Student Behavior Assessment Committee
at Stony Brook University

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Executive Summary

Stony Brook University’s Student Behavior Assessment Committee (BAC) has contributed to the safety of the campus and the support of individual students at risk since 1996. The work of the BAC is based on the strong belief that professional staff members with responsibility for taking care of students must talk to each other in order to identify situations that could become dangerous. Balancing the privacy rights of individual students and the safety needs of the community has been put in the hands of the group of directors who live with HIPAA, FERPA and the ADA on a daily basis. The primary goal is to help individual students so they may remain at the university safely. If we cannot find a way to maintain the student safely, he or she will be required to leave the university. Many of these students have been welcomed back to campus when their behavior no longer creates a threat to themselves or the community.

Institutional Mission

The Division of Student Affairs at Stony Brook is committed to the success of each student and to maintaining an inclusive, safe, and caring campus community. Collaboration among the departments of Student Affairs and the academic departments in the Provost’s area has made it possible to identify situations that appear to be escalating toward a dangerous level and to intervene before the threat becomes an emergency. Staff and faculty are trained to keep an eye out for students who are distressed, especially new students and those with health and mental conditions that may increase risk for the student and for others.

The Student Behavior Assessment Committee

The purpose of the 1996 committee was to collect and evaluate reports from all parts of campus concerning students whose behavior appeared to create a threat to their own safety or others’ safety, to recommend a psychological or medical evaluation when indicated, and to recommend the services needed by the student. The “Student Behavior Assessment Committee” (BAC) continues with these responsibilities and has become a major source of consultation for faculty and administrative staff members. Policies, protocols and an infrastructure that support the BAC have evolved significantly over ten years. A revised Student Conduct Code permits mandated medical or psychological evaluations and involuntary suspension or withdrawal for direct threats to safety. An expanded office of Judicial Affairs, a separate consultation/judicial system in Campus Residences, formal training to help faculty and staff members recognize, respond to and report student distress and disruption, and consistent procedures for BAC recommended medical leaves/withdrawals and returns to campus contribute to a well coordinated, rapid response to escalating and potentially dangerous situations. The BAC meets weekly to:

- Collect and consider all faculty and staff reports of student behavior that may indicate potential suicide or other risk to the health and safety of the student or others, and/or may constitute a disruption of a university function
- Provide immediate consultation to the staff and faculty members involved
- Decide whether a mandated evaluation is indicated
- Recommend supports and services for students not recommended for an evaluation
- Make recommendations to the Vice President for Student Affairs upon completion of the evaluation.

**Members of the Committee, Fall, 2007**

Judicial Coordinator, Judicial Affairs (Chair)

Director, Judicial Affairs

- Associate Dean of Students
- Director, University Counseling Center
- Coordinator, Health Sciences Center Counseling Services
- Director, Disability Support Service/ADA Coordinator
- Director, Center for Prevention and Outreach
- Staff Psychologist, Center for Prevention and Outreach
- Director Residential Programs, Campus Residences
- Coordinator, Community Standards, Campus Residences
- Academic Integrity Officer, Academic Affairs
- Faculty member, Clinical Laboratory Sciences
- Clinical Social Worker, Student Health Services
- Representative, University Police

The mandated evaluation protocol from the student’s perspective, the appeal process and returning to the university after a leave, and our collaboration with academic affairs are described in the nomination of this program for a NASPA Excellence Award.

