

Student-Supervisor Romantic & Sexual Relationships



September 20, 2017

Anna Waymack
graduate student

AFPS Faculty Senate Resolution, Fall 2015

Guidelines for Undergrad/Faculty Relationships

40% Approve
58% Disapprove

Guidelines for Grad/Faculty Relationships

- 52% Approve
- 46% Disapprove

Guidelines for Disclosure of Relationships

- 40% Approve
- 60% Disapprove

Guidelines for Conflict Resolution

- 25% Approve
- 74% Disapprove

Timeline

Fall 1995 Current policy created

...

Fall 2015 AFPS FS Resolution on Romantic & Sexual Relations with Students

Spring 2016 GPSA Resolution on Supervisor-Student Relationships

AFPS Committee Response to GPSA

Spring 2017 GPSA Resolution on Consensual Relationships Policy Revisited

Academic Ramifications

- Division within cohorts, labs, or departments
- Professional integrity
- Students' reputations throughout career
- Program standing & recruitment

Misperceptions: Sexual Interest & Power Dynamic

Carin Perilloux, Judith A. Easton and
David M. Buss, “The Misperception
of Sexual Interest,” *Psychological
Science* 23.2 (2012)

Increasing awareness:
Clark, Pino, Brodsky &
Bolger 2013

Graduate and Professional Student Assembly requests

- Disclosure to mitigate ethical ramifications
- Proactive communication with subordinate
- Consequences for nondisclosure

Suggestions

Red: Off Limits

Advisors, committee members, DGSs, & PIs

Individuals who directly control grades, academic progress, or professional development/career opportunities

Yellow: Disclosure

Same program or department

Same field

Likely potential for conflict of interest

Preexisting relationships

Green: Minimal Risk

Different fields and/or departments

No power differential

Prior academic relationship