

CODE OF STUDENT CONDUCT REVIEW 2025-26

Summary of Consultation Feedback & Preliminary Recommendations

April 2026

Presented by:

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CONSULTATION OUTREACH

Memo & website launched November 17, 2025

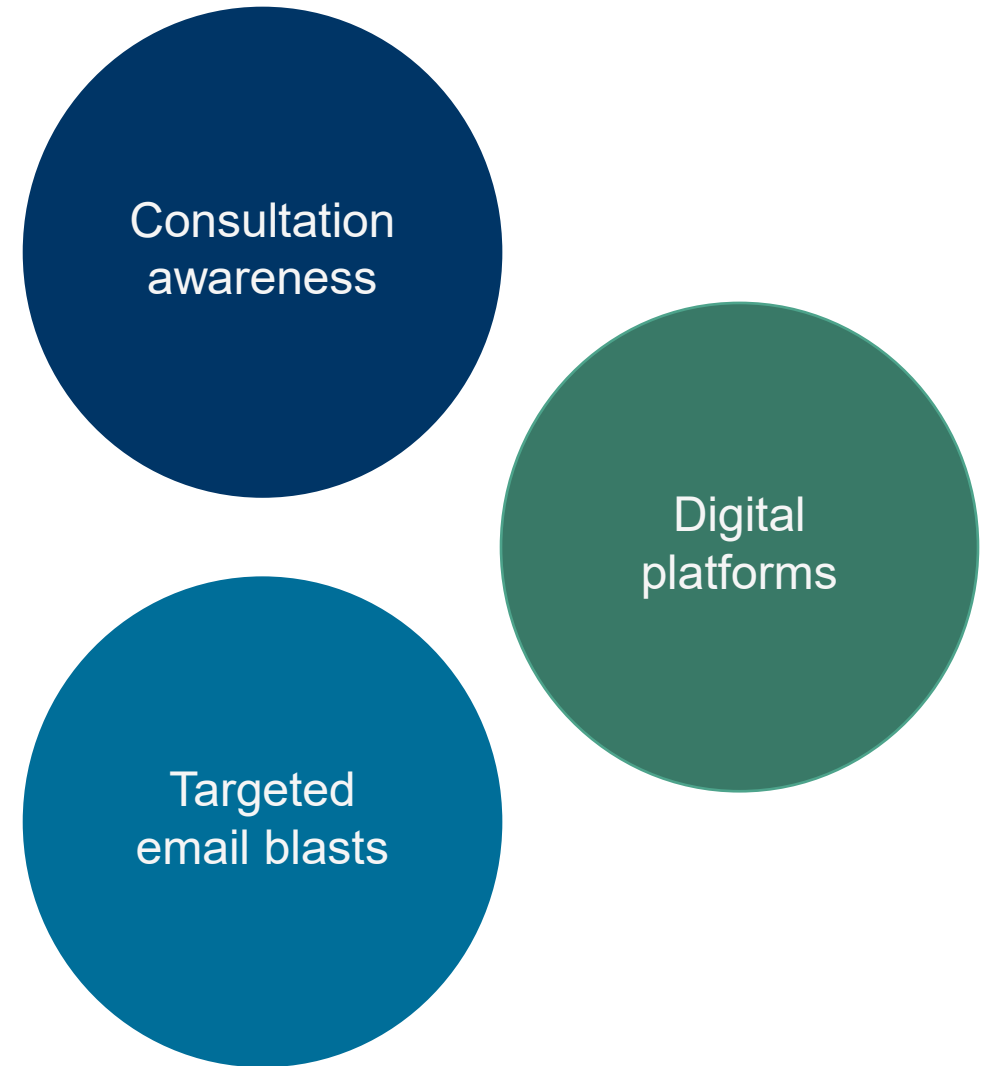
Provost's Memo and OVPS website.

Email & communications outlets

Many email blasts to key stakeholders and the broader community (Nov 2025 – Jan 2026).

Digital platforms

Several digital displays on all three campuses, local channels, and social media networks.