Appendices include a summary of the committee’s work from 2000-2007, flow charts, documents, and brochures created to help faculty and staff respond to and promptly report distressed and disruptive students. Letters of support are offered by the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs, Campus Residences, and University Police.
STUDENT BEHAVIOR ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE
STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY

Support for Distressed and Disruptive Students
and for the Faculty and Staff Attempting to Help

History
Stony Brook University was established in 1967 as one of four research university centers in the State University of New York system. Located only 60 miles east of New York City, the main campus attracts a vibrant student body from the extraordinarily diverse cultural groups in the metropolitan region. The university has expanded to include the Health Sciences and main campuses at Stony Brook, Stony Brook Manhattan, and most recently Stony Brook Southampton. Total enrollment is 23,300 with 9,000 students living in Campus Residences. Student support services under the Vice President for Student Affairs include a strong office of Judicial Affairs, a very active Office of Disability Support Services, and an expanded University Counseling Center. A new Center for Prevention and Outreach under the Dean of Students was created to focus on education and prevention programs in the areas of suicide and depression, substance abuse and sexual assault. The student demand for health, mental health and disability services has grown much faster than increased enrollment would predict, with the directors of these services reporting significantly increased complexity and severity of students’ health and mental health conditions.

In 1996 Stony Brook University created a committee to provide consultation and assessment regarding student behavior believed to create a direct threat to the safety of the student or others. The Dean of the Graduate School, faculty members, and administrators had been challenged by an angry international student who claimed that his department chairperson had committed crimes against him for religious reasons. The student threatened a “bloodbath” if his demands were not met. While the situation was ultimately resolved without harm, the experience clarified the need to recognize potential threats to safety on campus before they escalated and to ensure that everyone knew the university’s policies for responding to distressed and disruptive students.

Institutional Mission
The Division of Student Affairs at Stony Brook is committed to the success of each student and to maintaining an inclusive, safe, and caring campus community. The Vice President for Student Affairs expects collaboration among departments that provide prevention and intervention services for students with health and mental health needs. We recognize freshman, out-of-state, new transfer, and international students as particularly vulnerable to stress and isolation. Programs to foster a campus culture of civility, respect, and awareness span the division. Staff and faculty members who respond to distressed or disruptive students seek to balance the rights and needs of the individual student and the rights and needs of the entire learning community. Providing immediate and effective support for the staff and faculty members who help students in crisis is one of our highest priorities. The Center for Prevention and Outreach provides very popular training programs to help faculty and TAs recognize and respond to students whose distress or disruption of a class may indicate a need for mental health services or an evaluation for safety reasons.
The Student Behavior Assessment Committee

The purpose of the 1996 committee was to collect and evaluate reports from all parts of campus concerning students whose behavior appeared to create a threat to their own safety or others’ safety, to recommend a psychological or medical evaluation when indicated, and to recommend the services needed by the student. The “Student Behavior Assessment Committee” (BAC) continues with these responsibilities and has become a major source of consultation for faculty and administrative staff members. Policies, protocols and an infrastructure that support the BAC have evolved significantly over ten years. A revised Student Conduct Code states that students whose behavior creates a threat to their own or another’s safety, or who disrupt university functions may be in violation of the Code. The Code permits mandated medical or psychological evaluations and involuntary suspension or withdrawal for direct threats to safety. An expanded office of Judicial Affairs, a separate consultation/judicial system in Campus Residences, formal training to help faculty and staff members recognize, respond to and report student distress and disruption, and consistent procedures for BAC recommended medical leaves/withdrawals and returns to campus contribute to a well coordinated, rapid response to escalating and potentially dangerous situations. Likewise university departments and student services offices are increasingly integrated in their approach to standards for student behavior. University Police, Campus Residences, Judicial Affairs, Disability Support Services, the Center for Prevention and Outreach and the University Counseling Center work together on a daily basis. If we had a situation today like the incident in 1996, we would be able to respond when the student’s distress was first noticed. Stony Brook’s current protocol for consultation and assessment regarding at-risk student behavior has become a model for other campuses. (See Appendices A-E)

The Student Behavior Assessment Committee (BAC) meets weekly to:

- Collect and consider all faculty and staff reports of student behavior that may indicate potential suicide or other risk to the health and safety of the student or others, and/or may constitute a disruption of a university function
- Provide immediate consultation to the staff and faculty members involved
- Decide whether a mandated evaluation is indicated
- Recommend supports and services for students not recommended for an evaluation
- Make recommendations to the Vice President for Student Affairs upon completion of the evaluation.

