#### TITLE IX SEXUAL HARASSMENT POLICY AND PROCEDURES

# STATEMENT OF NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY

Central Christian College of Kansas is committed to maintaining an environment that is free of discrimination on the basis of sex within its educational programs and activities. The College cannot and will not tolerate discrimination against or harassment of any individual or group based upon race, sex, color, religion, ethnic or national origin, genetic information, age, disability, veteran's status, or any factor that is a prohibited consideration under applicable law. The prohibition on sex discrimination, also prohibits Sexual Harassment, as defined in this Policy.

The Nondiscrimination Policy applies to registered or enrolled students, college employees, contractors, vendors, visitors, guests, or other third parties.

#### SCOPE OF TITLE IX SEXUAL HARASSMENT GRIEVANCE PROCESS

The Sexual Harassment Grievance Process pertains to Sexual Harassment under Title IX, as defined by this Policy, committed by or against students and/or employees, when: (1) the conduct occurs on campus or other property owned or controlled by the college; or (2) the conduct occurs in the context of a college employment or education program or activity within the United States.

All members of the CCCK community have the right to submit a complaint or raise concerns regarding Sexual Harassment under Title IX pursuant to this Policy without fear of retaliation.

This policy does not apply to Sexual Harassment that occurs off-campus, in a private setting, and outside the scope of the College's Education Programs or Activities. Such sexual harassment and other sexual misconduct may be prohibited by the Student Code of Conduct if committed by a student or the Employee Policies & Procedures Manual if committed by an employee. The Title IX Coordinator will evaluate reports of sexual misconduct and sexual harassment and may refer reports that do not fall under the scope of this policy to the Chief Student Engagement Officer, Dean of Academics, or Human Resources dependent on those involved.

#### TITLE IX COORDINATOR

The Title IX Coordinator is charged with monitoring the college's compliance with Title IX, ensuring appropriate education and training, coordinating investigations, responses, and resolution of all reports pursuant to this Policy.

Any questions or concerns regarding the college's application of this Policy may be addressed to the Title IX Coordinator.

The Title IX Coordinator may be reached in person during regular office hours, or by telephone, written correspondence, email, or other electronic communication at any other time.

Katherine Potter- Human Resources/Payroll/Title IX Coordinator

Business Office- first floor Science Hall

620-241-0723 x 120

katherine.potter@centralchristian.edu

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#### **DEFINITIONS**

- A. "Sexual Harassment" is conduct on the basis of sex that constitutes Quid Pro Quo Sexual Harassment, Hostile Environment Sexual Harassment, Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, or Stalking.
- B. "Quid Pro Quo Sexual Harassment" is an employee of the College conditioning the provision of an aid, benefit, or service of the College on an individual's participation in unwelcome sexual contact.
- C. "Hostile Environment Sexual Harassment" is unwelcome conduct determined by a reasonable person to be so severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive that it effectively denies a person access to the College's Education Programs or Activities.
- D. "Sexual Assault" includes the sex offenses of Rape, Sodomy, Sexual Assault with an Object, Fondling, Incest, and Statutory Rape. The College's definition of "Sexual Assault" is mandated by federal regulations implementing Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972. Those regulations require the College to adopt a definition of "Sexual Assault" that incorporates various forcible and non-forcible sex crimes as defined by the FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting System. See 34 C.F.R. § 106.30(a).
  - 1. "Rape" is the carnal knowledge of a person, without the consent of the victim, including instances where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of his/her age or because of his/her temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity. There is "carnal knowledge" if there is the slightest penetration of the vagina or penis by the sexual organ of the other person. Attempted Rape is included.
  - 2. "Sodomy" is oral or anal sexual intercourse with another person, without the consent of the victim, including instances where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of his/her age or because of his/her temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity.
  - 3. "Sexual Assault with an Object" is using an object or instrument to unlawfully penetrate, however slightly, the genital or anal opening of the body of another person, without the consent of the victim, including instances where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of his/her age or because of his/her temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity. An "object" or "instrument" is anything used by the offender other than the offender's genitalia.
  - 4. "Fondling" is the touching of the private body parts of another person for the purpose of sexual gratification, without the consent of the victim, including instances where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of his/her age or because of his/her temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity.
  - 5. "Incest" is sexual intercourse between persons who are related to each other within the degrees wherein marriage is prohibited by Kansas law.
  - 6. "Statutory Rape" is sexual intercourse with a person who is under the statutory age of consent as defined by Kansas law.
- K. "Domestic Violence" is felony or misdemeanor crimes of violence committed by a current or former spouse or intimate partner of the victim, by a person with whom the victim shares a child in common, by a person who is cohabitating with or has cohabitated with the victim as a spouse or intimate partner, by a person similarly situated to a spouse of the victim under the domestic or family violence laws of

Kansas, or by any other person against an adult or youth victim who is protected from that person's acts under the domestic or family violence laws of Kansas.

