

## **VEMU INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY**

P.Kothakota, Near Pakala, Chittoor(Dt.), AP - 517112

The Institution has a transparent mechanism for timely redressal of student grievances including sexual harassment and ragging cases

#### Guidelines of statutory/regulatory bodies-Grievance Redressal

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VEMU INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGI
P. KOTHAKOTA - 517 112

# ALL INDIA COUNCIL FOR TECHNICAL EDUCATION NOTIFICATION

New Delhi, the 25th May, 2012

# All India Council for Technical Education (Establishment of Mechanism for Grievance Redressal) Regulations, 2012

F. No. 37-3/Legal/2012.—In order to ensure transparency by Technical institutions imparting technical education, in admissions and with Paramount Objective of preventing unfair practices and to provide a mechanism to innocent students for redressal of their grievances, In exercise of the power conferred under Clause 1 of Section 23 of the All India Council for Technical Education, Act, 1987 (52 of 1987), the All India Council for Technical Education makes the following Regulations, namely:

## 1. SHORT TITLE, APPLICATION AND COMMENCEMENT:

- (1) These regulations may be called the All India Council for Technical Education (Establishment of Mechanism for Grievance Redressal) Regulations, 2012.
- (2) They shall apply to every Technical Institution recognized or approved by the All India Council for Technical Education under the All India Council for Technical Education Act, 1987.
- (3) They shall come into force from the date of its publication in the Official Gazette.

#### 2. **DEFINITION:**

- (1) In these regulations unless the context otherwise requires
  - a) "Act" means the All India Council for Technical Education Act, 1987;
  - b) 'Aggrieved student' means a student who has any complaint in the matters concerned with the grievances as defined under these regulations;
  - c) "College" means any institution, whether known as such or by any other name, which provides for a course of study for obtaining any qualification from a university and which, in accordance with the rules and regulations of such university, is recognized as competent to provide for such course of study and present students undergoing such course of study for the examination for the award of such qualification;
  - d) "Council' means the All India Council for Technical Education;
  - e) "Declared **Admission Policy**" means such policy for admission to a course or **programme of study** as may be approved or recognized by

the Council and offered by the institution and published in such manner as the council may specify;

- f) 'Grievances' may include the following complaints of the aggrieved students namely
  - (i) making admission contrary to merit determined in accordance with the declared admission policy of the institute;
  - (ii) irregularity in the admission process adopted by the institute;
  - (iii) refusing admission in accordance with the declared admission policy of the institute;
  - (iv) withhold or refuse to return any document in the form of certificates of degree, diploma or any other award or other document deposited with it by a person for the purpose of seeking admission in such institution, with a view to induce or compel such person to pay any fee or fees in respect of any course or programme of study which such person does not intend to pursue;
  - demand of money in excess of that specified in the declared admission policy or approved by the competent authority to be charged by such institution;
  - (vi) breach of the policy for reservation in admission as may be applicable;
  - (vii) complaints of alleged discrimination by students from Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribes, OBC, women, minority or disabled categories;
  - (viii) non payment or delay in payment of scholarships to any students that such institution is committed, under the conditions imposed by AICTE, or by any other authority;
  - (ix) delay in conduct of examinations or declaration of results beyond that specified in the academic calendar;
  - on provision of student amenities as may have been promised or required to be provided by the institution;
  - (xi) denial of quality education as promised at the time of admission or required to be provided;
  - (xii) non transparent or unfair evaluation practices;
  - (xiii) harassment and victimization of students including sexual harassment; and
  - (xiv) refund of fees on withdrawal of admissions as per AICTE instructions from time to time.
- g) 'Grievance Redressal Committee' means a Committee constituted under these Regulations;
- h) "institution" for the purposes of these Regulations, means, college or institution as the case may be;
- i) "Ombudsman" means such Ombudsman appointed under sub-clause (1) of clause (3) of these Regulations;

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- j) "Technical education" means programs of education as defined under section 2[g] of the All India Council for Technical Education, Act, 1987;
- K) "Technical Institution" means an Institution as defined under section 2[h] of the All India Council for Technical Education, Act, 1987;
- "University" means a university established or incorporated by or under a Central Act or State Act and includes an institution deemed to be university declared as such under section 3 of the UGC Act 1956.