CONSULTATION STATISTICS

- **12 Open Consultation sessions:**
 - Student, staff, faculty member & librarian sessions (tri-campus)
- **Over 30 consultation meetings with staff groups**
- **3 consultations with student associations**
- **50+ online submissions**



44 hours+ of consultations



Key Partner &
Student
feedback



350+
participants

LANDSCAPE SCAN & LEGAL RESEARCH

- Landscape scan of 20+ Canadian institutions
- Legal research on a range of issues
- U of T Code case decisions



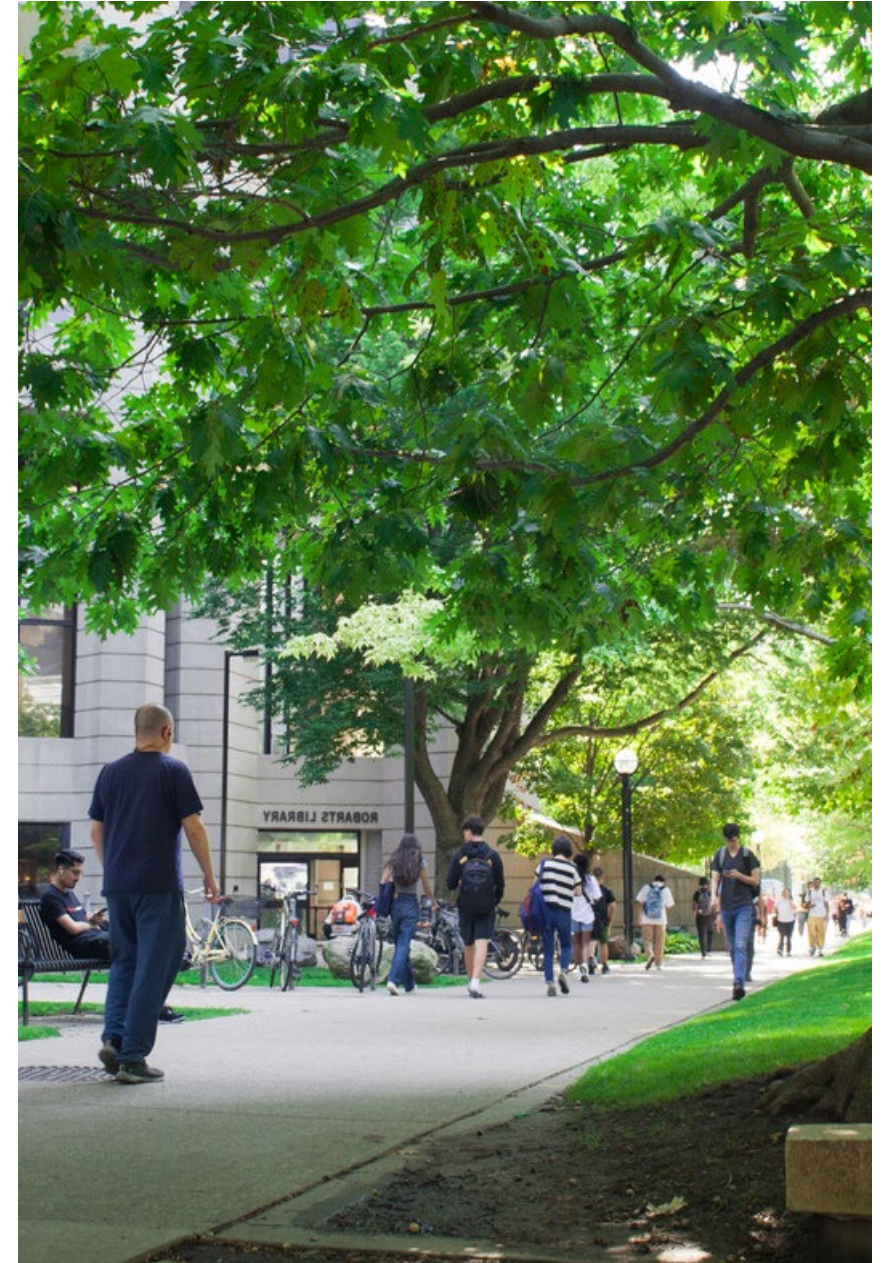
CODE OF STUDENT CONDUCT CONSULTATIONS

What we heard

- **Lack of relevance** of *Code* to university life.
- Concerning behaviour that “**does not meet the threshold of the *Code*.**”
- **Decentralized structure** for reporting, case management, investigating, and decision-making is problematic.
- **Intersections between** the *Code* and mental health concerns.