- L. "Dating Violence" is violence committed by a person -1. Who is or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the victim; and 2. Where the existence of such a relationship will be determined based on a consideration of the following factors:
  - The length of the relationship;
  - The type of relationship; and
  - The frequency of interaction between the persons involved in the relationship.
- M. "Stalking" is engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to:
  - Fear for their safety or the safety of others; or
  - Suffer substantial emotional distress.
- N. "Consent" refers to words or actions that a reasonable person in the perspective of the Respondent would understand as agreement to engage in the sexual conduct at issue. A person who is incapacitated is not capable of giving Consent
- O. "Incapacitated" refers to the state where a person does not appreciate the nature or fact of sexual activity due to the effect of drugs or alcohol consumption, medical condition or disability, or due to a state of unconsciousness or sleep.
- P. "Retaliation" is intimidation, threats, coercion, or discrimination against any individual for the purpose of interfering with any right or privilege secured by Title IX and its implementing regulations or because an individual has made a report or complaint, testified, assisted, or participated or refused to participate in any manner in an investigation, proceeding, or hearing under this policy.
- Q. "Complainant" means an individual who is alleged to be the victim of conduct that could constitute Sexual Harassment.
- R. "Respondent" means an individual who has been reported to be the perpetrator of conduct that could constitute Sexual Harassment.
- S. "Formal Complaint" means a document filed by a Complainant or signed by the Title IX Coordinator alleging Sexual Harassment against a Respondent and requesting that the College investigate the allegation of Sexual Harassment in accordance with this policy. At the time of filing a Formal Complaint, a Complainant must be participating in or attempting to participate in the College's Education Programs or Activities. A "document filed by a Complainant" means a document or electronic submission (such as an email) that contains the Complainant's physical or electronic signature or otherwise indicates that the Complainant is the person filing the Complaint.
- T. "Supportive Measures" are non-disciplinary, non-punitive individualized services offered, as appropriate, and reasonably available, and without fee or charge, that are designed to restore or preserve equal access to the College's Education Programs or Activities without unreasonably burdening another party, including measures designed to protect the safety of all parties implicated by a report or

the College's education environment, or to deter Sexual Harassment. Supportive measures may include: counseling, extensions of academic or other deadlines, course related adjustments, modifications to work or class schedules, campus escort services, changes in work or housing locations, leaves of absence, increased security and monitoring of certain areas of campus, and other similar measures. Supportive Measures may also include mutual restrictions on contact between the parties implicated by a report.

U. "Education Programs or Activities" refers to all the operations of the College, including, but not limited to, in-person and online educational instruction, employment, research activities, extracurricular activities, athletics, residence life, dining services, performances, and community engagement and outreach programs. The term applies to all activity that occurs on campus or on other property owned or occupied by the College. It also includes off-campus locations, events, or circumstances over which the College exercises substantial control over the Respondent and the context in which the Sexual Harassment occurs.

#### RESOURCES AND INFORMATION FOR VICTIMS OF SEXUAL HARASSMENT

In the event that you (or someone you know) is the victim of sexual assault or relationship violence, the College strongly encourages you to seek prompt medical attention and to preserve evidence in the event the Complainant chooses to pursue a complaint. The College will maintain and publish information containing resources and guidance for victims of sexual assault, relationship violence and stalking. Such information will be maintained in Appendix A of this Policy, in the College's Annual Security Report and the Student Handbook, and any other means identified by the College administration to make the information readily available to the campus. Copies will also be maintained by the Title IX Coordinator, who will make such information available to any interested person.

### HOW TO REPORT POTENTIAL VIOLATIONS OF THIS POLICY

The College encourages the reporting of all incidents of Sexual Harassment, and is committed to assisting victims who wish to make a report under this Policy. Reporting Sexual Harassment can promote healing for the victim, and may also help prevent future incidents of a similar nature from occurring. The College recognizes the decision to make such a report is a deeply personal and often difficult decision. Victims are not required to report such incidents, and will not be penalized if they choose not to report an incident to law enforcement or to the Title IX Coordinator.