# 3. APPOINTMENT, TENURE, REMOVAL AND CONDITIONS OF SERVICES UNDER REDRESSAL MECHANISM

- Each Technical University shall appoint an Ombudsman for redressal of grievances of students under these regulations.
  - The Ombudsman shall be a person who has been a judge not below the rank of a District Judge or a Retired Professor who has at least 10 years experience.
  - The Ombudsman shall not, at the time of appointment, during one year before appointment, or in the course of his tenure as ombudsman, be in a conflict of interest with the university where his personal relationship, professional affiliation or financial interest may compromise or reasonably appear to compromise, the independence of judgement toward the university.
  - iv) The Ombudsman, or any member of his immediate family shall not :
    - a) hold or have held at any point in the past, any post, employment in office of profit in the University,
    - b) have any significant relationship including personal, family, professional or financial, with the university,
    - c) hold any university position, called by whatever name, under the administration or governance structure of the university.
  - by the University on a part time basis from a panel of three names suggested by the search committee consisting of the following
    - a) Nominee of the Governor of concerned State Chairman
    - b) Two Vice Chancellors by rotation from Public Universities of the State concerned
    - One Vice Chancellor by rotation from Private Universities of the State concerned
    - d) Secretary (Higher Technical Education) of the State concerned- Convenor
  - vi) The Ombudsman in a Central Technical University shall be appointed by the Central Technical University concerned on a part time basis

from a panel of three names suggested by the search committee consisting of the following members:

a) Chairman AICTE - Chairman

- b) One Vice Chancellor from Central Technical Universities by rotation
- c) Joint Secretary Higher Technical Education, MHRD, Government of India

d) Member Secretary AICTE - Convenor

vii) The Ombudsman shall be a part time officer appointed for a period of three years or till 70 years of age whichever is earlier from the date he resumes the office and may be reappointed for another one term in the same university.

viii) Ombudsman shall be paid a consolidated fees of Rs. 3000 to 5000 per hearing, in addition to the conveyance

ix) The Ombudsman may be removed on charges of proven misconduct or misbehavior by the concerned appointing authority:

- rovided that no order of removal shall be passed except after an inquiry made in this regard by a person not below the rank of High Court Judge in which such Ombudsman has been informed of the charges against him and given a reasonable opportunity of being heard in respect of those charges.
- In case of Technical Institution, the Vice Chancellor of the affiliating university shall constitute a grievance redressal committee consisting of five members for an individual Technical Institution or a group of Technical Institutions, keeping in view the location of the Technical Institution(s) concerned.

#### 4. POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF OMBUDSMAN:

- (1) The Ombudsman shall exercise its powers to hear any grievance -
  - of any student against the university or institution affiliated to it or an institute, as the case may be, after the student has availed of remedies available in such institution for redressal of grievance; and
  - (ii) of any applicant for admission as student to such institution.
- (2) No application for revaluation or remarking of answer sheets shall be entertained by the Ombudsman unless specific irregularity materially affecting the outcome or specific instance of discrimination is indicated.
- (3) The Ombudsman shall have power to seek the assistance of any person belonging to the Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe, Socially and economically backward classes (SEBC) minority or disabled category, as amicus curiae, for hearing complaints of alleged discrimination.

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#### 5. PROCEDURE IN REDRESSAL OF GRIEVANCES:

