

Student Conduct Annual Report 2020 - 2021



## **Overview and Purpose**

Waubonsee Community College strives to create a community climate where learning can flourish and all students feel welcome and respected. To that end, the Code of Student Conduct reflects what is expected of students (self-respect, integrity and respect for others) and outlines the procedures for addressing and redressing conduct of students and student organizations that fail to abide by these standards.

The purpose of this report is to summarize Student Conduct activity during the 2020-2021 academic year, defined as August 1, 2020 through July 31, 2021. This annual report includes aggregate data generated from incident reports, informal administrative hearings, student conduct board hearings and sanctions.\*

All alleged violations of the Code of Student Conduct were processed through the Office of the Dean for Students, which places procedural due process as a top priority. Any student charged with a violation of the Code was made aware of their rights and responsibilities through a one-page document attached to their notification letter detailing the process and key points in the Code of Student Conduct. Furthermore, students are provided opportunities to ask questions about their rights and the conduct process prior to the hearing.

The Code of Student Conduct has 22 defined rules and regulations expected of students and an overview of the eight-step conduct process students may experience if charged with a violation. The Code of Student Conduct also lists possible sanctions and the appeal process. It concludes with the college's plagiarism statement. For more information pertaining to the Code of Student Conduct, please review pages 139-154 in the 2021-2022 Student Handbook.

\*All analysis based on Waubonsee data derived from Maxient Student Conduct database (8/1/2020 to 7/31/2021)

Waubonsee does not discriminate on the basis of any individual's actual or perceived race, color, creed, religion, gender, gender identity, sex, sexual orientation, age, national origin, ancestry, veteran's status, military status, unfavorable discharge from military service, marital status, order of protection status, pregnancy, disability, citizenship status or any other characteristic protected by law in its programs or activities. Inquiries regarding this policy may be directed to: Michele Needham, Title IX/ADA/Section 504 Coordinator, Route 47 at Waubonsee Drive, Sugar Grove, IL 60554, compliance@waubonsee.edu.

# **Executive Summary 2020-2021**

Any member of the college community can submit a Waubonsee Intervention Form (WIF) for a variety of reasons, including: report an alleged violation of the Student Code of Conduct, share a concern about a student in need of support, submit a harassment/discrimination concern or document an incident. One WIF can involve one or multiple students. Additionally, students can submit a WIF to file a complaint about a Waubonsee program or employee. All forms can be found on the college's public website at <a href="https://www.waubonsee.edu/student-experience/student-services/student-intervention-support/student-conduct-and-student-complaints-reports">https://www.waubonsee.edu/student-experience/student-services/student-intervention-support/student-conduct-and-student-complaints-reports</a>. Student complaints and discrimination/harassment reports are documented in separate reports.

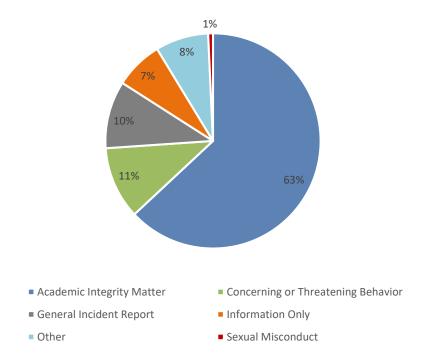
There was a total of 195 WIF reports submitted in 2020-2021. Of these,138 were related to student conduct or behavioral issues. This is nearly a 29% increase in cases from the previous year. In some instances, conduct-related reports were submitted by several people regarding the same incident which resulted in multiple WIFs being merged into one case. In other instances, minor behavioral concerns that didn't warrant conduct charges were referred to Counseling and Student Support.

The largest proportion of WIFs (over 60%) were reported as "academic integrity incidents" which is a 40% increase from last years numbers. A total of 35 cases involved conduct charges that were referred for conduct hearings. Of these, 27 were heard by the Student Conduct Board and 8 were conducted as Administrative Hearings.

# **Aggregate Summary of Student Conduct 2020-2021**

### **Reporting Overview**

Of all the Waubonsee Intervention Forms (WIFs) submitted,138 were related to student conduct or behavioral issues. The table below illustrates the breakdown of the conduct-related categories.

