

# Frequently Asked Questions regarding the General Student Regulations

## What are the GSRs?

The *General Student Regulations* govern the conduct of all MSU students. This is different than the Residence Hall Regulations, which only apply in and around residence halls. The UCSA Subcommittee on Policy has submitted a number of amendments to the GSRs for consideration.

## What are the main proposed changes to the GSRs?

The first proposed change is an extension of the GSRs' jurisdiction. If the change is accepted, the GSRs would apply off-campus when the alleged misconduct causes or threatens to cause serious bodily harm to another individual, as well as when the conduct brings continuous adverse effects back to campus. [See GSR Introduction.]

One proposed change affects the way drug and alcohol charges are handled. Possession, use, manufacture, sale, and distribution of drugs are currently all prohibited by the same regulation. By splitting up "possess or use" and "manufacture, sell, or distribute" into two separate regulations, cited violations will more accurately reflect the misconduct. [See proposed GSR 2.11-2.14.]

The next change address behaviors that have arisen as a result of technology's effects on the classroom (students selling exams online, etc.). [See proposed GSR 4.09.]

## Why is an off-campus policy being proposed?

The policy would allow the University to address behaviors that have a significant impact on the University community that occurred off-campus and do not fall under current regulations.

## What is a "continuing adverse effect"?

Modeled after the language in the Relationship Violence and Sexual Misconduct Policy and Anti-Discrimination Policy, a continuing adverse effect is defined as:

*"Causing or threatening to cause a substantial negative impact on the safety of members of the University community or the functions, services, or property of the University. This would include, but is not limited to, causing an unreasonable interference with the educational or work environment of members of the University community. Violations causing a continuing adverse effect on campus generally threaten the safety of others or the efficient operation of University operations; violations that involve personal misconduct without a broad or significant impact on other community members do not cause a continuing adverse effect on campus."*

This definition is attached in an appendix to the GSRs.

## Would the University be searching newspapers and police records looking for incidents to pursue?

No. Incidents require a complaint to be filed by a university community member.

## Would MIPs and drug possession charges be captured under this policy?

Not unless it could be shown that such a behavior had a "broad or significant impact on other community members." MIPs and drug possession generally do not harm others in a sufficiently broad or significant way.

## Who has to approve the GSR changes?

GSR amendments require the approval of the University Committee on Student Affairs, the University Council, and the President.

## What happens next?

Upon receiving the feedback, UCSA will direct the subcommittee to add, remove, or edit each proposed change as appropriate, per the suggestions aggregated from the graduate and professional student body. A revised version of the proposed changes will then come before UCSA for a vote.