### **REPORTING OPTIONS**

#### Report to the Title IX Coordinator or Designated Responsible Employee

Individuals who believe they have been subjected to, or are aware that another individual has been subjected to, Sexual Harassment in connection with a college education program or activity, and who wish to report a potential violation of this Policy should notify any of the following college contacts:

Title IX Coordinator- Katherine Potter- Human Resources/Payroll 620-241-0723 x 120 katherine.potter@centralchristian.edu Science Hall, Business Office

The college has designated certain employees as "Designated Responsible Employees" for reporting violations of Title IX Sexual Harassment policy. These employees include, but are not limited to, the Chief Student Engagement Officer overseeing the Office of Student Life, the Associate Dean of Student Life, Resident Directors, any VPs, and the Office of the President. Any person may report sexual misconduct to a Designated Responsible Employee regardless of whether he or she was the one who directly experienced the sexual misconduct.

Reports can be made through email, phone, in person, or mail.

Upon receipt of any report of Sexual Harassment, the Title IX Coordinator will promptly contact the Complainant to discuss the availability of supportive measures and explain the process for filing a Formal Complaint. Reporting Sexual Harassment to the Title IX Coordinator does not automatically start the grievance process – the Title IX Coordinator will explain to the Complainant how to start the grievance process by filing a Formal Complaint. An individual can make a report of Sexual Harassment in order to obtain supporting measures and resources – an individual making a report of Sexual Harassment is not required to file a Formal Complaint.

### **CONFIDENTIAL REPORTING**

Although the College encourages students and employees to bring reports of Sexual Harassment to the attention of the College for further investigation pursuant to this Policy, individuals who wish to maintain confidentiality may contact the following resources:

- Zach Fleming, Campus Pastor
- Free Methodist Church chaplains/counselors

Unlike reports of Sexual Harassment made to other College officials (which must be reported to the Title IX Coordinator), absent the student's consent and/or situations where they perceive a serious risk or threat of injury to any person or property, reports to or conversations with confidential resources (listed above) will not be reported to the Title IX Coordinator or other College officials for further investigation pursuant to this Policy.

Students and employees can also report crimes confidentially using McPherson's anonymous crime tip line, Crime Stoppers, by calling 620-241-1122 and/or may speak confidentially with the following:

Off-campus rape crisis counselors
Off-campus members of the clergy and chaplains

The College will keep confidential the identity of Complainants, Respondents, and witnesses involved in Title IX hearings, except when disclosure is required by law or as necessary to carry out the purposes of this Policy.

# **OTHER REPORTING OPTIONS**

There are times when the College may need to report an incident reported pursuant to this policy to local law enforcement. These circumstances may include, but are not limited to, incidents that potentially impact the health and safety of the Complainant and/or the College community. Complainants also may decide to notify local, state, or federal law enforcement directly themselves or

may request that the College assist with off-campus reporting. The College will not wait for conclusion of a criminal investigation or proceeding to resolve complaints or begin the investigation and adjudication process described in this policy. The College will, however, comply with valid requests by law enforcement for cooperation in a criminal investigation. This may result in temporary delays of the College's investigation and adjudication process while law enforcement evidence is gathered, but the College will resume the investigation and adjudication process described in this policy when law enforcement has finished its evidence gathering. Any delays in the investigation and adjudication process described in this policy will not impact any accommodations and/or interim measures the College has provided to promote the safety and well-being of the complainant or the community.

Off-Campus Law Enforcement Contact Information: McPherson Police Department, 620-245-1200

### LIMITED AMNESTY

The College recognizes that students who have been drinking and/or using drugs (whether such use is voluntary or involuntary) at the time an incident of sexual violence occurs may be hesitant to report such incidents due to fear of potential consequences for their own conduct. The College strongly encourages students to report incidents of sexual violence to campus officials. A bystander or Complainant reporting in good faith or a victim reporting sexual violence to College officials or law enforcement will not be subject to disciplinary procedures for violations of the College's alcohol and drug policies occurring at or near the time of the sexual violence. The College may initiate an assessment or educational discussion, or pursue other non-disciplinary options regarding alcohol and/or other substance abuse, in an effort to support the future health and well-being of its students.

# OFFER AND PROVISION OF SUPPORTIVE MEASURES

Upon receipt of a report, the Title IX Coordinator will promptly and confidentially reach out to the Complainant to discuss the availability of a variety of supportive measures. Supportive measures should also be offered to the Respondent as necessary and appropriate.

Supportive measures are designed to restore or preserve equal access to the College's education programs and activities, protect the safety of all parties and the educational environment, or deter Sexual Harassment. These supportive measures should be non-disciplinary, non-punitive, individualized, and provided free of charge. They must be offered regardless of whether a Formal Complaint is filed, and must be kept confidential to the extent that such confidentiality would not interfere with providing the supportive measures.

