Article X. Authority and Procedures Related to Exigent Circumstances and Public Safety on Campus

The University may utilize either one of the following procedures to insure the safety of members of the campus community and University property. The discretion as to which procedure to utilize rests solely with the University.

1. **Interim Suspensions:** Disciplinary sanctions or other actions that are not supportive measures may not be imposed on respondents prior to a determination of responsibility except in cases meeting the requirements for removal on an emergency basis. Removal of a student on an emergency basis will be determined by the Vice President for Student Engagement and Success or designee through an individualized safety and risk analysis and consultation with Title IX Coordinator, University Police Department, and other departments as appropriate. If a student is removed, the student respondent must be granted a hearing within five (5) business days. The hearing authority for this purpose is the Vice President for Student Engagement and Success or designee.
   a. Interim suspension may be imposed only:
      i. To ensure the safety or well-being of members of the University community or preservation of University property, and/or
      ii. If the student poses an ongoing threat of disruption of, or interference with, the normal operations of the University.
   b. During the interim suspension, a student shall be denied access to University Housing and/or the campus and/or all other University activities or privileges for which the student might otherwise be eligible, as the Student Conduct Officer may determine to be appropriate.
   c. The University may impose an interim suspension without notice or hearing, as long as the notice and hearing follow as soon as practicable (but not less than three business days unless extenuating circumstances exist). The interim suspension does not replace the Student Conduct Process, which shall proceed on the normal schedule, up to and through a hearing, if required. After imposing an interim suspension, the student should be notified in writing (hard copy or electronic) of this action and the reasons for the suspension. The notice should include the time, date, and place of a subsequent hearing at which the student may show cause why the suspension should be lifted (and at which they may contest whether a campus rule was violated.) An interim suspension shall not typically last longer than 10 class days.

2. **Maintaining Campus Order During Periods of Disruption:** The Texas Education Code (TEC §§ 51.231-.244) permits the president of a state University to suspend a student for up to 14 days during periods of disruption whenever the president believes there is reasonable cause to demonstrate the student has willfully disrupted the orderly operation of the campus and the student’s presence on the campus will constitute a substantial and material threat to the orderly operation of the campus. The statute defines a period of disruption as “any period in which it reasonably appears that there is a threat of destruction to institutional property, injury to human life on the campus or facility, or a threat of willful disruption of the orderly operation of the campus of facility”. If invoked the statutory process will govern.