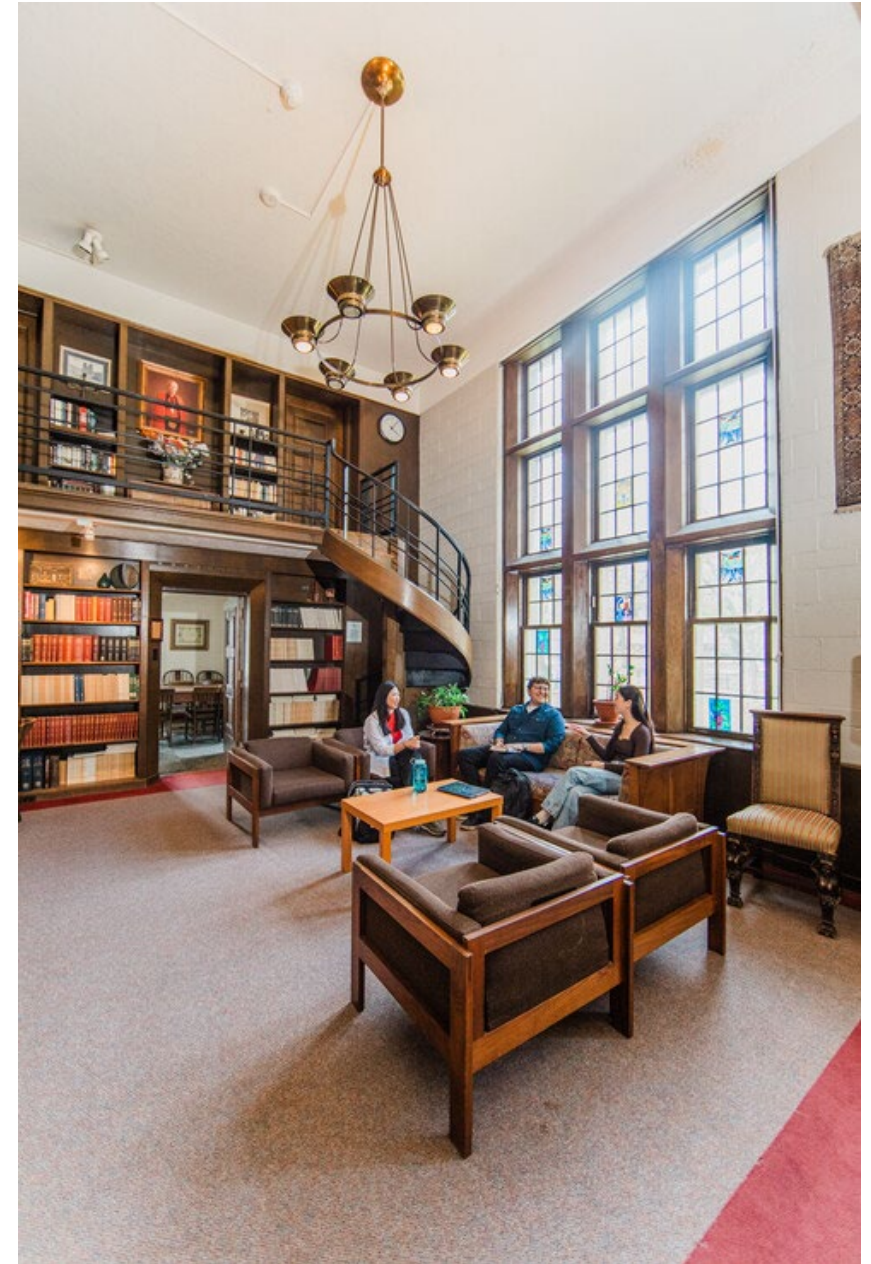
RELEVANCE OF CODE TO UNIVERSITY LIFE

- **Code structure and language are unclear** – overly legal language reads like the criminal code.
- Processes are **highly structured** for a small number of cases.
- **Not relevant** to vast majority of people / situations.
- **Very little knowledge** it exists.
- **Lack of clarity** how it intersects with residence codes/athletic codes, etc.



