Name of Policy: **Policy on hazing**

Policy Number: 3364-30-20

Appointing Officer: President

Responsible Agent: Senior Vice President for Student Affairs

Scope: All University of Toledo Campuses

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### Policy Statement

The University of Toledo supports the autonomy of its student organizations within the established rules and regulations as outlined in the student handbook and other official University publications. Initiation into University organizations is permissible excluding any activities that may be construed as hazing.

No student organization, individual student, or alumnus shall conduct or condone hazing activities.

Pursuant to Ohio law under section 2903.31 of the Ohio revised code “hazing” is defined as committing any act or coercing another, including the victim, to commit any act of initiation individually or with any student or other organization that causes or creates a substantial risk of causing mental or physical harm to any person. No person shall recklessly participate in the hazing of another. No administrator, employee, or faculty member of any primary, secondary, or post-secondary school or of any other educational institution, public or private, shall recklessly permit the hazing of any person. Hazing is a misdemeanor of the fourth degree under Ohio Law.

The University of Toledo defines hazing as an act which endangers the mental or physical health or safety of a student or which destroys or removes public or private property for the purpose of initiation, admission into, affiliation with or as a condition of continued membership in an organization. The expressed or implied consent of the victim will not be a defense. Apathy or acquiescence in the presence of hazing is not a neutral act: they are violations of this rule. Such acts include, but are not limited to, requiring an initiate to drink alcohol or any other substance, preventing an initiate from having at least six hours sleep in any twenty-four hour period, branding, paddling, causing excess fatigue, mental or physical, expecting participation in any activity in which full members will not participate, or acts which would cause discomfort, pain, fright, disgrace, injury, or degradation or which violate any federal, state, local or statute or University policy.

When a student and/or student organization is found to be involved in hazing activity, the University shall have the authority to initiate disciplinary action regardless of the location of the activity. Such action shall be conducted in compliance with normal Student Code of Conduct proceedings. Students and/or student organizations found in violation of the University hazing policy shall be subject to the range of sanctions available to the University as outlined in the student handbook.
Policies superseded by this policy:
Previous 3364-30-20, effective date
February 11, 2011
Initial effective date: February 11, 2011
Review/Revision Date: February 2, 2015
Next review date: February 2, 2018

Approved by:

Nagi G. Naganathan, Ph.D. Interim President

February 11, 2015

Date

Review/ Revision Completed by:

Student Affairs