

GOOD SAMARITAN COLLEGE OF NURSING AND HEALTH SCIENCE
CINCINNATI, OHIO

POLICY TITLE: PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT

The Good Samaritan Hospital College of Nursing and Health Science mission is promoted by professionalism in faculty-student relationships. Professionalism is fostered by an atmosphere of mutual trust and respect. Actions of faculty, staff (hereafter referred to as faculty member) and students that harm this atmosphere undermine professionalism and hinder fulfillment of the college's mission. Trust and respect are diminished when those in positions of authority abuse, or appear to abuse, their power. Those who abuse, or appear to abuse, their power in such a context violate their duty to the college and TriHealth.

Faculty members exercise power over students, whether in giving them praise or criticism, evaluating them, making recommendations for their further studies or their future employment, or conferring any other services or benefits on them. Any relationship, especially amorous relationships, between faculty members and students is wrong when the faculty member has professional responsibility for the student. Such situations greatly increase the chances that the faculty member will abuse his/her power and exploit the student. Voluntary consent by the student in such a relationship is suspect, given the fundamentally asymmetric nature of the relationship. Moreover, other students and faculty members may be affected by such unprofessional behavior because it places the faculty member in a position to favor or advance one student's interest at the expense of others and implicitly makes obtaining benefits contingent on amorous, sexual or other kind of favors.

Faculty members are viewed as having responsibility for students, both directly and indirectly, from the time they enter the program through their graduation or withdrawal from the program.

The College will view it as unethical if faculty members engage students in amorous relations or any other relationship beyond the faculty/student relationship, even when both parties appear to have consented to the relationship.

In the event of unethical conduct on the part of a faculty member, as described above, disciplinary action will be initiated in accordance with college policy.

Approved By: _____ Date: 01/07/2002

Effective Date: 7/1/92

Review/Revision Dates:; 5/00, 1/02

Responsible Committee: Faculty Development