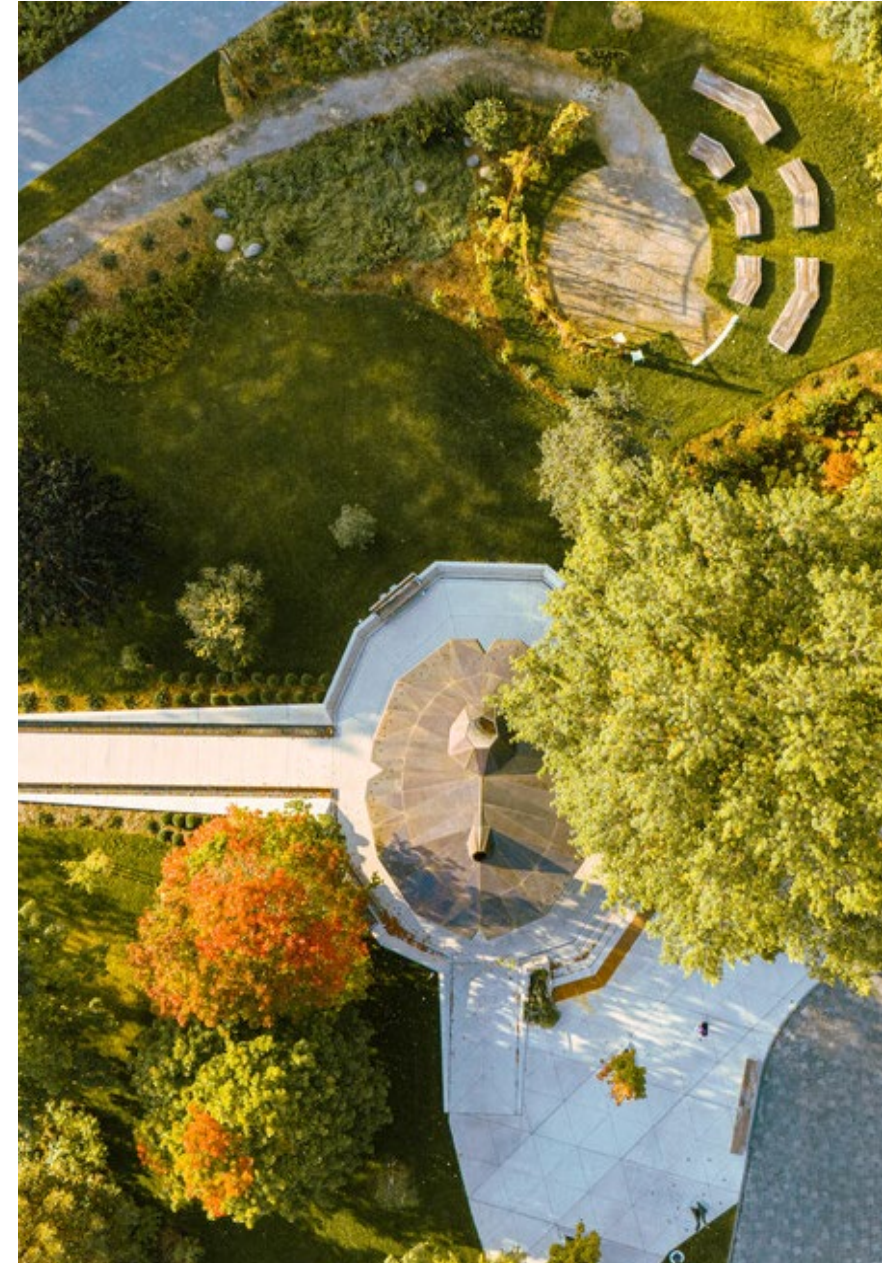
BEHAVIOUR THAT “DOES NOT MEET THE THRESHOLD”

- **Code is not useful for the majority of concerns:** offences out of date, threshold too high, scope too narrow, sanctions too punitive.
- New world of **online harassment and threats.**
- Students **feel unprotected.**
- Significant concerns about **harassment and abuse of staff.**



