

## **NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY**

It is the policy of Augsburg College not to discriminate on the basis of race, creed, religion, sexual or affectional preference, national or ethnic origin, age, marital status, sex, status with regard to public assistance, or disability as required by Title IX of the 1972 Education Amendments or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, in its admissions policies, education programs, activities and employment practices.

The Department of Social Work complies with this college policy and has developed its own policy on racial, ethnic and cultural diversity (see Appendix H). This commitment extends to the selection of field sites. Field agencies are expected to not tolerate any form of discrimination by any agency employee or representative of the student.

## **SEXUAL HARASSMENT POLICY**

Augsburg College has adopted a Sexual Harassment Policy which is delineated in the Student Guide. The Student Guide outlines the policy, how to recognize a sexual harassment situation, options for resolving the situation and ways to confront the situation, as well as a sexual harassment reporting process.

While Augsburg has an official policy, it is recommended that agencies in which students are placed also have policies and procedures that apply to students. It should not be assumed by the Field Instructor that policies and procedures that apply to employees will necessarily apply to students.

Agencies in which Augsburg students are placed shall not tolerate any form of sexual harassment of students by any agency employee or representative. Augsburg faculty and staff are obligated to report allegations of sexual harassment to an Investigating Office at Augsburg College.

Although definitions of sexual harassment can be broad, a person commits sexual harassment when s/he:

- subjects a student to unwanted sexual attention; or
- attempts to coerce a student into a sexual relationship; or
- indicates that sexual favors are a condition for participation in an practicum; or
- indicates that sexual favors may enter into the performance evaluation; or
- engages in conduct of a sexual nature which has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with a student's performance or creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive working or learning environment.

## **DUAL RELATIONSHIPS POLICY**

*Social workers who function as educators or field instructors for students should not engage in any dual or multiple relationships with students in which there is a risk of exploitation or potential harm to the student. Social work educators and field instructors are responsible for setting clear, appropriate, and culturally sensitive boundaries (Standard 3.02(d), NASW Code of Ethics).*

To best achieve students' learning goals, avoid conflicts of interest and comply with the NASW Code of Ethics, field instructors should not enter into dual relationships with field students that could compromise the student's development or an objective assessment of the student's work. As stated in the NASW Code, it is the responsibility of the field instructor to establish and maintain appropriate boundaries.

Certainly any form of sexual or close, personal relationship between a field instructor and a student is forbidden. Additionally, field instructors cannot be a family member, personal friend, a former

or current client or helping professional to the student. However, there are other examples that field instructors may want to consider, e.g. entering into business or financial arrangement, excessive socializing with the student, etc.

The field faculty liaisons or MSW Field Coordinator are available for consultation if the field instructor or student has questions about the boundaries of their relationship. Furthermore, it is the responsibility of the field instructor to notify the field faculty liaisons or MSW Field Coordinator if a dual relationship develops and replacement or other alternatives need to be considered.

When the placement occurs, the student and proposed field instructor have the duty to disclose whether there has been an existing relationship and the nature of it. The MSW Field Coordinator has the duty to assess whether a field instructor/student match is appropriate given the prior relationship.