in fact, whether express or apparent.”

3.0 Scope of the policy

3.1 This policy applies to all members of the ACAOM community, including students, faculty, staff, clinic patients, and other third parties who are on campus and involved in an incident of sexual misconduct. The policy applies to all parties regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity.

3.2 This policy prohibits all forms of sexual misconduct. This broad term includes, but is not limited to, acts of sexual harassment, sexual violence, sexual coercion, sexual threats or intimidation, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, and cyber-stalking.

3.3 This policy covers conduct that takes place on the college campus. This includes any building or property owned or controlled by ACAOM and used in direct support of, or in a manner related to, the school’s educational purposes.

3.4 This policy covers all educational, extracurricular, or other school-related activities, including, but not limited to, student organizations, community organizations with student [and/or faculty] participation, and all other educational or extracurricular events hosted by or at the college.

3.5 This policy covers safe and positive options bystanders can employ to intervene in or prevent a sexual assault.

4.0 Education and Prevention program

The College’s Educational program focuses on the prevention and awareness of sexual misconducts for all incoming students and new employees and ongoing awareness and prevention campaigns for students, faculty, and staff that:

- Identify domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking as prohibited conduct
- Define what behavior constitutes domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking;
- Define what behavior and actions constitute consent to sexual activity under the College policy and in the State of Texas;

- Provide an overview of information contained in the Annual Security Report in compliance with the Clery Act.
- Provide a list of bystander options that are safe and positive to help prevent or stop a sexual assault.

To implement this program, a copy of this policy together with the College’s Sexual Harassment Policy, and the Annual Security Report will be distributed annually as follows:

- Distribute by email to all students and employees annually
- Distribute to new students and new employees during their initial orientation sessions
- Post these documents to the College’s website, and online portal (Populi).

5.0 Procedures Survivors Can Follow After an Offense

A victim (survivor) of sexual violence, stalking, or dating or domestic violence may consider the following:

5.1 Consider contacting local law enforcement to file a report and notify a College designated Title IX Coordinator or Campus Security Authority, who can provide support and help identify available resources. The duties of the Title IX Coordinator include responding to incident reports, coordinating communication and record keeping among offices and agencies, disseminating information to the campus through materials and training sessions, ensuring that the victim receives whatever immediate care and follow-up are needed, establishing procedures for classifying and counting incidents, and filing Clery reports that are as comprehensive and accurate as possible.

5.2 Talk with a confidential counselor, who will help explain your options, and provide relevant information and emotional support.

5.3 In addition to a student survivor’s choice to pursue options through the legal system, if the alleged perpetrator is College affiliated, there are disciplinary and non-disciplinary options available through ACAOM.

6.0 Bystander options

6.1 Bystanders who witness a sexual assault, or attempted sexual assault, have many options to intervene.

6.1 a According to RAINN.org, a national organization that advocates on behalf of rape, assault and incest victims, bystanders have

options including: creating a distraction, asking directly to stop, referring to an authority, enlisting others for help.

6.0 Reporting Sexual Violence

6.1 A victim may report sexual violence to local law enforcement, the Title IX Coordinator or a Campus Security Authority who will assist in gaining information that may lead to the arrest of an offender or aid in the investigation of other incidents.

6.2 A victim may also choose to pursue College disciplinary action. In any disciplinary proceeding alleging a sex offense, the accuser and the accused are entitled to the same opportunities to have others present as representatives and witnesses. Possible sanctions in the event of a finding of in violation include, but are not limited to, suspension and exclusion.

6.3 These procedures serve to be sensitive to those who report sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking, which include informing individuals about their right to file criminal charges as well as the availability of medical, counseling and support services. Also included are additional remedies to prevent contact between a complainant and an accused party, such as academic, and working accommodations, if reasonably available.

6.4 The survivor has the right to choose whether to file a police report. Campus Security Authority has the duty to inform the police for Clery purposes. Typically, timely reporting to the police is an important factor in successful investigation and prosecution of sexual violence cases. Reporting sexual violence to the police will assist in gaining information that may lead to the arrest of an offender or aid in the investigation of other incidents. The investigation and prosecution, or discipline, of the offender may help prevent future incidents. Reporting the incident does not mean a sexual violence survivor is obligated to take the offender to court (i.e., prosecute). In addition to, or instead of, possible criminal prosecution, a survivor may also choose to pursue a complaint through applicable College procedures.

Although the College encourages all members of its community to report violations of this policy to law enforcement, it is the victim's choice whether or not to make such a report and victims have the right to decline involvement with the police. Upon

request, College officials are available to assist any victim with notifying local police if they so desire.

6.5 The College also encourages individuals to report incidents of sexual misconduct to the ACAOM Title IX Coordinator and/or Campus Security Authority. All College employees (including student employees), as well as non-employees with teaching or supervisory authority, are obligated to report sexual misconduct of which they become aware to a Title IX Coordinator or Campus Security Authority, unless they have a recognized confidentiality privilege. Title IX Coordinator will assist an ACAOM community member in reporting a sexual offense (or other crime) to local law enforcement authorities.

7.0 College Procedures for Investigating and Resolving a Complaint

The College disciplinary process will include a prompt, fair, and impartial investigation and resolution process.