- (1) Each Technical institution shall establish a registry, headed by an employee of the institute of appropriate rank as the Ombudsman may decide, where an aggrieved student or person may make an applicant seeking redressal of grievance.
- (2) The address of the registry so established shall be published widely including on the notice board and prospectus and placed on the website of the institution.
- (3) On receipt of an application by the registry, the employee-in-charge shall inform the Ombudsman and shall immediately provide a copy to the institution for furnishing its reply within seven days.
- (4) The Ombudsman shall fix a date for hearing the complaint which shall be communicated to the institute and the aggrieved person either in writing or electronically, as may be feasible.
- (5) An aggrieved person may appear either in person or represented by such person as may be authorized to present his case.
- (6) The Ombudsman shall be guided by principles of natural justice while hearing the grievance.
- (7) The Ombudsman shall ensure disposal of every application within one month of receipt for speedy redress of grievance.
- (8) The Technical institution shall be expected to co-operate with the Ombudsman in redress of grievances and failure to do so may be reported by the Ombudsman to AICTE.
- (9) On the conclusion of proceedings, the Ombudsman shall pass such order, with reasons for such order, as may be deemed fit to redress the grievance and provide such relief as may be desirable to the affected party at issue.
- (10) Every order under clause (9), under the signature of the Ombudsman, shall be provided to the aggrieved person and the institution and shall be placed on the website of the Technical institution.
- (11) The Technical institution shall comply with the order of the Ombudsman.
- (12) Any order of the Ombudsman not complied with by the institution shall be reported to the AICTE for appropriate action as deemed fit by the Council.
- (13) A complaint shall be filed by the aggrieved student, his / her parent or with a special permission from the ombudsman, by any other person.
- (14) In case of any false/frivolous complaint, the ombudsman may order appropriate action against the complainant.
- (15) The principles and procedures outlined above shall apply to the working of the Grievance Redressal Committee in the Technical Institute except
  - (a) in case of lack of unanimity, the Grievance Committee shall take decisions by majority;
  - (b) the Grievance Committee shall communicate its decisions within ten days of receipt of complaint.

6. The University and the Technical Institution concerned shall provide detailed information regarding provisions of grievance redressal mechanism, embudsman and the duties and rights of students in their prospectus prominently.

#### 7. CONSEQUENCES OF NON-COMPLIANCE:

The Council shall in respect of any Technical Institution that willfully contravenes or repeatedly fails to comply with orders of the Ombudsman, may proceed to take one or more of the following actions, namely;

- (a) Withdraw the approval granted to the Technical Institution or any other action or penalty as provided under the All India Council for Technical Education (Grant of Approvals for Technical Institutions) Regulation, 2010 as modified or amended by the Council from time to time;
- (b) withdrawal of declaration of fitness or entitlement to receive grants or financial assistance from the Council;
- (c) withholding any grant allocated to the Technical institution;
- (d) declaring the Technical institution ineligible for consideration for any assistance under any of the general or special assistance programmes of the Council;
- (e) informing the general public, including potential candidates for admission, through a notice displayed prominently in the newspapers or other suitable media and posted on the website/web portal of the Council, declaring that the Technical Institution does not possess the minimum standards for redressal of grievances;
- (f) recommend to the affiliating university for withdrawal of affiliation;
- recommend to the appropriate State Government for withdrawal of status as university in case of a Technical university established or incorporated under a State Act;
- (h) taking such other action within its powers as the Council may deem fit and impose such other penalties as may be provided in the Act for such duration of time as the Technical institution complies with the provisions of these Regulations :
  - Provided that no action shall be taken by AICTE under this clause unless the technical institution has been asked to explain its position and opportunity of being heard has been provided to it.
- 8. These regulations shall stand impliedly repealed on coming into force of the Prohibition of Unfair Practices in Technical, Medical Educational Institutions and Universities Act.

Dr. K. P. ISAAC, Member Secy.

[ADVT. III/4/131/12/Exty.]





#### अखिल भारतीय तकनीकी शिक्षा परिषद

(भारत सरकार का एक सांविधिक निकाय) मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार नेल्सन मंडेला मार्ग, वसंत कुंज, नई दिल्ली — 110070 दूरभाषः 011-26131497

ई मेल : ms@aicte-india.org ALL INDIA COUNCIL FOR TECHNICAL EDUCATION

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Date: 13.08.2020

**NOTIFICATION** 

F.no. 1-101/PGRC/AICTE/Regulation/2019

The All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has notified All India Council for Technical Education (Redressal of Grievance of Students) Regulations, 2019, which is published in Official Gazette of India on 19.11.2019. These regulations are aimed at addressing and effectively resolving grievance of students of AICTE approved technical institutions. All the AICTE approved Institutions have been advised to implement these Regulations in their institutions.