Examples of supportive measures include, but are not limited to: Counseling, extensions of deadlines or other course-related adjustments, modifications of work or class schedules, campus escort services, mutual restrictions on contact between the parties, changes in work or housing locations, leaves of absence, increased security and monitoring of certain areas of the campus.

# EMERGENCY REMOVAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE LEAVE

The College reserves the right to remove a student Respondent from its educational program or activity on an emergency basis. Such a removal may only occur if, after an individualized safety and risk analysis, the College determines an immediate threat to the physical health or safety of any student or other individual arising from the allegations of Sexual Harassment justifies removal. In the event a

decision is made to remove a Respondent, he or she will be provided with notice by the Title IX Coordinator, and given the opportunity to challenge that decision immediately following the removal by submitting a request in writing to the Title IX Coordinator. Likewise, a non-student employee Respondent may be placed on administrative leave during the pendency of the grievance process described in this Policy.

# FILING A FORMAL COMPLAINT OF SEXUAL HARASSMENT

In the event that a Complainant wishes for the college to proceed with an investigation and hearing into the allegations of Sexual Harassment pursuant to the grievance process procedures in this Policy, he or she must file a Formal Complaint. A Formal Complaint is a document alleging Sexual Harassment against a Respondent and requesting that the college investigate the allegation of Sexual Harassment. The Complainant must be participating in or attempting to access a College education program or activity at the time the Formal Complaint is submitted.

A Formal Complaint must be in written form, but it may be submitted in person, by mail, by or email. It must be signed by the Complainant but the required signature may be physical or digital.

A Title IX Coordinator may also initiate a Formal Complaint by signing it. The Title IX Coordinator may consider the specific facts and circumstances and whether there is a pattern of misconduct involving a particular Respondent. A Title IX Coordinator may only sign a Formal Complaint after he or she has contacted the Complainant and discussed supportive measures and the Formal Complaint process with the Complainant. The Title IX Coordinator must consider the Complainant's wishes for how the College responds to the report of Sexual Harassment. The Title IX Coordinator should balance campus safety concerns with respect for survivor autonomy.

The Title IX Coordinator may consolidate Formal Complaints where the allegations of Sexual Harassment arise out of the same facts or circumstances. Where a Formal Complaint includes more than one Complainant or more than one Respondent, any references in this policy to a single Complainant and/or Respondent will also refer to multiple Complainants and/or Respondents.

### DISMISSAL OF FORMAL COMPLAINTS

Upon receipt of a Formal Complaint, the Title IX Coordinator will review the allegations set forth therein and determine whether the Complaint may proceed. Although the allegations may be still be investigated and resolved pursuant to another College policy (as noted above), Formal Complaints of Sexual Harassment brought pursuant to this policy must be dismissed if: 1. The conduct alleged would not constitute Sexual Harassment as defined in this Policy; 2. The conduct did not occur in connection with a College education program or activity; 3. The conduct did not occur against a person in the United States.

Furthermore, the Title IX Coordinator may, in his or her discretion, determine that even though it meets the basic threshold requirements to proceed, a particular Formal Complaint should be dismissed. Specifically, a Formal Complaint may be dismissed if: 1. Complainant notified Title IX Coordinator in writing that they would like to withdraw the formal complaint or any allegations within; 2. Respondent is no longer enrolled or employed by the College; 3. Specific circumstances prevent the College from gathering evidence to reach a determination.

After an initial review of the Formal Complaint, the Title IX Coordinator will continue to monitor the investigation and evaluate the Formal Complaint to determine if the above criteria for dismissal apply. Following any dismissal of a Formal Complaint, the Title IX Coordinator will simultaneously send a written notice to the parties of the dismissal and the reasons for the dismissal. To the extent the behavior alleged in the Formal Complaint could constitute a violation of another College policy, it may be pursued under that policy. The Title IX Coordinator has the discretion to refer the allegations to the appropriate College official.

#### PROHIBITION OF RETALIATION

There will be no retaliation against or adverse treatment of any individual who in good faith reports an incident under any part of this Policy or against any individual who participated in the investigation or adjudication process related to this Policy. Retaliation includes, but is not limited to, pressuring the person to drop or not support the complaint or to provide false information; engaging in conduct that may reasonably be perceived to adversely affect an individual's educational, living, or work environment; and/or threatening, intimidating, or coercing the individual or otherwise discriminating against any individual using their rights or responsibilities under this Policy. Reports of retaliation should be reported immediately to the Title IX Coordinator. Any reports or complaints of retaliation will be investigated and appropriate action will be taken.