- a. The accuser and the accused individual each have the opportunity to attend a hearing before a properly trained hearing board or meet with a properly trained investigator; Any hearing board member that is deemed to have a conflict of interest will be recused.
- b. The accuser and the accused individual each have the opportunity to be accompanied by an advisor of their choice at any stage of the process and to be accompanied by that advisor at any meeting or hearing. An advisor may only consult and advise his or her advisee, but not speak for the advisee at any meeting or hearing;
- c. A decision is based on the preponderance of evidence standard, i.e. "more likely than not to have occurred" standard. In other words, the conduct process asks: "is it more likely than not that the accused individual violated the College's policy?"
- d. The accuser and the accused will be notified simultaneously in writing of the outcome of any

disciplinary proceeding, as well as any changes to those results or disciplinary actions prior to the time that such results become final and they will also be made aware when such results become final; and

- e. The accuser and the accused each have the right to appeal the outcome of a hearing or investigation and will be notified simultaneously in writing of the final outcome after the appeal is resolved.
- f. a prompt, fair, and impartial proceeding includes a proceeding that is completed within reasonably prompt timeframes designated by a school's policy, including a process that allows for the extension of timeframes for good cause with written notice to the accuser and the accused of the delay and the reason for the delay.

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8.0 Assistance for Survivors

8.1 Protective Measures

Regardless of whether a victim chooses to report a crime to the Campus Security Authority or local law enforcement, the Title IX Coordinator will determine whether interim interventions and protective measures should be implemented, and, if so, take steps to implement those protective measures as soon as possible.

Examples of interim protective measures include, but are not limited to: an order of no contact, safe-space zones, adjustment of course schedules or work-study employment, a leave of absence, transportation arrangements, or reassignment to a different supervisor or position. These remedies may be applied to one, both, or multiple parties involved. Violations of these directives and/or protective measures will constitute violations that may lead to disciplinary action. Protective measures imposed may be temporary pending the results of an investigation or may become permanent as determined by ACAOM.

8.2 Sanctions

Sanctions against students, faculty and staff

In all cases, investigations that result in a finding of more likely than not that a violation of the Policy on Sexual Misconduct, Stalking, and Dating and Domestic Violence occurred will lead to the initiation of disciplinary procedures against the accused individual. Disciplinary sanctions that may be imposed for violations of the Policy on Sexual Misconduct, Stalking, and Dating and Domestic Violence include, but are not limited to exclusion, suspension, deferred suspension, disciplinary probation, and warning, loss of privileges or activities, and termination of employment. Sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking are criminal acts which also may subject the perpetrator to criminal and/or civil penalties under US and other applicable laws.

A student or employee who reports to the Title IX Coordinator shall be provided with a written explanation of the student or employee's rights and options, to include a link to all of the information contained in this policy.

Sanctions against Clinic patients and other third party individuals

Investigations that result in a finding of more likely than not that a violation of this policy occurred will lead to prohibiting these individuals from entering into the campus buildings and its affiliated facilities, or participating in other out-of-campus College events. Serious criminal acts will be reported to law enforcement agencies for legal proceedings, and the perpetrators may subject to criminal and/or civil penalties under applicable laws.

9.0 Prohibition of Retaliation

ACAOM strictly prohibits any retaliation against any individual for reporting, providing information, exercising one's rights or responsibilities under this policy, or otherwise being involved in the process of responding to, investigating, or addressing allegations of sexual misconduct. Therefore, any retaliation, intimidation, threats, coercion, or discrimination against any such individual will be addressed in the most serious way by ACAOM, and individuals who engage in such actions are subject to disciplinary action that may include suspension, exclusion, or dismissal from the College.

Anyone who is aware of possible retaliation or has other concerns regarding the response to a complaint of sexual misconduct should report such concerns to the Title IX Coordinator, who shall take

appropriate actions to address such conduct in a prompt and equitable manner.

10.0 Confidentiality

The College will protect the identity of persons who report having been victims of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking to the best of its ability. All reports and information concerning conduct that is inconsistent with this policy will be handled discreetly, with facts made available to those who need to know to respond, investigate, and/or resolve the matter.

When a complainant does not consent to the disclosure of his or her name or other identifiable information of the alleged perpetrator, the College's ability to respond to the complaint may be limited.

11.0 Campus Security Officials

11.1 Titles and Responsibilities

Campus Security Authority

The Campus Security Authority is a College designated official who has significant responsibility for student and campus activities, including, but not limited to, student housing, student discipline and campus judicial proceedings. This official has the authority and the duty to take action or respond to particular issues on behalf of the institution.

The Title IX Coordinator

The duties of the Title IX Coordinator include responding to incident reports, coordinating communication and record keeping among offices and agencies, disseminating information to the campus through materials and training sessions, ensuring that the victim receives whatever immediate care and follow-up are needed, establishing procedures for classifying and counting incidents, and filing Clery reports that are as comprehensive and accurate as possible.

11.2 Contact Information

Campus Security Authority – Angelia Guinara, 713-780-9777 aguinara@acaom.edu
Title IX Coordinator – Theresa Ligon, 713-780-9777 tligon@acaom.edu