

46 - Student Life

FMU Staff Handbook and the FMU Faculty Handbook.

The use of alcoholic beverages on campus is not encouraged and is prohibited with the following exceptions; (1) the private use of alcohol within student apartments by students of legal drinking age, (2) the provision of alcohol at certain events sponsored by a University department, contracted organization, or campus community organization upon approval by the appropriate University official (see herein). Events must meet all criteria contained herein. The use of alcoholic beverages within these two exceptions is permitted only for those of legal drinking age (21 years of age or older). Alcohol is prohibited in the Residence Halls. For appropriate events, the Provost or Vice President responsible for approving the event will determine how, when, and where alcohol may be used.

FMU prohibits the unlawful manufacture, dispensation, possession, use or distribution of illegal drugs and alcohol on its property or as a part of any of its activities by faculty, staff or students regardless of permanent, full-time, part-time or temporary status, pursuant to state and federal laws.

Statutes adopted by the State of South Carolina prohibit certain activities regarding alcoholic beverages and drugs. The law provides for certain penalties including fines up to \$5,000 and incarceration up to five years. Violations of the law also subject the offender to administrative sanctions under the University's rules and regulations. The following activities are unlawful:

- Purchase of alcoholic beverages on behalf of a minor.
- Purchase or possession of alcoholic beverages by a person under 21 years old.
- Presentation of false or improper identification in order to obtain alcoholic beverages.
- Possession of an open container of beer, wine, or other alcoholic beverage in a moving vehicle or in an area where such possession has been prohibited.
- Driving under the influence of alcohol or other drugs.
- Selling, giving, or providing alcoholic beverages to a person under 21 years old.
- Distribution, use or possession of drugs and drug paraphernalia.

Referrals or information about alcohol and drug matters are available to any student, faculty, or staff member of Francis Marion. For more information about these programs, contact the Office of Counseling and Testing at 843-661-1840. Complete copies of the FMU Alcohol and Drug Policy may be found in the FMU Student Handbook or may be obtained from the following offices: Student Affairs, Provost, Public Affairs, Administration/Human Resources, and Athletics.

GUIDELINES FOR STUDENT CONCERNS OR COMPLAINTS

The University deems it essential that all students be provided an adequate opportunity to bring concerns, complaints, or suggestions to the attention of the administration with the assurance they will be treated promptly, professionally, fairly, and without fear of reprisal. If any student believes he or she has been mistreated by any member of the faculty or staff, the procedures below should be followed. These procedures are intended to simplify the proper route for students to follow in reporting any perceived mistreatment by a University employee and are not intended to replace any existing policy or process for matters that may be grieved (i.e. sexual harassment, grade appeals, etc.).

- Concerns about faculty on academic or other matters should be reported to the department chair or dean who supervises the professor or instructor.
- Concerns about any form of perceived mistreatment by a University employee should be reported to the employee's supervisor or to the office of the Vice President of the division to which the employee belongs.

- Concerns about admission, registration, advising, or financial assistance issues should be reported to the Associate Provost for Enrollment Management or the Provost's Office.
- Concerns about billing, student accounts, or other administrative issues (Campus Police, Dining Services, Bookstore, etc.) should be reported to the office of the Vice President for Business Affairs.
- All other concerns about non-academic matters, including complaints about treatment by other students, should be reported to the Student Affairs Office.

Students should be aware that once a concern is reported, the complainant may be directed to take further steps or action to have the matter addressed. By reporting to the offices above, the student will be able to determine the appropriate steps to address his or her concerns.