



## **REGULATIONS OF THE AFRICAN UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, ABUJA**

### **9.0 STUDENT HONOR CODE AND STUDENT CONDUCT CODE: ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION**

#### **9.0.1**

Consistent with the primary educational mission of the Student Conduct Code, including to establish community standards and procedures that promote an environment conducive to learning by upholding academic standards and by respecting community members, alternative dispute resolution provides an opportunity for individuals affected by violations or alleged violations of the Student Conduct Code to resolve disciplinary matters among themselves at the discretion of the Vice President Academic, or the Chief of Operations/Facilities Manager, or his or her designee. Alternative Dispute Resolution may be used in the conduct process in the following ways:

- a) Mediation: in situations where there is a student versus student conflict that involves a Student Conduct Code violation or violations, the administrator hearing the case may at any time recommend the parties participate in a mediation. If as a result of the mediation, the parties reach an agreement and the agreement is fulfilled, the administrator may decide to forego the conduct process.
- b) Victim/Offender Mediation: in situations where one party victimizes another and violations of the Student Conduct Code are involved, and the offender is accepting responsibility for his or her violation, in addition to other sanctions, the administrator reviewing or hearing the case may refer the case to victim/offender mediation at any time in the process at the administrator's discretion, provided the victim is willing to meet with the offender. In less serious incidents involving victimization, the matter may be referred to victim/offender mediation provided both parties agree and the Vice President or the Chief of Operations/Facilities Manager or his or her

designee determines it is appropriate.

- c) Restorative Justice: in situations where there is an identifiable harmed party or community and the offender is accepting responsibility for his or her violation, the offender may be given the option of having the case referred to the restorative justice program. Restorative justice involves the following: the offender describes his or her behavior and what he or she was thinking at the time of the behavior; harmed parties/community members describe how they were affected or harmed by the offender's behavior; the parties involved come together and agree on a way for the offender to repair any harm done and reintegrate into the community; and, if an agreement is reached and complied with, students may be eligible to have their conduct records expunged within one year of completing their agreement provided there are no further violations of the Student Conduct Code during this time.
- d) If the parties participating in alternative dispute resolution do not reach agreement on a resolution or the agreement is not complied with, the matter will be referred back to the appropriate regular conduct process.

## **9.0.2**

Generally speaking, cases involving Student Honor Code violations, sexual assault, or serious violence are not eligible for alternative dispute resolution. Cases in which there is an identifiable harmed party or impact on the community are more likely to be referred to alternative dispute resolution. Cases that are simply violations of the Student Conduct Code and do not have any identifiable harmed party or community impact are not eligible for alternative dispute resolution.