#### SEXUAL HARASSMENT GRIEVANCE PROCESS PROCEDURES

If any party believes that the Title IX Coordinator has a conflict of interest or bias for or against the individual parties and/or for or against complainants or respondents generally, that party should report their concern to the College President (within five (5) business days of filing a Formal Complaint). If the College President finds that a conflict of interest or bias exists, he or she will designate another individual to serve as Title IX Coordinator for the purposes of the specific grievance process involving the parties.

The Respondent will be presumed not responsible for the policy violation that is alleged in the Formal Complaint unless and until the respondent is found responsible by the decision maker at the conclusion of the grievance process.

The grievance process generally will be completed within ninety (90) days. However, extensions to this time frame may be granted at the request of either party, or at the discretion of the Title IX Coordinator when good cause exists for the delay. Good cause may include considerations such as the absence of a party, a party's advisor, or a witness; concurrent law enforcement activity, or the need for language assistance or accommodation of disabilities. The Title IX Coordinator will notify all parties in writing of the delay, the length of the extension granted and the reason for the extension.

Within three (3) business days of the receipt of a Formal Complaint, the Title IX Coordinator or designee will issue a written notice to the parties. The written notice should include, if known, the identity of the parties, the conduct alleged to be Sexual Harassment, and the date(s) and location(s) of the incident(s). The notice will also include a statement that the Respondent is presumed to be not responsible for any policy violations. The notice must also inform the parties that they have the right to an advisor of their choice during the grievance process, that they may inspect and review evidence gathered during the

investigation, and that the student Code of Conduct prohibits making false statements or submitting false information during the grievance procedure.

If during the course of the investigation, additional allegations are going to be investigated that were not included in the original notice, the Title IX Coordinator or designee will issue a supplemental written notice to the parties.

Parties will also be provided with notice of all meetings, interviews, or hearings at least three (3) business days in advance. Such notice will include the date, time, location, participants, and purpose of the meeting, interview, or hearing.

Each party has the right to select an advisor of their choice, and for that advisor to accompany the party to any part of the grievance process, including all meetings, interviews, and/or hearings. An advisor can be a friend, family member, faculty member, mentor, attorney, or any other person of the party's choice who is available and agrees to serve as advisor, provided that the individual selected is not otherwise involved in the Formal Complaint proceedings (i.e., as a witness, investigator, decisionmaker, etc.).

It is the goal of the College to provide trained advisors to parties for the grievance process. A party may select an advisor from a list of individuals maintained by the Title IX Coordinator who have been trained and agreed to serve as advisors during the grievance process. A party's choice of advisor is not limited to those individuals on such a list. While a party may select any individual to serve as their advisor, only the individuals on the list maintained by the Title IX Coordinator will have received training from the College on the grievance process.

Parties must provide notice of who will serve as their advisor during any grievance hearings at least 5 (five) business days prior to the hearing. If a party does not have an advisor for a grievance hearing, an advisor will be selected by the Title IX Coordinator and will be provided for the purpose of cross examination during the hearing.

Advisors may offer advice to and confer with the party during any meeting, interview, and/or hearing, but generally may not speak on behalf of the party. The only time an advisor may speak on behalf of the party is to conduct cross examination questioning during a grievance hearing. Advisors are expected to comply with the Rules of Procedure and Decorum for hearings and remain respectful throughout the entire grievance process.

Any advisor who fails to comply with these policies, the Rules of Procedure and Decorum for hearings, and/or who does not treat all others with respect throughout the grievance process may be warned by the Title IX Coordinator, Investigator, and/or hearing decision maker for his or her first infraction. An advisor may be asked to leave the grievance proceeding if after being warned he or she continues to violate these policies or the Rules of Procedure and Decorum for a hearing, and/or continues to not treat others with respect. If an advisor is asked to leave a meeting, interview, or hearing, the proceeding will end and be continued at another time when the party has an advisor. Whether an advisor who has been asked to leave a proceeding may serve as an advisor to the party at a later meeting, interview, or hearing will be a decision in the sole discretion of the Title IX Coordinator.

#### **INVESTIGATION**

The Title IX Coordinator or designee will designate an Investigator to conduct a fair, thorough investigation of the allegations in the Formal Complaint. The Investigator will have received training as outlined herein. The College may designate an outside investigator as Investigator or the Title IX Coordinator may act as Investigator.

The Investigator will provide written notice of any meetings or interviews to the parties and/or witnesses at least three (3) business days in advance of the meeting or interview. This notice will include the date, time, and location for the meeting, as well as who will be participating in the meeting and the purpose for the meeting.

