

MANAGING CLASSROOM DISRUPTION OR STUDENT PROBLEMS



Any situation where a student's life may be in immediate risk – passed out, report of suicide attempt, significant bleeding, etc. – call 911 and then Campus Safety at 443-423-3333



General guideline for receiving support and notifying college officials when dealing with an acutely disruptive or problematic student. No one can anticipate every situation, but the first response by faculty is critical. Remember that Campus Safety is available 24/7 to respond to any situation.



| TYPE OF SITUATION | WHO TO CONTACT |
|--|--|
| Difficulty teaching or conducting activity related to a course due to student disruption. | Academic Response Team (ART)* |
| Concern about the physical and or mental health or welfare of an individual student, including potential use or abuse of alcohol and/or other drugs. | Please refer to the QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE: RESPONDING TO A STUDENT IN DISTRESS for specific beneficial guidelines |
| Anything requiring immediate, in-the-moment attention (medical emergency, severe disruption, etc.) | Campus Safety 443-423-3333 |

* ART will coordinate with the appropriate associate dean, department chair and/or other campus resources as needed.

When discussing a student's situation please keep the following in mind

- ▶ It is permissible under federal law to share information about a student with other employees of the College when doing so is in the best interest of the educational environment. However, when discussing information about a student, please remember that confidentiality of that student should be respected. Conversations should not take place in public settings.
- ▶ Avoid making assumptions about a student's welfare until after you've communicated with that student about your concern. For example, what might look like signs of drug abuse could be a student's adjustment to new medication.
- ▶ When concerned about a student please notify the Academic Response Team (ART), even if you feel the situation is under control. ART may be able to connect the dots between classroom behavior and issues arising elsewhere.

MICA Philosophy and the Behavioral Intervention Team

The philosophy of the College is to first be supportive, focusing on the health and wellness of the individual and the community; however, this is only possible when everyone cooperates towards this goal. It is the responsibility of any staff, faculty, or student involved in a situation requiring assistance to seek the appropriate help.

The College has also developed a Behavioral Intervention Team (BIT). The BIT is a multi-disciplinary group whose purpose is to support students over time, receiving reports of disruptive or concerning behavior that might be elevated enough to immediately prevent a student's persistence at MICA or impact a wide swath of the campus community. As needed the BIT group can perform a threat assessment, determine the necessary mechanisms for support, and enact direct intervention. The BIT group deploys necessary resources to address student behavior and coordinates follow-up.

(Adapted from the National Behavioral Intervention Team Association Guidelines)

Information about Resources for Faculty

CAMPUS SAFETY:

EMERGENCY DISPATCH 443.423.3333; 24-Hour Dispatch 410.225.2245

Campus Safety is staffed 24/7, and is the first contact for any situation requiring immediate support, whether that be due to significant classroom disruption, health concern, or any other type of emergency situation. Campus Safety will coordinate as necessary with the Counselor-on-Call or the Student Affairs Dean-on-Call. Campus Safety is the first contact if an instructor wishes to file a complaint as a result of feeling threatened, physically or otherwise, by an individual student's behavior. Their staff is broadly trained to be first responders and incident managers, allowing them to attend to both any immediate medical need as well as remove any source of disruption.

ACADEMIC RESPONSE TEAM (ART) - academicresponse@mica.edu

Ken Dippong, Director of Academic Advising 410.225.4284

Laura Birdsall, Academic Advisor, First Year Experience 410.225.2315

Cyndey Delia, Director, Learning Resource Center 410.225.2416

Crystal Shamblee, Associate Dean, Open Studies 410.225.4265

Wendy Price, AVP for Academic Services 410.225.4229

ART serves as an academic bridge and resource; a one-stop contact for faculty/academic staff to alleviate the time spent on identifying student support services and being referred to multiple campus offices. Faculty are welcome to contact ART for assistance with classroom behavior questions or concerns (disruption, behavior changes, excessive requests, excessive absences, academic integrity concerns, etc.). ART members will work with faculty to address questions/concerns and also refer faculty to other campus resources and help coordinate responses.

STUDENT AFFAIRS – 410.225.2422

Michael Z Patterson, Vice President for Student Affairs; mpatters@mica.edu

Dr. Judith Kinney, Associate Vice President for Student Health and Wellness; jkinney01@mica.edu

Louise Cracknell, Student Development Specialist; lcracknell@mica.edu

Student Affairs is the primary resource for concerns about a student's health or welfare, including use or abuse of alcohol or drugs. These concerns may arise from your observation of a student's behavior or from the imagery or written work that they produce. Student Affairs will work with the student directly to address the situation at hand. Depending upon the scenario this may be with the aim of supporting a student, holding them accountable for behavior, or both.

Other MICA Resources

Academic Advising – 410.225.2315

Counseling Center – 410.225.2367

FYE Advisor – 410.225.2336

Learning Resource Center – 410.225.2416

Residence Life & Off-Campus Housing – 410.225.2398