The membership of the committee provides both breadth and depth in representing the offices and departments concerned with the health and safety of the campus. Members include directors of Student Affairs departments who are expert in and responsible for the university’s compliance with state and federal laws governing confidentiality of student records and accommodations for disabilities. Their working knowledge of HIPAA, FERPA and the ADA make it possible to share minimum information with those who need to know and can intervene. The University Parental Notification policy requires that the professional staff members who are directly involved decide whether to inform parents on a case-by-case basis.
Due Process and Conduct Violations

One of the primary goals of the Behavior Assessment Committee is to prevent or reduce the number of emergencies on campus by identifying and assisting students at risk before their behavior reaches the level of imminent danger. BAC reporting protocols are appropriate only for those situations that can wait at least a week for intervention. Faculty and staff members who notice that a student appears to be emotionally distressed are encouraged to consult with the University Counseling Center or the Office of Disability Support Services to facilitate an immediate referral. Faculty and staff members who observe or know about disruptive or high risk student behavior in a class or elsewhere are instructed to consult with the office of Judicial Affairs without delay and to provide a factual, written description of the behavior. They may meet with the BAC if they wish. Campus Residences staff must report disruption or distress to the Quad Director who relays the written incident report to the Campus Residences members of the BAC. In the past the University Counseling Center handled high risk behavior of clients. Now students who are being seen at the Counseling Center are subject to the same rules for threats to their own or others safety on campus as any other student, and may be referred to the BAC. (When a student in treatment at the University Counseling Center makes a suicide attempt that does not affect other students e.g., the attempt did not take place in a residence hall, and the student continues in treatment in a safe manner, the BAC may not be informed or involved.)

Students whose behavior violates the Student Conduct Code are subject to judicial procedures (through the office of Judicial Affairs, or through the Campus Residences Judicial system) at the same time as BAC consultations proceed and/or a psychological evaluation is mandated. In other words, BAC procedures are followed in addition to, and parallel with the student judicial “due process” procedures including disciplinary counseling and hearings/sanctions. While a student usually comes to the attention of the BAC through consultation with Judicial Affairs or the University Counseling Center, any faculty or staff member on campus may contact any of the offices represented to receive assistance. The redundancy is deliberate as receiving reports from different parts of the campus is extremely helpful. Likewise, when the BAC receives a report in which the student’s behavior fails to rise to the level of a mandated evaluation, the student will be referred, or “encouraged” to make use of any appropriate service.
**Acute Situations and Emergencies**
The Director of Judicial Affairs and the Director of the University Counseling Center together may decide to start the mandated evaluation process immediately without waiting until the next BAC meeting. All emergencies and severe risk situations that cannot wait for BAC consultation must be reported immediately to University Police. University Police responding to incidents in which a student’s behavior creates a threat to safety will transport the student to the Stony Brook University Hospital medical or psychiatric emergency room for evaluation. Students who have experienced manic or psychotic episodes, threatened or attempted suicide, and/or harmed themselves by overdose of drugs/alcohol or cutting must be evaluated through the BAC in addition, usually immediately after being evaluated and released by the university hospital psychiatric emergency room (CPEP) and/or an inpatient hospitalization. Students are permitted to return to Campus Residences with the requirement that the evaluation be scheduled for the following day. When necessary the UCC evaluator completes the evaluation in the hospital, usually as part of discharge planning after inpatient treatment.

