Tuesday, March 11, 2014

SUBJECT: AMENDMENTS TO REGULATION 4.008 - ACCESS TO STUDENT RECORDS

PROPOSED BOARD ACTION
Approve amendments to Regulation 4.008 - Access to Student Records.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION
FAU Regulation 4.008 governs access to student records. The proposed revisions to FAU Regulation 4.008 limit the disclosure and release of student record directory information for the University’s elementary and secondary schools to or for certain defined purposes.

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN/DATE
The amendments will become effective immediately upon Board of Trustees approval.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS
None.

Supporting Documentation: Proposed amendments to Regulation 4.008

Presented by: David Kian, Vice President & General Counsel   Phone: 561-297-3007
Dr. Joel Herbst, Assistant Dean, College of Education   Phone: 561-297-3977
Regulation 4.008  Access to Student Records

(1) The following information is Directory Information that Florida Atlantic University may release upon request, or otherwise publish, unless specifically notified by the student in writing:

a. Student name;
b. Student address;
c. Student telephone number (if it is a listed number);
d. Student date and place of birth;
e. Student class and college of enrollment;
f. Student major field of study;
g. Student dates of attendance;
h. Student degrees and awards received;
i. Student participation in officially recognized activities and sports;
j. Student weight and height of members of athletic teams; and
k. Most recent previous educational agency or institution attended by the student.

With respect to the University’s elementary and secondary schools, the release or publication of Directory Information hereunder shall be limited to or for: (a) colleges, universities or other institutes of higher education in which the student is enrolled, may seek enrollment or may be recruited, (b) school publications, instructional materials, and other school communication tools (including, but not limited to, yearbooks, student directories, athletic programs, graduation programs, and theatrical programs) for the school in which the student is enrolled, (c) agencies that provide food, shelter, or clothing to students and their families, as determined by the Dean of the College of Education, and (d) student name, address, and telephone number of 11th and 12th grade students to the armed services and military recruiters.

(2) If any student does not wish to have his/her Directory Information released, the student must notify the Registrar in writing on or before the end of the first week of classes of any semester. All other personally identifiable records kept by the University concerning students shall be considered confidential and access to them shall be limited.

(3) Campus personnel may share student records with other school officials who have legitimate educational interests in the information. “School officials” are persons employed by the University in an administrative, supervisory, academic or research, or support staff position (including law enforcement unit personnel and health staff); a person or company with whom the University has contracted as its agent to provide a service instead of using University employees or officials (such as an attorney, auditor, or collection agent); a person serving on the Board of Trustees; or a student serving on an official committee, such as a student affairs board or committee, or assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks. A school official has a “legitimate educational interest” if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibilities for the University. The University may also disclose information from a student’s education records to officials of other institutions at which the student seeks or intends to enroll, and as otherwise permitted by law.
(4) The University maintains certain limited-access records as defined by law through its designated records custodians or their designees listed below. The University President is the records custodian over all University records. The President may designate co-records custodians at his/her discretion. These designations include, but are not limited to:

a. Student Health & Medical Records- Student Health Services Manager;
b. Student Disciplinary Records- Dean of Student Affairs;
c. Records of Student Employment- Director of Student Employment;
d. Non-Academic Counseling- Director of Counseling Center;
e. Student and Family Financial Records- Director of Student Financial Aid;
f. International Student Records- Director of International Student Services;
g. Student Academic Records- University Registrar and/or Director/Chairperson of academic department; and
h. Student Placement Records- Director of Career Development Services.

(5) The custodians of limited-access records may release information from such records only:

a. With the written consent of the student whose records are sought to be released;
b. As required by the President of the University or school official in the discharge of official duties; or
c. As otherwise provided by law.

(6) Subpoenas for student records are properly served to either the University Registrar or the University General Counsel.