



2.6.1

SEXUAL AND CONSENSUAL RELATIONSHIPS

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Santa Rosa Junior College's educational mission is promoted by professionalism in faculty-student relationships. In as much as Santa Rosa Junior College is committed to fostering the development of learning environments characterized by professional and ethical behavior, consenting amorous relationships between instructor and students are discouraged.

Because those who teach are entrusted with guiding students, judging their work and giving grades for papers and courses, instructors are in a delicate relationship of trust and power. This relationship must not be jeopardized by possible doubt of intent or the appearance to other students of favoritism. Therefore, it is unwise and inappropriate for faculty members who have romantic relations with students to teach such students in a class or recommend them for awards, scholarships or employment. Prudence and the best interest of the students dictate that in such circumstances of romantic involvement, the students should be aided to find other instructional arrangements. Faculty should keep in mind that a student's initial consent to a romantic relationship does not preclude a charge of sexual harassment in the future, and that such a charge would be difficult to defend on grounds of mutual consent.