**From the Student’s Perspective**
The Director of Judicial Affairs meets with the student as soon as possible to personally deliver the formal written directive to complete a psychological evaluation at the University Counseling Center. In this meeting he gives the student the written incident report, explains why their behavior is regarded as a disruption or has raised concern for their safety, hears the student’s perspective, and explains the Student Conduct Code and the mandated evaluation procedures. The goal of the conversation is to help the student understand that the university’s purpose is to try to identify supports and services that could mitigate the risk and make it possible for them to succeed as a student. The director of Judicial Affairs calls the UCC with the student to schedule the evaluation. In acute situations he may walk the student to the UCC immediately. Students with severe eating disorders or other high-risk medical situations such as failure to comply with treatment for TB are evaluated by a physician in the Student Health Service. Failure to complete the evaluation or to provide prior treatment records by the date requested may result in administrative action, up to and including temporary suspension from the university. *(See Appendix F)*

When students come in to the University Counseling Center for the evaluation they are told again, that the psychological evaluation is an administrative meeting with a UCC staff psychologist (and/or psychiatrist) for the purpose of assessing disruption and/or safety concerns in the residence halls, in class or on campus, and is not a regular “intake” or assessment for psychotherapy. *(See Appendix F)* Students who wish to pursue therapy at the UCC or elsewhere make that request separately on a voluntary basis. The evaluation follows the UCC initial assessment (“intake”) format and includes prior and current psychological and psychiatric treatment, family history, assessment of suicidal and other high-risk behavior, impulse control, affect regulation, substance use, use/ownership of weapons, stresses in the family/social environment, level of insight or acceptance of responsibility, and supports available. Prior treatment records may be requested. The evaluator assesses whether there is a current direct threat to safety for this student or others, the nature, severity, and duration of the threat or risk, the level of probable risk if this student were to continue to live in campus residences or to commute to campus, and the services needed to mitigate the identified risks. In the experience of the BAC students who have been mandated to complete psychological evaluations report having been afraid to seek counseling or other help for fear that parents would be called without their consent or their status as a student threatened. The evaluating clinician seeks to engage the student in an honest conversation, asking him or her to tell the story from his/her own perspective, and to identify what kind of help might make a difference.
The mandated psychological evaluation report is given to the Director of the Counseling Center, who relays the Counseling Center’s recommendation to the BAC. Following further consideration, the BAC’s recommendation is forwarded in writing to the Vice President for Student Affairs. In 70% of evaluations the student is helped to remain enrolled at the university, as a commuter or resident student. Psychotherapy and/or psychiatric treatment and accommodations for disabilities are provided to the extent possible. When the student needs a “medical single” residence hall room arrangements are made as soon as one becomes available. Often, if it is possible, the student is required to live with parents and commute to campus.

In cases in which administrative suspension or withdrawal from the residence halls and/or from the university is being considered further consultation with the BAC may take place. Parents may be notified at any point during these procedures if the student requests/agrees that his/her parents be involved. When the identified risk is substantial and the professional staff members conducting the evaluation believe that the parents will be able to provide important history or to reduce the risk, parents are called with or without the students’ permission. In almost all cases of imminent danger, the student has been admitted to the Stony Brook University Medical Center, and the medical center staff members made the decision to notify family.

**Appeals and Returning to the University**

Students who have been administratively suspended or withdrawn from Stony Brook University under the Student Conduct Code provisions regarding disruption and threats to safety may appeal the decision to the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs. If the decision is upheld they are blocked from registering for courses and may not return to the university until they provide required documentation from a treating practitioner stating that their behavior no longer presents a threat to their own or other’s safety. *(See Appendix G & H)*  The student must complete a “return to the university” mandated evaluation with the director of the University Counseling Center. The director then relays to the BAC and the Director of Judicial Affairs his or her recommendation, identifying the services or other support the student may need to succeed and live as safely as possible while a Stony Brook student. Follow up for students who have returned to the university subsequent to BAC recommendations have proved to be problematic as psychotherapy at the University Counseling Center is not required. We are revisiting this practice in consultation with legal counsel.