The burden will be on the Investigator to fully and fairly investigate the allegation in the formal complaint. All parties will have an equal opportunity to present witnesses and evidence to the Investigator.

At the conclusion of the investigation, the Investigator will send a copy of the evidence that is directly related to the allegations in the Formal Complaint to the parties and their advisors for inspection and review. The parties will then have ten (10) days in order to submit a written response to the evidence, if they choose to do so. The Investigator will consider any written response to the evidence before the completion of the investigative report. The Investigator will make all evidence that is directly related to the allegations available at the grievance hearing.

The Investigator will prepare an investigative report that fairly summarizes all the relevant evidence. The investigative report should include a description of all steps taken in the investigation as well as summaries of all interviews with parties and/or witnesses and all relevant evidence reviewed by the Investigator.

The Investigator will send a copy of the report to the parties and their advisors at least ten (10) days prior to any hearing for the parties' review and written response.

### <u>HEARING</u>

After the conclusion of the investigation, a live hearing before a Decision Maker will be held. The College may designate an outside decision maker to conduct the hearing and issue a final decision.

The decision maker will issue notice of the hearing to the parties, including the date, time, and location of the hearing. This notice will be provided at least three (3) business days before the hearing.

At the request of either party, the hearing will be held with the parties in separate rooms or locations, with the parties and decision maker able to simultaneously see and hear each other through technology. Whether the hearing is conducted virtually or in person, it will be recorded.

The Investigator will make all evidence that is directly related to the allegations available at the grievance hearing. All parties may refer to such evidence and may use it in cross examination. The Investigator will provide a copy of the investigative report and all evidence that is relevant to the allegations in the formal complaint to the [hearing decision maker]. However, the [hearing decision maker] may not defer to the investigative report, and must objectively evaluate all relevant evidence and independently reach a determination regarding responsibility.

The Investigator, Complainant, and Respondent all have the ability to testify and call witnesses at the hearing, and to provide evidence to the decision maker. The decision maker will have the opportunity to ask questions of all parties and witnesses during the hearing. After the decision maker asks their questions, each party's advisor will have the opportunity to ask all relevant and follow up questions of the other party and all witnesses during cross examination. No party shall be questioned directly by the other party. Advisors must abide by the Rules of Procedure and Decorum in questioning parties and witnesses. Any advisor who does not abide by the Rules of Procedure and Decorum will be warned or dismissed from the hearing at the discretion of the decision maker.

In the event that any party or witness refuses to attend the hearing, or attends but refuses to submit to questioning by the parties' advisors, the hearing officer will evaluate how to consider prior statements of that party or witness, as the case may be.

The hearing officer may consider statements of persons who were not present at the hearing, or persons who were present but not subject to cross-examination, so long as the statements are deemed reliable and relevant by the hearing officer and not otherwise subject to exclusion under this policy. Such statements may include, but are not limited to, statements in police reports or other official reports, medical records, court records and filings, investigation notes of interviews, investigation transcripts, emails, written statements, affidavits, text messages, and social media postings.

The hearing officer will not draw an inference about the determination regarding responsibility based solely on a party or a witness's absence from the live hearing and/or refusal to submit to questioning.

The Hearing Panel Chair/decision maker will state whether each question is relevant before the questions is answered by the party or witness to whom it is directed, and explain any decision to exclude a question as not relevant. Questions or evidence that are deemed irrelevant by the decision maker will be excluded from the hearing. Formal rules of evidence shall not apply.

The following types of evidence must be considered irrelevant by the decision maker: Evidence that is not pertinent to proving whether a fact material to the allegation is more or less likely to be true; Information that is protected by privilege (e.g. attorney-client privilege); Any party's medical, psychiatric, psychological, or counseling records without that party's voluntary, written consent; Any information about the Complainant's sexual predisposition or prior sexual behavior, unless it is offered to prove that someone other than the Respondent committed the behavior alleged in the formal complaint or offered to prove consent; Any statement by a party or witness who is not subject to cross-examination during the course of the hearing.

# **DETERMINATION OF RESPONSIBILITY**

The decision maker will issue a written determination whether the Respondent is responsible for the policy violations alleged in the Formal Complaint within five (5) business days of the conclusion of the hearing. The decision maker must determine the weight of the evidence and credibility of the parties in reaching a determination.

