Policy *157* Version 1 *04/15/2016*

**Policy Change Cover Sheet**

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| **This form must be attached to each policy presented. All areas in red, including the header, must be completed; if not, it will be sent back to you for completion.** | | |
|  | *I****f the changes you are requesting include housekeeping, please submit those changes to*** [***ndsu.policy.manual@ndsu.edu***](mailto:ndsu.policy.manual@ndsu.edu) ***first so that a clean policy can be presented to the committees.*** | |
| **SECTION**: | 157 Grievance Procedures | |
| 1. **Effect of policy addition or change (explain the important changes in the policy or effect of this policy). Briefly describe the changes that are being made to the policy and the reasoning behind the requested change(s).** | | |
| * Is this a federal or state mandate?  Yes  No * Describe change: Housekeeping change updating the title of Vice President for Equity, Diversity, and Global Outreach to the Vice Provost for Faculty and Equity, and updating the Office of the Vice President for Equity, Diversity and Global Outreach to the Office of the Provost | | |
| 1. **This policy change was originated by (individual, office or committee/organization):** | | |
| * Office/Department/Name and the date submitted – Student Life – Mary Asheim – 9/28/15 * Email address of the person who should be contacted with revisions – mary.asheim@ndsu.edu | | |
| ***This portion will be completed by Mary Asheim.***  Note: Items routed as information by SCC will have date that policy was routed listed below. | | |
| 1. **This policy has been reviewed/passed by the following (include dates of official action):** | | |
| **Senate Coordinating Committee:** | |  |
| **Faculty Senate:** | |  |
| **Staff Senate:** | |  |
| **Student Government:** | |  |
| **President’s Cabinet:** | |  |

The formatting of this policy will be updated on the website once the **content** has final approval. Please do not make formatting changes on this copy. If you have suggestions on formatting, please route them to [ndsu.policy.manual@ndsu.edu](mailto:ndsu.policy.manual@ndsu.edu). All suggestions will be considered, however due to policy format guidelines, they may not be possible. Thank you for your understanding!

**North Dakota State University  
Policy Manual  
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**SECTION 157  
grievance procedures**

#### SOURCE: NDSU President

1. A grievance exists when an employee is dissatisfied with an aspect of his/her employment over which the employee has no control and on which remedial action is desired, excluding job family assignment and performance evaluations for broadbanded staff and other employees not covered under Section 353. (Section 241).
2. If an employee feels unfairly treated or has a complaint, the employee shall first discuss it with the immediate supervisor. It may be a case of misunderstanding which can be straightened out by frank discussion.
3. All employees have the right to present grievances to their supervisors or department heads and are assured freedom from discrimination, coercion, restraint or reprisal in presenting grievances.
4. At each step of the grievance procedure, the employee may be represented by another University employee or by a representative of the employee's choosing.
5. The intent of the University's grievance procedures is to provide a reasonable opportunity for the resolution of an employee's dispute with the University. Depending upon the nature of the grievance, the University has several formal grievance procedures which are available for use by an employee who feels aggrieved or discriminated against and for which informal discussions have not been satisfactory to the employee. If more than one of the University grievance procedures is available for a particular issue, the employee should consult with the Director of Human Resources/Payroll, the Vice Provost for Faculty and Equity (in the case where the issue involves alleged discrimination) or a unit administrator when considering grievance options. Once an employee files a formal grievance in writing with the Office of the Provost, the Office of Human Resources/Payroll or the Presiding Officer of the University Senate (to initiate a faculty Special Review Committee), the employee will not be entitled to grieve the same issue using another internal grievance procedure. If an employee seeks the resolution of a grievance in any external forum, whether administrative or judicial, prior to seeking resolution of the issue by filing a grievance in one of the formal internal grievance procedures listed below or while one of those grievance procedures is in progress, the University may, following notification to the employee, suspend the internal grievance procedure pending a final decision in the external forum.

The Director of Human Resources/Payroll (and the Vice Provost for Faculty and Equity in a case of alleged discrimination) will act in an advisory capacity, as requested, to all parties involved in the grievance procedure.

**All employees**

5.1 If the grievance is based on alleged discrimination, that is, an issue related to race, color, religion, national origin, sex (including sexual harassment), disability, age, veteran's status, or sexual orientation any employee may use the Equal Opportunity Grievance Procedure (Section 156). This procedure includes phases for administrative review, negotiation, and if necessary, a hearing before a special hearing committee.

**Faculty**

5.2 If the grievance involves a faculty member (instructor, assistant professor, associate professor, or professor), lecturer, adjunct faculty member or graduate teaching assistant and is based on a dismissal, termination, nonrenewal or nonpromotion, grievance procedures are described in Sections 350.3. Grievances based on matters other than dismissal, termination, nonrenewal, or nonpromotion may also be grieved using the procedure described in Section 353.

**Broadbanded and all other employees**

5.3 If the grievance is based upon an aspect of employment over which an employee has no control and desires remedial action, e.g., salary, working conditions, disciplinary action, etc., the employee uses the Condition of Employment Grievance Procedure (Section 230). This grievance option is limited to regular employees who have completed their probation period.

5.4 If the grievance is based on a suspension without pay, dismissal or demotion which the employee feels is unjust, the employee uses the Grievance Procedure for Termination of Employment (See Section 231). This grievance option is limited to regular employees who have successfully completed their probationary period.

1. The University's Director of Human Resources/Payroll and the Vice Provost for Faculty and Equity are available to provide assistance to employees in determining, under the given circumstances, which grievance procedure may be most appropriate.

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HISTORY:   
New July 1990

Amended April 1992

Amended May 1997

Amended October 1997

Amended October 2002

Amended March 2005

Amended October 2007

Housekeeping July 2010