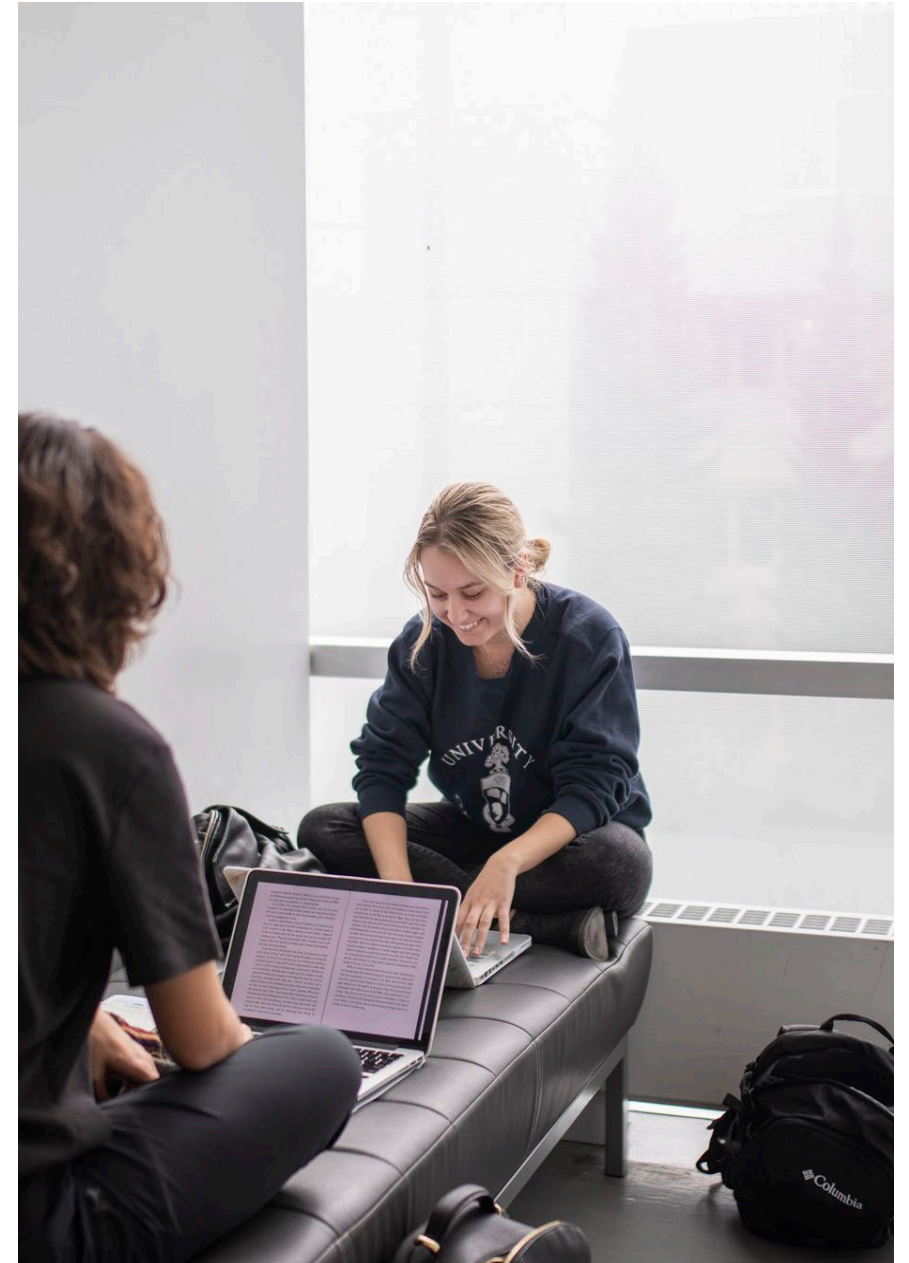
DECENTRALIZED STRUCTURE FOR REPORTING, CASE MANAGEMENT, AND DECISION-MAKING

- Current reporting structure **creates confusion and obstacles** to making a report.
- Cases are managed by **multiple offices** with insufficient coordination and communication.
- Sanctions are **inconsistently** applied.
- Staff feel **overburdened and unsure** how to manage cases.



USE OF THE CODE WHERE THERE ARE MENTAL HEALTH CONCERNS

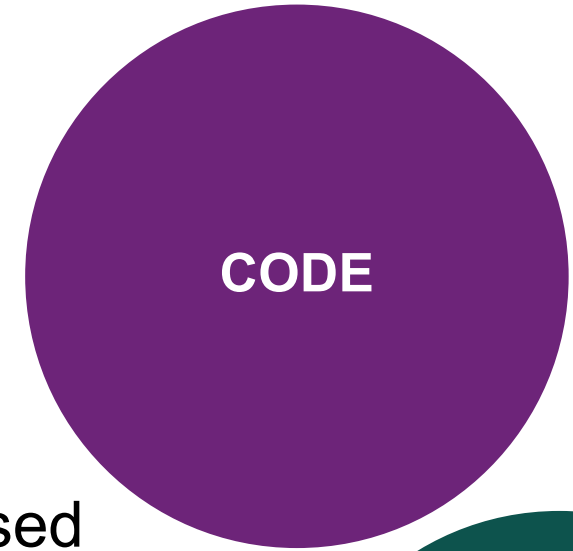
- Unclear **how it intersects** with other mental health policy.
- **Challenging balance between** the duty to accommodate and protecting others.
- Concern that the *Code* is **too punitive**.
- Problematic behaviour **excused or dismissed**.



RECOMMENDATION 1 – STRUCTURE

New policy structure – create two documents.