**Collaboration with Academic Affairs**

Working closely with the Provostial area of the university, with the Office of Academic Affairs and with colleges and academic departments is an explicit responsibility for the members of the BAC and for most professional staff members in the Division of Student Affairs. The Academic Integrity Officer and a representative of the faculty are members of the BAC. Training of faculty, especially TAs, adjunct faculty, directors of undergraduate and graduate studies and front-line administrative staff in academic departments is a priority. The Center for Prevention and Outreach (which has two members on the BAC) presents a powerful program during orientation for new TAS and to as many academic departments as possible. It includes role-played scenarios depicting distressed and disruptive students, and confronts the obstacles to reporting when students are at risk. Two brochures “Responding to Disruptions in the Classroom” and “Responding to Student Disruptions on Campus” (for staff members) are widely distributed and available on campus websites. *(See Appendices I-K)*
Assessment of Impact of the BAC
Historically all individually identifiable BAC records were kept in the University Counseling Center for confidentiality reasons and a database summary was maintained in a judicial database in Judicial Affairs. Campus Residences has always kept its own records for BAC related incident reports. The practice of including BAC records in the general Judicial Affairs database was discontinued because access to the general judicial records was needed for Campus Residences staff and others. Currently the individual mandated assessment records are kept in the University Counseling Center’s electronic records system. The aggregate record of BAC consultations and recommendations is now kept in a separate BAC database in Judicial Affairs. The software problems resulting from these changes have contributed to delaying formal outcomes assessment of the work of the BAC. In the NASPA nomination program description we have provided a summary of BAC cases and recommendations from 2000-2001 through 2006-2007. The summary lists the reasons for the mandated evaluations for the last two years. Feedback from the University Police, Campus Residences, and the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs make it clear that the BAC makes a very significant difference on campus. The “before” and “after” effect of the BAC is obvious to all of us who have worked at Stony Brook since the early 1990s.
Appendices

A. Mandated Psychological Evaluations Summary 2001-2007  *Table*
B. Mandated Medical/Psychological Evaluations Summary 2001-2007  *Graph*
C. Distressed/Disruptive Student Behavior in Class/Academic Dept.  *Flow Chart*
D. Distressed/Disruptive Student Behavior in Campus Residences  *Flow Chart*
E. Student Conduct Code Excerpt
F. Consent for Mandated Evaluation
G. Ready to Return Documentation
H. Student Requests Return to University Following B.A.C. Recommended Leave/suspension/Withdrawal  *Flow Chart*
I. Brochure for Faculty
J. Brochure for Staff
### Stony Brook University
### Mandated Psychological Evaluations
### Summary 2001-2007

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1. Evaluations required by Campus Residences discontinued in 2005

2. Reasons for evaluations:
   - **2006**
     - Suicide threats – 8
     - Suicide attempts – 6
     - Disruption/Bipolar – 3
     - Psychosis – 2
     - Disruption/Aggression – 1
     - Eating Disorder – 1
     - Epileptic Seizures – 1
     - Homicidal threat – 1
     - Stalking – 1
   - **2007**
     - Suicide threats – 8
     - Suicide attempts – 2
     - Disruption/Bipolar - 5
     - Disruption/Asperger’s - 3
     - Disruption/Aggression - 2
     - Eating Disorder – 2
     - Cutting - 2
     - Homicidal Threat – 1
     - Psychosis – 1
     - Stalking - 1
     - Weapons – 1
     - Ready to return eval. - 4

3. Does not include student clients hospitalized by Counseling Center

4. Two students required a second evaluation
Stony Brook University - Distressed/Disruptive Student Behavior in Class/Academic Dept.

DISTRESS
- University Counseling Center
  - Resolved
  - Unresolved

EMERGENCY
- University Police
- University Hospital

DISRUPTION
- Judicial Affairs - Consult/Written Report

Behavior Assessment Committee Consultation

Student mtg. w/Dir. of Judicial Affairs

Mandated Evaluation

Behavior Assessment Committee Recommendation to V.P.S.A.

Vice President of Student Affairs

No Threat
- Stay in Res. Halls/Class
- Stay as Commuter

Threat in Residence Hall

Direct Threat
- Registration Blocked
  - Med. Leave Tuition Refund
  - Temp. Susp.
  - Admin. Withdrawal
  - Appeal

Resolved
Unresolved
VII. Evaluation Procedures

Individuals whose behavior appears to pose a serious threat to the health and safety of themselves or others, may be in violation of the CODE, and may be subject to the following extraordinary procedures, including parental notification.