The written determination shall include: An identification of the allegations in the Formal Complaint; A description of procedural steps taken from the receipt of the Formal Complaint through the determination, including any notices, interviews, investigations, and hearings; Findings of fact that

support the determination, Conclusions regarding the application of the policy to the facts; A statement and rationale for the result for each allegation including the determination of responsibility, any sanctions that will be imposed on the Respondent, and whether any remedies designed to restore and preserve equal access to the College's educational program will be provided to the Complainant; and the procedures and acceptable bases for appeal of this determination. The standard of proof will be "preponderance of the evidence," which means whether the evidence shows it is more likely than not that a policy violation occurred.

The written determination will be provided simultaneously to all parties. It will become final and any sanctions will take effect after the resolution of any appeal, or if no appeal is filed, in four (4) days after the issuance of the written determination.

# **SANCTIONS AND REMEDIES**

If the Respondent is found responsible for any violations of policy, then the [hearing decision maker] will determine what disciplinary sanctions will be imposed on the Respondent and what remedies designed to restore and preserve equal access to the College's educational programs will be offered to the Complainant.

The possible sanctions that can be imposed on a Respondent found responsible include: Verbal Reprimand; Written Reprimand; Removal from College Housing - A person removed from CCCK housing for accountability reasons will be responsible for all housing charges assessed for the semester he/she is removed and will forfeit any applicable housing deposit; Additionally, the student will be responsible for the complete payment of his/her current meal plan, unless he/she receives an exemption from Housing; Restitution; Fines; Reflection Essays; Letters of Apology; Required attendance at educational seminars, programs, etc.; Drug testing; Loss of privileges; Permanent no-contact orders; Permanent no-trespass orders; Limited Probation - Limited Probation is defined as a period of time during which any further violation of the same nature puts the student's status with the College in jeopardy. If the student is found "responsible" for another violation of the same nature during the period of Limited Probation, serious consideration will be given to imposing a sanction of Institutional Probation, Suspension or Expulsion. Limited Probation could potentially affect the students' ability to represent the College in leadership positions or on athletic teams, participation in student activities or study abroad opportunities, entrance into College residence halls or other areas of campus, or contact with another specific person(s). The College may choose to treat violations of a different nature either as separate from the limited probation or extend the limited probation to encompass that behavior. In those circumstances, the College will consider the totality of the students' conduct record when determining an appropriate sanction; Institutional Probation - Institutional Probation is defined as a period of time during which any further violation of College policy puts the student's status with the College in jeopardy. If the student is found "responsible" for another violation during the period of Institutional Probation, serious consideration will be given to imposing a sanction of Suspension or Expulsion. Institutional Probation could potentially affect his/ her ability to represent the College in leadership positions or on athletic teams, participation in student activities and study aboard opportunities, entrance into College residence halls or other areas of campus, or contact with another specific person(s); Disciplinary Suspension from the College - Separation from the College for a specified period, which includes loss of all tuition, fees, coursework and other privileges of an enrolled student; Expulsion from the College - Separation from the College without the possibility of readmission. A student will lose all tuition, fees, coursework and other privileges of an enrolled student.

In addition, the following possible remedies that may be offered: Academic accommodations; Counseling, education, or training; monitoring, or other individual support.

#### **APPEALS**

Any party may appeal the determination of responsibility or a dismissal of a formal complaint by submitting a written request to the Title IX Coordinator within three (3) business days of the issuance of

the hearing decision maker's determination of responsibility. The Title IX Coordinator will refer the appeal to an Appeals Decisionmaker. The request should include a short statement outlining the basis for appeal.

Appeals are limited to the following bases: Procedural irregularity that affected the outcome of the matter; New evidence that was not reasonable available at the time of the determination of responsibility or the dismissal of the Formal Complaint that would affect the outcome of the matter; or The Title IX Coordinator, Investigator, or hearing decision maker had a conflict of interest or bias for or against complainants or respondents generally that affected the outcome of the matter.

The Appeals Decision Maker designated by the College will notify the parties in writing that an appeal has been filed. Each party will then have 5 days to submit a written statement in support of, or challenging the outcome of the hearing.

The Appeals Decision Maker will issue a written determination of the outcome of the appeal, describing the result of the appeal and the rationale in support of that decision within 5 days of the deadline for parties to submit their written statements. The Appeals Decision Maker's written determination will be provided simultaneously to all parties.

#### TRAINING

The College provides extensive training on an annual basis to all officials charged with implementing the Title IX Sexual Harassment Policy, including the Title IX Coordinator, Investigators, Decisionmakers, Advisors, and any other employees who are involved in responding to reports of prohibited conduct. The training provided is tailored to the role each official fulfills under the Policy. The topics covered include, but are not limited to: the definition of sexual harassment, the scope of the College's education program or activities, how to conduct an investigation and grievance process, how to serve impartially, the use of technology at live hearings, how to resolve issues of relevance in creating an investigative report, and how to apply rape shield protections.