- **Code:** Strong preamble with community behaviour expectations, behaviours that contravene these expectations divided into tiers, alternative sanctions based on severity of offence, situational factors, interaction with other policies, confidentiality and information sharing, data tracking, interim measures/conditions, etc.
- **Procedures:** How to make a report, assess reports, case manage, decide, conduct an investigation and hearing, impose interim measures/conditions, decide sanctions, etc.



RECOMMENDATION 2 – SCOPE

- Update **code offences** to include online harassment, weapons on campus, etc.
- Create **tiers of offences**:
 - * **more minor cases** to be dealt with at local level with central guidance and cascading interventions; and
 - * **more serious cases** to be dealt with centrally.
- Add **more educative and restorative options**.
- Clarify **definition of “Member of the University of Community”** for instance as in sexual violence policy.



RECOMMENDATION 3 – MANAGEMENT

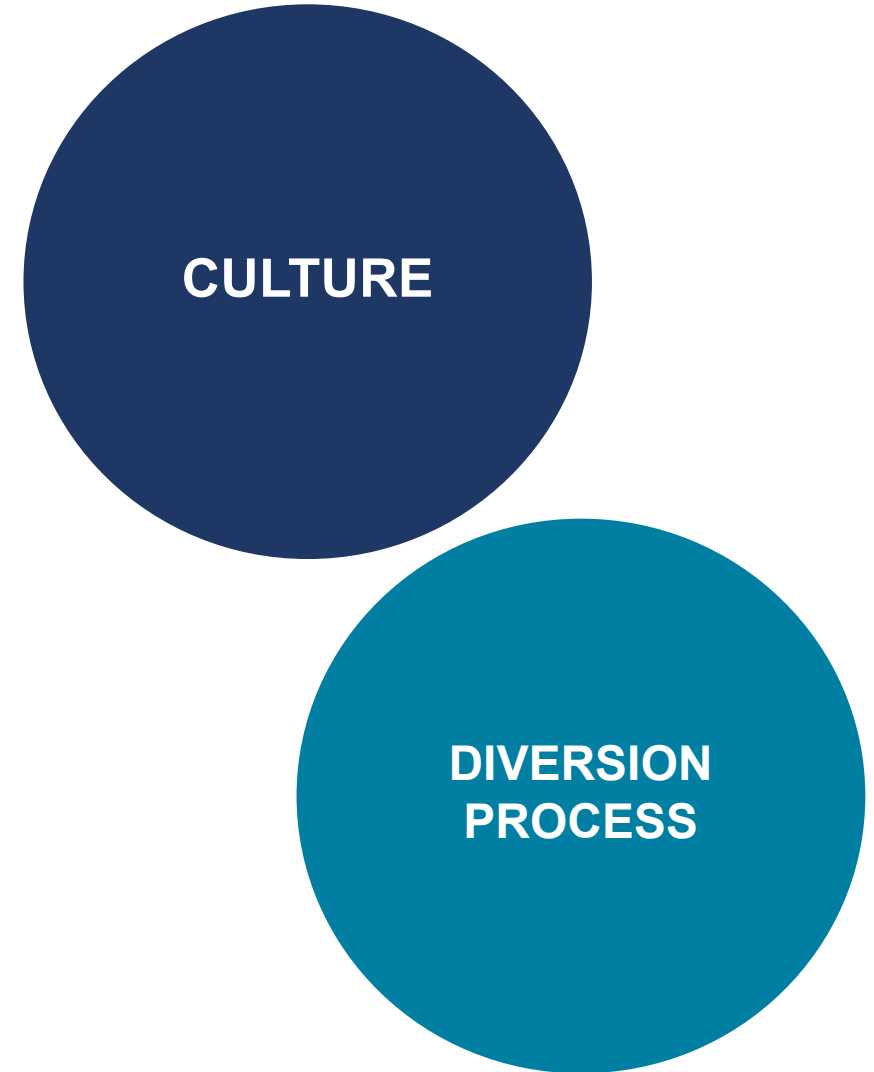
- Create **central “Student Conduct Office (SCO)”** with oversight by the Vice-Provost, Students (VPS).
- Create **centralized reporting process** to new SCO.
- New SCO **assesses complaints, triages responses, and provides guidance.**
- New SCO **tracks numbers and types of cases.**
- Decision-making can be local, with VPS, or through tribunal depending on the severity of the offense and sanctions



RECOMMENDATION 4 – MENTAL HEALTH

Create a **culture** where people are held **accountable** for their actions.

Create a **mental health diversion process** to use as appropriate.



YOUR THOUGHTS



Thank you

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