As per these Regulations, all aggrieved students are required to approach Student Grievance Redressal Committee (SGRC) appointed by the concerned Institutions for redressal of their grievances. In case they are not satisfied with the decision of the SGRC, they may approach to the OMBUDSPERSON to be appointed under these Regulations. Each affiliating University, Technical University, Private University, Deemed to be University shall appoint Ombudsperson for redressal of grievances of students under the UGC (Redressal of Grievances of Students) Regulations, 2019. For Institutions which are offering diploma level course(s) and are affiliated to Board of Technical Education (BTE), the concerned Directorate of Technical Education (DTE) shall appoint an Ombudsperson for redressal of grievances of students.

Under clause 6(iv) of these regulations, AICTE is required to appoint Ombudsperson for institutions which are not affiliated to any University and offering Diploma, Post Diploma, Post Graduate Certificate, Post Graduate Diploma Course(s) in Management, Computer Applications & Travel and Tourism.

In view of the above provisions in the Regulations, AICTE has appointed the Ombudsperson for the redressal of grievances of students of AICTE approved PGDM institutions as per details below.

Dr. Devi Singh
Former Director, IIM, Lucknow
C/o Public Grievance Redressal Cell
All India Council for Technical Education
Nelson Mandela Marg
New Delhi – 110070

E-mail: pubgry@aicte-india.org

All AICTE approved institutions shall furnish, prominently, on its website and in its prospects, all relevant information in respect of the Student Grievance Redressal Committee(s) coming in its purview and the Ombudsperson for the purpose of appeals.

(Prof. Rajive Kumar) Member Secretary

To,
The Director/ Principal
All AICTE approved Institutions

#### ALL INDIA COUNCIL FOR TECHNICAL EDUCATION NOTIFICATION

New Delhi, the 22nd March, 2021

F. No. 1-103/AICTE/PGRC/Regulation/2021.—In exercise of the power conferred under clause (1) of Section 23 of the All India Council for Technical Education, Act, 1987 (52 of 1987), the All India Council for Technical Education makes the following Regulations, namely:

#### 1. SHORT TITLE, APPLICATION AND COMMENCEMENT:

- These Regulations shall be called as the All India Council for Technical Education a. (Redressal of Grievance of Faculty/Staff Member) Regulations, 2021.
- They shall apply to all Technical Institutions recognized or approved by the All India b. Council for Technical Education as per Section 10(k) of the All India Council for Technical Education Act, 1987.
- They shall come into force from the date of their publication in the Official Gazette.

#### 2. OBJECTIVE:

To provide opportunities for redressal of certain grievances of Faculty/Staff Members already appointed in any institution, as well as those seeking appointment to such institutions, and a mechanism thereto.

#### 3. DEFINITION: IN THESE REGULATIONS, UNLESS THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE **REQUIRES:**

- (a) "Act" means the All India Council for Technical Education Act, 1987;
- (b) "Council" means the All India Council for Technical Education
- (c) "UGC" means University Grants Commission
- (d) "University" means a university established or incorporated by or under a Central Act or State Act and includes an institution deemed to be university declared as such under section 3 of the UGC Act, 1956.
- (e) "State" means a State specified in the First Schedule to the Constitution of India and includes a Union territory;
- "Technical Education" means programs of education as defined under section 2(g) of the All India Council for Technical Education, Act, 1987;
- (g) "Technical Institution" means an Institution as defined under section 2(h) of the All India Council for Technical Education, Act, 1987;
- (h) "aggrieved Faculty/Staff Member" means a Faculty & Staff Member, who has any complaint in the matters relating to or connected with the grievances defined under these Regulations.
- (i) "Grievance" means and includes, complaint(s) made by an aggrieved Faculty/Staff Member(s) in respect of the following service related matters namely:
  - i. withholding of, or refusal to return, any document in the form of certificates of degree, diploma, experience certificate, relieving order or any other award or other document deposited for the purpose of seeking appointment in such institution;
  - ii. non-payment of salaries/wages and/or benefits or any other allowances or dues etc. during services or retirement/resignation, as the case may be;

  - iii. Discrepancies between their wages and/or benefits and other members of staff in similar roles/post/experience.
    iv. termination without giving any reason or notice or memorantum; Truly
    v. non-payment of gratuity amount as per prevailing Government and