The training programs utilized by the College are available for review at centralchristian.edu/title-ix.

This orientation and educational process will be administered by the Student Life Office. In addition, the College will distribute this information to members of the campus community through its Annual Security and Fire Safety Report and any other means identified by the College administration to make the information readily available to the campus. Copies will also be maintained by the Title IX Coordinator, who will make such information available to any interested person.

The Annual Security and Fire Safety Report can be found at centralchristian.edu/consumer-information.

The College will ensure that the Title IX Coordinator, Investigator, decision maker, and any person who facilitates an informal resolution has received training on: The definition of Sexual Harassment as set out in this Policy; The definition of Consent under this policy and how to apply the definition of Consent consistently and impartially; The scope of the College's education program or activities; How to conduct the grievance process, including investigations, hearings, appeals, and informal resolutions (as applicable); and how to serve impartially, including avoiding prejudgment of the facts at issue, conflicts of interest, or bias.

Decision makers will also receive training on: How to operate any technology used in conducting a hearing; and how to determine relevance of questions and evidence, including the provisions of this policy pertaining to the exclusion of evidence of a Complainant's previous sexual behavior.

Investigators will also receive training on: How to determine if evidence is relevant to an investigation; and how to create an investigative report that fairly summarizes relevant evidence.

All training materials used by the College must not rely on sex stereotypes and must promote the impartial investigation and adjudication of Formal Complaints. All training materials used to train the Title IX Coordinator, Investigator, decision maker, and any individual who facilitates an informal resolution must be made publicly available. These materials will be published at centralchristian.edu.

#### RECORDKEEPING

The Title IX Coordinator must create and maintain for a period of at least seven years records of any actions, including any supportive measures taken in response to a report or formal complaint of Sexual Harassment. For each instance, the Title IX Coordinator must document: 1) the basis for the conclusion that the College's response was not deliberately indifferent, and 2) that the College has taken measures designed to restore or preserve equal access to the College's educational program or activity. If the Title IX Coordinator does not provide the Complainant with supportive measures, then the Title IX Coordinator must document why it was not clearly unreasonable to not provide supportive measures.

The Title IX Coordinator will also maintain the following records for a period of at least seven years: Records related to each Sexual Harassment investigation, including any determination regarding responsibility; Any audio or audiovisual recording or transcript from a grievance hearing; Records of any disciplinary sanctions imposed on the Respondent; Records of any remedies provided to the Complainant; Any appeal from a grievance process and the result of the appeal; Records related to any informal resolution and the result of the informal resolution; All materials used to train the Title IX Coordinators, Investigator, decision maker, and any individual who facilitates an informal resolution.

#### APPENDIX A

Reporting Sexual Misconduct Harassment to External Authorities

#### **External Authorities**

Behavior that violates this policy may also constitute illegal criminal acts. The College's accountability process is separate and distinct from any criminal process a person may wish to pursue. A person may pursue both simultaneously. The College will assist individuals with beginning the process of contacting the McPherson Police Department.

Alternatively, a person may contact the McPherson Police Department directly. To report a crime occurring locally to external authorities, please contact: McPherson Police Department at 620-245-1200.

#### APPENDIX B

Actions Following an Incident

### A. Immediate Steps

- a. Get to a safe place such as a Residence Assistant's or Residence Director's room, or a trusted friend's room or off-campus residence. If you are off campus and injured, call 911 for immediate help. If you are on campus and injured, call your RD for immediate help.
- B. If you have been the victim of non-consensual sexual intercourse, it is strongly recommended that you obtain a rape evidence examination to preserve evidence and support your opportunity to make decisions later. If possible, take a trusted friend or relative with you to the exam to provide additional support. Central Christian College of Kansas personnel from the Student Life Office are available to accompany you to the exam. Your RD is available to accompany you to the exam. Victims of sexual assault may obtain an exam at McPherson Center for Health, 1000 Hospital Drive, McPherson KS.
- C. Deciding whether or not to report a crime to police may be difficult for you. If you decide to have an exam, by procedure medical staff will alert the police of your arrival. It is up to you if you would like to file a police report or talk to a police officer.
  - a. Until you decide whether or not to have evidence collected it is very important to remember that there are things that you should not do:
    - DO NOT shower or brush your teeth, if at all possible.
    - DO NOT go to the bathroom, if at all possible.
    - DO NOT drink or smoke.
    - DO NOT change your clothes or underwear. If you have removed this clothing, bring it with you to the hospital in a paper bag. This may preserve a lot of evidence.