Commission on Student Affairs
CSA Resolution 2006-07A
Reciprocity Statement for Jurisdiction of Off-Campus Misconduct

Approved by Commission on Student Affairs: April 6, 2006
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Whereas, the University Judicial System is an educational tool with two main objectives: to hold students accountable for unacceptable behavior, and to modify those behaviors deemed unacceptable by the university, and

Whereas, the University Judicial System strives to address unacceptable behavior in a manner that informs students and guides them toward a greater sense of personal responsibility, and more mature and ethical standards, and

Whereas, current policy already states that disciplinary action may be initiated against any student or student organization by the university for any act constituting a violation of the law and/or when the act is contrary to the university’s interests as an academic community, and

Whereas, the University would like to convey clearly to students that misconduct at other higher education institutions within the state may be contrary to the Virginia Tech student code of conduct and potentially actionable by the University Judicial System if such reports of misconduct are received, and

Whereas, the University would like to convey to students and their visitors that our campus community will not tolerate misconduct on our campus by students from other institutions and will share reports as appropriate with their guest’s institution, therefore let it be

Resolved, that Section III.A. - Jurisdiction be amended as follows (opening and concluding paragraph omitted for space):

Students and student organizations will be considered for disciplinary action whenever violations are committed on university property. For the purposes of disciplinary action only, a student is defined as any individual who has accepted an offer of admission as an undergraduate, graduate, or professional student and who has not yet graduated or officially transferred to another institution. If a student’s enrollment lapses for more than one calendar year, the student will no longer be subject to disciplinary action under this policy. For violations that do not occur on university property, action will be considered if university officials decide that university interests are involved. Disciplinary action may be taken by the university for any act constituting a violation of the law when the act is contrary to the university’s interests as an academic community. For example, the university may act on information received from other higher education institutions and other agencies from across the Commonwealth of Virginia. Additionally, Virginia Tech will share information about individuals visiting our campus who engage in misconduct with other institutions as appropriate. The university is especially concerned about high-risk consumption of alcohol and other drug use which threatens the lives, health, safety, and academic success of our students and has deemed off-campus violations of the alcoholic beverage and illegal drug policies to be actionable in the university judicial system. When conduct violates both civil law and the policies found in University Policies for Student Life, disciplinary action may be taken by the university, irrespective of and separate from action taken by civil authorities. The university may proceed with disciplinary action before a trial or postpone action until after a trial, depending on the circumstances of the case. The policies and procedures of the University Judicial System are designed to provide students with a fair and equitable resolution of their involvement in alleged misconduct.