A. Medical and/or Psychological Evaluation
The Vice President for Student Affairs (designee) or the Assistant Vice President for Campus Residences (designee) may direct a student to participate in a medical and/or psychological evaluation whenever the behavior of the student appears to pose a serious threat to the health and safety of such student or others. The medical and/or psychological evaluation process is designed to assess:

1. Whether the student’s behavior poses a threat to the safety of the student or others, and the nature, duration and severity of the risk. 2. Whether the threat to safety would continue if the student remains on the campus and/or in the residence halls. 3. Whether reasonable modifications of policies or procedures will mitigate the risk. 4. Whether the student needs assistance or referral to appropriate support or treatment services.

The medical and/or psychological evaluation is conducted by the Director of the University Counseling Center (designee) and/or the Director of the Student Health Service (designee). Evaluations completed at the University Medical Center at Stony Brook may be accepted at the discretion of the Director of the University Counseling Center.

Failure to respond to a directive from a University Official to complete the medical and/or psychological evaluation, or failure to provide necessary records of prior treatment by the date requested may result in administrative action, up to and including temporary suspension from the University or the residence halls until the evaluation and records request requirements are met.

B. Withdrawal Prior to Evaluation
The student who leaves, withdraws or fails to return to the University before a medical and/or psychological evaluation is completed will be ineligible for readmission until the outstanding matter is resolved.

C. Withdrawal by Administrative Action
The Vice President for Student Affairs (designee) may initiate and approve procedures for the administrative withdrawal from the University or residence halls of any student for any of the following reasons: 1. Behavior that poses a threat to the health and safety of such student, or others. 2. Completion of a mandated evaluation and behavior that continues to pose a threat to the
health and safety of such student, or others. 3. Inability to control the behavior that poses a threat to the health and safety of such student, or others, as assessed in this evaluation procedure. Administrative withdrawal determination shall be made by the Vice President for Student Affairs (designee). Students may challenge the withdrawal through the submission of a written appeal to the Vice President for Student Affairs (designee) supported by medical and/or mental health professional documentation.

Administrative withdrawal actions may be reconsidered by the Vice President for Student Affairs (designee) at regular intervals upon the written request of the student. The Vice President for Student Affairs (designee) may elect to appoint an independent medical and/or mental health professional or a panel of professionals to provide advice to the Vice President for Student Affairs (designee) with respect to administrative withdrawal determinations.

D. Return to the University
Students may not return to the University or residence halls until the University Counseling Center and/or the Student Health Service has received and evaluated documents and completed a University evaluation indicating that the student no longer poses a threat to the health and safety of such student, or others. Registration and/or housing applications will be blocked until readiness to return to school has been thoroughly evaluated.

E. Application of CODE
The application of these evaluation procedures will not pre-empt disciplinary action under the terms of this CODE. If the behavior in question continues, the individual may be subject to the procedures outlined in the CODE, or may elect to withdraw voluntarily.
University Counseling Center
CONSENT FOR MANDATED EVALUATION

The Stony Brook University Counseling Center must use and disclose your protected health information for the purpose of completing an evaluation mandated by the Office of Student Affairs in situations where a threat to your or another’s safety is in question, or a disruption to the university’s function has occurred. Once you sign this written consent form, it will be in effect indefinitely until you revoke your written consent. You may revoke your written consent at any time (in writing), except to the extent that we have already relied on it. To revoke your written consent, please write to the University Counseling Center Director.

I hereby authorize the Stony Brook University Counseling Center staff:

- To access information from my health history and records,
- To perform psychological and psychiatric assessments deemed necessary,
- To provide me a note upon my request, if appropriate, confirming that I came to the University Counseling Center on a given date. This note will include my name, the date of visit, or other information requested by myself.
- To inform the Vice President of Student Affairs/designee of the outcome of this evaluation.

