

314.01 Sexual Harassment

Umpqua Community College is committed to providing all employees and students with the opportunity to work and learn in an environment free from discrimination, including harassment. It is a violation of college policy for any employee or student to engage in harassment of any other college employee or student.

Sexual harassment includes any sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature when, either explicitly or implicitly:

1. It is made a condition of employment or a basis for employment decisions regarding students or staff; or
2. It is made a condition for a student's enrollment, evaluation, or satisfactory progress in a class or program; or
3. Such behavior unreasonably interferes with a student or staff member's academic or work performance by creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive learning or work environment.

UCC employees and students who feel they have been subjected to sexual harassment are encouraged to first pursue an informal resolution to their complaint. Employees should bring their concerns to the attention of their supervisors, the appropriate Vice President, or the college Affirmative Action Officer. Students are encouraged to discuss their concerns with a college counselor or the Vice President for Student Services. Every effort will be made to maintain confidentiality for both the complainant and the accused at the informal level.

If the situation is irresolvable by informal means, employees and students should promptly seek assistance from the college Affirmative Action Officer and follow the formal discrimination grievance procedures. Impartial replacements will be selected by the President in the event that a member of the Personnel/Affirmative Action Committee is the alleged harasser.

UCC supervisors are responsible for promoting an environment that is free from sexual harassment. UCC will thoroughly investigate all reported incidents of sexual harassment. Employees or students found to be in violation of this policy will be subject to immediate discipline, including possible termination or suspension from the college.

UCC will not tolerate retaliation of any kind against employees or students based upon their allegations regarding sexual harassment. Retaliatory behavior will be considered a breach of this policy and will be dealt with accordingly.

Employees and students should be aware that formal allegations of sexual harassment carry potentially serious consequences to the person charged. Such allegations should be made if warranted, but should be made with accuracy and truthfulness.