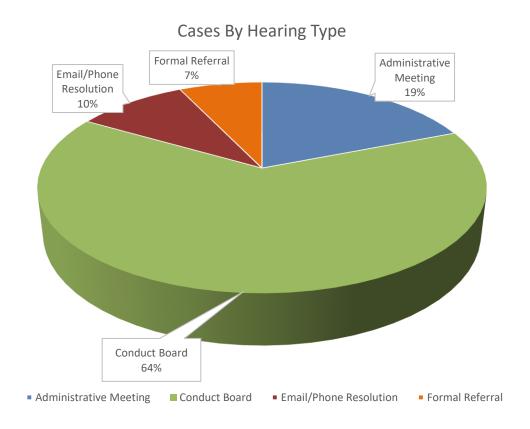


Examples of cases that fell within the conduct categories are provided below:

- Academic Integrity included plagiarism, cheating on tests and using unauthorized materials for assignments.
- **Concerning or threatening behavior** included inappropriate texting or emailing instructors and concerning behavior in the classroom or online.
- **General incident reports** included inappropriate language, inappropriate sharing on social media and disruptive behavior.
- Information only reports included mental health concerns and other concerns that the reporters wished to simply document.
- *Other* included incidents that cannot be classified otherwise, such as an atypical traffic violation on campus.
- Sexual Misconduct

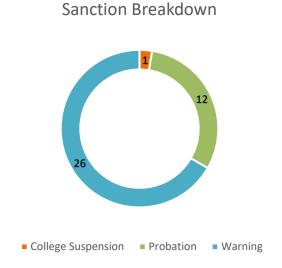
### **Conduct Cases**

Of the thirty-five conduct hearing referrals, a total of twenty-seven cases were sent to the Student Conduct Board, and eight administrative hearings were conducted individually by the Dean for Students Office. Each Student Conduct Board hearing consisted of no fewer than two faculty members and one student representative.



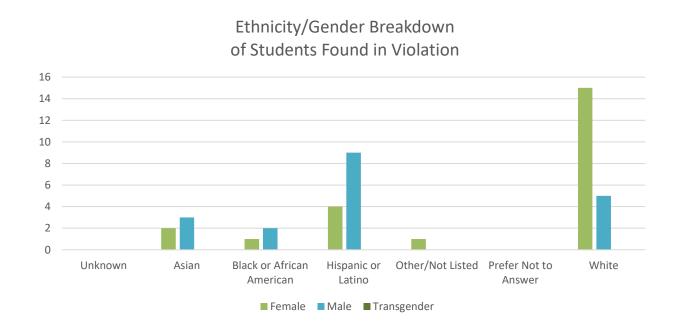
### **Most Common Sanctions**

Of all the conduct violation findings, there was one suspension, twelve probations, and twenty-six warnings.



### **Case Count by Student Gender and Ethnicity**

Of the students who were found in violation of at least one conduct charge, twenty-three of these students were women and nineteen were men. Gender distribution was more disproportionate this year than in previous years.



### **Outreach Efforts 2020-2021**

Several institutional programs and initiatives support the promotion and maintenance of a safe, supportive campus learning environment. The full Code of Conduct is printed in the Student Handbook each year. Additionally, the college provides several student awareness and prevention programs that directly or indirectly support campus civility, safety and awareness of the Code of Conduct. Below are some examples:

Know the Code poster and video campaign

Conduct training introduction and overview sessions

Access Center Outreach

Workshops on WIFs and Conduct reporting for faculty

Student Conduct Information at New Student Orientation, Student Welcome Days and Faculty Orientation fairs

Individual consultations on student behavioral issues with students, faculty and staff (provided by counselors, officer, dean or AVP)

Student Bystander Intervention Training

Sexual Violence prevention and awareness videos

### **Student Conduct Board 2020-2021**

The members of the Student Conduct Board are focused on student learning and remain steadfast in restoring justice through the conduct process in our community. All SCB members participate in mandatory training each year prior to their service on the Student Conduct Board. Each Conduct Hearing consists of a quorum of (minimally) two faculty and one student. Several Student Conduct Board members have offered their support to the Conduct Board for multiple years. The time and service provided by these dedicated students and faculty members is commendable.

#### **Faculty Members**

David Barreto
Pam Brooks
Robert Cook
Scott Hollenback\*
Heidy Kindelin\*
Jennifer McGuire
Michael Moran\*
Melissa Morgan
Denise Nakaji
Marjie Schoolfield
Karl Schulze

#### **Student Members**

Angela Dassis
Brianna de los Santos
Kevin Kennedy
Carlos Solis Morales
Emily White
Emily Vegrzyn

\*indicates that they have also served as chairperson and facilitators of the Student Conduct Board

Questions regarding information found within this report should be directed to Dean for Students at (630) 466-5748 or <a href="mailto:deanforstudents@waubonsee.edu.">deanforstudents@waubonsee.edu.</a>

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