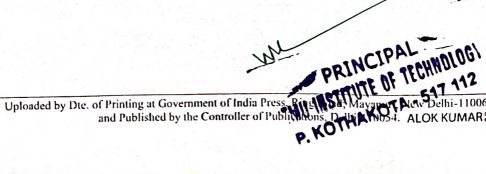
- vi. any other liability which is directly connected with their service and causing financial loss or any harm or trauma.
- (j) "Grievance Redressal Committee" means a Committee constituted under these Regulations;

#### 4. GRIEVANCE REDRESSAL COMMITTEE (GRC):

- It is mandatory for all Technical Institutions to address the grievance of faculty/staff (i) members including service matters at the Institution level itself. A Grievance Redressal Committee (GRC) for faculty/staff members shall be constituted by each Institution to look into the grievance of the faculty/staff members. The composition of the GRC shall be as follows:
  - Principal of the Institution as Chairperson
  - One Senior Professor of the affiliating University as a Member,
  - One Official from University or State DTE (Directorate of Technical Education) (to be nominated by DTE/University Vice Chancellor) as Member,
  - d. One Senior Faculty (not below Associate Professor) as Member.
- A complaint from an aggrieved faculty/staff member relating to the institution shall be (ii) addressed to the Chairperson, Grievance Redressal Committee (GRC).
- The GRC shall send its report with recommendations, if any, to the concerned DTE or (iii) University and a copy thereof to the aggrieved faculty/staff member, within a period of 15 days from the date of receipt of the complaint.
- In case faculty/staff is not satisfied with the decision of Grievance Redressal Committee, (iv) they may appeal to the concerned affiliating University/State DTE (in case of diploma institutes) for redressal of their grievances.
- 5. The University level or DTE level Grievance Redressal Cell established by the University or DTE shall address such grievances and settle the matter at State/University level.
- INFORMATION REGARDING GRIEVANCE REDRESSAL COMMITTEE:

An institution shall furnish, prominently, on its website, all relevant information in respect of the Grievance Redressal Committee(s) coming in its purview.

Prof. RAJIVE KUMAR, Member-Secy. [ADVT.-III/4/Exty./558/2020-21]



## **Anti-ragging Policy**

# AICTE Regulations as per the Directives of Supreme Court Ragging constitutes one or more of any of the following acts:

- a. any conduct by any student or students whether by words spoken or written or by an act which has the effect of teasing, treating or handling with rudeness a fresher or any other student;
- b. indulging in rowdy or undisciplined activities by any student or students which causes or is likely to cause annoyance, hardship, physical or psychological harm or to raise fear or apprehension thereof in any fresher or any other student;
- c. asking any student to do any act which such student will not in the ordinary course do and which has the effect of causing or generating a sense of shame, or torment or embarrassment so as to adversely affect the physique or psyche of such fresher or any other student;
- d. any act by a senior student that prevents, disrupts or disturbs the regular academic activity of any other student or a fresher;
- e. exploiting the services of a fresher or any other student for completing the academic tasks assigned to an individual or a group of students.
- f. any act of financial extortion or forceful expenditure burden put on a fresher or any other student by students;
- g. any act of physical abuse including all variants of it: sexual abuse, homosexual assaults, stripping, forcing obscene and lewd acts, gestures, causing bodily harm or any other danger to health or person;
- h. any act or abuse by spoken words, emails, posts, public insults which would also include deriving perverted pleasure, vicarious or sadistic thrill from actively or passively participating in the discomfiture to fresher or any other student;
- i. any act that affects the mental health and self-confidence of a fresher or any other student with or without an intent to derive a sadistic pleasure or showing off power, authority or superiority by a student over any fresher or any other student.

Every single incident of ragging a First Information Report (FIR) must be filed without exception by the institutional authorities with the local police authorities.

Depending upon the nature and gravity of the offence as established the possible punishments for those found guilty of ragging at the institution level shall be any one or any combination of the following:-

- 1.Suspension from attending classes
- 2. Withholding/withdrawing scholarship/fellowship and other benefits
- 3. Debarring from appearing in any test/examination or other evaluation process and/or withholding results
- 4. Fine with public apology
- 5. Suspension/expulsion from the hostel
- 6. Rustication from the institution for period ranging from 1 to 4 semesters
- 7. Expulsion from the institution and consequent debarring from admission to any other institution.