I understand that:

- The mandated evaluation is an analysis of any direct threat related to my behavior.
- The evaluation is not an assessment in order to provide psychological or psychiatric treatment.
- The evaluator may consult with other professionals within the Stony Brook University Counseling Center about issues directly related to my behavior or health/counseling history.
- The evaluation is part of my record at the University Counseling Center, and will be treated with strictest confidentiality. I also understand that there are important legally mandated exceptions to confidentiality. These include:
  1. My behavior creates a threat to myself, to others, or to the University community,
  2. Any incidence of suspected elder or child abuse, neglect, or maltreatment;
  3. In legal cases, the court may subpoena clinicians or clinical records.

I also understand that, in the event of a medical emergency, information necessary to provide appropriate treatment may be disclosed.

By signing this consent form, I am acknowledging that I have read and understood the above material regarding Stony Brook University Counseling Center Mandated Evaluation procedures.

I hereby authorize the University Counseling Center and its staff members to use and disclose my personal health information, as necessary, for the purposes of completing a mandated psychological evaluation, for normal business operations, and as needed in an emergency.

___________________  ____________________  __________________
Patient Signature      Date                   ID #
_______________________________
Signature Parent/Legal Guardian (If under age 18)   Date
Stony Brook University Counseling Center

Mandated Psychiatric/Psychological Evaluation When a Student’s Behavior Has Created a Threat to the Safety of an Individual (the student him/herself or another) or to the University Community

Stony Brook University is required to complete a direct-threat analysis on a case by case basis when safety concerns have generated a mandated evaluation. The treating practitioner must respond to the following questions, or address the following issues, specifically as they are listed below. The student who has been temporarily suspended or withdrawn for medical reasons may not return to the university until the treating Psychiatrist or Psychologist has submitted this documentation and the student has completed a re-entry evaluation with the Director of the University Counseling Center (UCC) in addition. Treatment records requested must be provided by the student. The evaluation appointment with the UCC Director will be scheduled after the treating practitioner’s report has been received.

1. What is the student’s understanding of the incident or situation that led to his/her medical withdrawal or suspension from the university? What triggered or precipitated the incident or situation? Have there been similar incidents in the past? What level of understanding of the impact on others is demonstrated?

2. Describe current treatment and psychiatric history (diagnosis, mental status, treatment history, medications, hospitalizations, judicial or legal problems, including outpatient psychotherapy and progress.)

3. Specifically address issues of alcohol or other substance use and abuse, including the misuse of prescribed medications.

4. Describe relevant family history and current family situation (e.g. conflict, divorce, financial or employment stress.)

5. Describe how stressors have increased, decreased, or remain unchanged.

6. Describe how social/family supports have increased, decreased, or remain unchanged.

7. Comment on the student’s capacity to regulate affect and control impulses.

8. What level of insight does the student demonstrate? Does he or she accept responsibility for his/her own behavior, or hold others responsible?

9. Are there any signs of paranoid thinking or psychosis? Is the student’s manner of behaving likely to cause concern or worry among faculty and other students?

10. Whether the student is depressed or not, has a thorough evaluation of suicidal thinking, intent and behavior been completed? Please describe in detail.

11. Has this student ever been known to possess or use a weapon?

12. Please include any other information that you think would help the mental health professionals at the university come to a decision regarding this student’s ability to behave in a safe and responsible manner that does not disrupt others.

Please send documentation to: Anne Byrnes, Ph.D., Director
University Counseling Center, Stadium Rd.
Stony Brook, NY 11794-3100
tel. 631-632-6720 fax 631-632-9754
Student Requests to Return to University Following B.A.C. Recommended Leave/Suspension/Withdrawal

Student Contacts Dir. of Judicial Affairs

Dir. of University Counseling Center

Documentation of Treating Practitioner

Mandated Evaluation

Behavior Assessment Committee

Recommendation to VP of Student Affairs

Return to Campus

No Return

Appeal