

## COLLEGE POLICY ON DRUG USE

The College recognizes the problems of drug use and abuse (as well as alcohol use and abuse) that are evident in our society and, as such, issues this policy statement. It is understood that words may be misinterpreted and intentions can be confused, but the College must attempt to communicate concern about this significant issue.

It must first be clear that the College is an institution of the community and it respects and upholds the law. Article 220 of the Penal Law of New York State carries penalties for drug violators who sell or use controlled substances. No special exception is granted to students and it is expected that all students will abide by the law. The College's University Police will directly enforce the law, take appropriate legal action and also refer all alleged violators to the Office of the Dean of Students for judicial action under the auspices of the Student Code of Conduct.

Students who violate the Student Code of Conduct will be reported to the Dean of Students/designee who will conduct a disciplinary hearing addressing the charges. Hearings will be conducted in accordance with the Judicial Hearing Procedures outlined in the Student Code of Conduct. The Student Code of Conduct is printed in the annual publication of the Student Handbook and is available on the College website.

On the other hand, the College is an educational institution and it accepts responsibility for providing learning experiences on alcohol and drug use and abuse. Campus Mental Health Services and the Health and Wellness Center on campus are available to assist students with various physical and mental health needs in a confidential setting.

The College responsibly establishes four steps as guidelines for managing this societal issue on campus:

1. Presentation of educational programs to foster understanding of alcohol and drug use and alcohol and drug abuse.
2. Development of a climate conducive to learning.
3. Establishment and enforcement of rules to facilitate the above.
4. Provisions for and referrals to advice and assistance from counselors, therapists, nurses, and doctors to those experiencing difficulty.