Collective punishment: when the persons committing or abetting the crime of ragging are not identified, the institution shall resort to collective punishment as a deterrent to ensure community pressure on the potential raggers.



Directives of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in SLP No. 24295 of 2006 dated 16-05-2007 and in Civil Appeal number 887 of 2009, dated 08-05-2009 to prohibit, prevent and eliminate the scourge of ragging

#### Ragging includes

- Any conduct by any student or students whether by words spoken or written or by an act which has the effect of teasing, treating or handling with rudeness a fresher or any other student
- Or indulging in rowdy or undisciplined activities by any student or students which causes or is likely to cause annoyance, hardship or psychological harm or to raise fear or apprehension thereof in any fresher or any other student
- Or asking any student to do any act which such student will not in the ordinary course do and which has the effect of causing or generating a sense of shame, or torment or embarrassment so as to adversely affect the physique or psyche of such fresher or any other student, with or without an intent to derive a sadistic pleasure or showing off power, authority or superiority by a student over any fresher or any other student

### Raghavan Committee Recommendation to Supreme Court

Ragging is as any act which violates the dignity of the individual student or is perceived to violate his/her dignity.

Ragging is a congnizable, non-bailable, non-compoundable offence with punishment ranging from one year imprisonment and fine up to 7 years rigorous imprisonment and fine.

Broadly ragging can be categorized in the following way for which various term of punishment are prescribed:

- A. Verbal: Where senior causes mental harassment, discomfort for the junior by forcing him/her to answer unacceptable/ personal questions, dance, sing etc is said to rag the junior. It also includes within its ambit cyber ragging.
  - Punishment: 1 year imprisonment or fine or both.
- B. Severe Verbal Ragging: Where the mental harassment, discomfort is to such an act as forces the junior to withdraw from the college.

Punishment: 7 year imprisonment with fine.

C. Physical: Any act by the senior towards the junior which inflicts bodily injury on the junior, like beating the junior, hitting him/her with objects etc.

Punishment: 7 year imprisonment with fine.

D. Sexual Ragging: Where the senior asks the junior to do an act which damages sexual dignity of the junior.

Punishment: 7 year rigorous imprisonment and fine.

Penalty for Ragging (Institute level) - (a) Expulsion from the educational institution, if found guilty on inquiry by the Institution against a complaint lodged by any other student. (b) Any student convicted with imprisonment shall be dismissed from the educational institution in which he/she has been prosecuting his studies for the time being, and shall not be re-admitted to that PRINCIPAL PRINCIPAL OF TECHNOLOGY educational institution.

P. KOTHAKOTA - 517 112

## Hi-Tech College of Engineering has zero tolerance for ragging

Ragging is as any act which violates the dignity of the individual student or is perceived to violate his/her dignity.

# RAGGING IS BANNED RAGGING IS A SOCIAL EVIL RAGGING IS A CRIMINAL OFFENCE

Ragging is a congnizable, non-ballable, non-compoundable offence with punishment ranging from one year imprisonment and fine up to 7 years rigorous imprisonment and fine.

Myths and Facts...

Myth: Ragging makes a student bold and prepares us for the difficult circumstances in Life. It makes us strong.

Fact: Boldness as instilled by ragging is a weak acceptance of fate by victims. It teaches us how to be exploited and mutely, non-resistively accept it.

Myth: Ragging helps in breaking the ice between the seniors and freshers. It helps in their interaction and developing friendship between them.

Fact: Ragging is an archaic method of interaction with several harmful effects. Today with advance psychological science there are many other healthy ways of interaction which are more effective and without any human rights abuse.

Myth: Ragging generates a feeling of unity and Oneness.

Fact: Ragging divides the students on the lines of caste, region, class etc. It sets mob mentality in the students.

Ragging is against the concept of equality, student unity and civilized behaviour.

Ragging would always hurt fellow human beings.

Ragging has claimed many innocent lives.

Ragging will land you in jail.

Ragging is a perverted act of a distorted mind.

Ragging is inhuman; let us stop the cycle of ragging.

Be a part of Ragging Free Campus.

Goodbye ragging

No fear on our campus.

Say no to ragging.