 <p>מכון ויצמן למדע WEIZMANN INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE מדרשת פינברג FEINBERG GRADUATE SCHOOL</p>	Termination of studies as a result of serious behavioral disturbances
	Category: Ethics, conduct and discipline
	Last updated: May 15, 2020

Termination of studies as a result of serious behavioral disturbances

Table of contents

1. Purpose
2. Ad hoc review committee
3. The student's rights
4. Relief in urgent cases

The document is written in the masculine language form for convenience only but is intended for women and men alike. "student" in this document may be replaced with "postdoctoral fellow", "postdoc" or "visiting student" (singular or plural); and "studies" with "training" or "visit."

1. Purpose

The purpose of this procedure is to set rules for terminating the studies of a student whose behavior, due to his state of health, endangers himself or others, or causes continuous and intolerable disturbance to the proper conduct of studies and academic activities of the School (hereinafter: "**the School**"), or to life in the student dormitories, or to any scientific or other activity at the Institute (hereinafter: "**the Institute**").

2. Ad hoc review committee


If it is brought to the attention of the Dean of the School that a student's behavior causes intolerable disturbance to students, postdoctoral fellows, or people working at the Institute, to dormitory residents, to proper conduct of studies, to academic activities, or to any other activity on the campus of the Institute, and that such behavior persists despite a warning given to the student, and if it is the opinion of the Dean of the School that the student's conduct is caused by a medical limitation (including a mental condition), the Dean of the School is empowered to bring the case to an ad hoc review committee appointed by him (hereinafter: "**the Committee**").

2.1. The role of the Committee

To review the case, to discuss the case in detail, and to recommend to the Dean of the School the courses of action to be taken in light of the situation

2.2. Composition of the Committee

- 2.2.1. The Chair of the relevant Board of Studies, or a representative on his behalf.
- 2.2.2. The Academic Secretary of the School
- 2.2.3. A representative of the social services of the Institute.
- 2.2.4. A representative of the psychological services that assists the School.
- 2.2.5. One of the School coordinators, as per the Dean's decision.

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2.3. The Committee's authority


2.3.1. Medical information

- 2.3.1.1. The Committee is entitled to demand information from the student about his state of health, including by means of a request that he sign a Declaration of Health form or a Waiver of Medical Confidentiality form (hereinafter: "the **Waiver**").
- 2.3.1.2. The Waiver will be provided only for the use of a psychologist and/or psychiatrist on behalf of the Institute, and of the social service representative on the Committee. The psychiatrist will issue an opinion to all Committee members regarding the possible effects of the student's medical condition on the possibility of continuing his studies at the School, without describing in detail the specific medical condition, but only its implications.
- 2.3.1.3. The Committee is entitled to ask the student to be examined by one or more physicians (including a psychiatrist) acting on its behalf. The examination will be conducted at the expense of the School.

2.3.2. Recommendations

At the conclusion of the process, the Committee is authorized to determine and recommend to the Dean of the School:

- 2.3.2.1. That the student's state of health does not warrant any action on the part of the School; or
- 2.3.2.2. That the student's state of health does not warrant the suspension or termination of his studies, and tools are recommended that will enable him to continue his studies or fellowship without causing any disturbance; or
- 2.3.2.3. That the student's state of health does not make the continuance of his studies possible, in which case his studies will be permanently terminated; or
- 2.3.2.4. That the student's state of health does not enable the continuance of his studies for a fixed period of time; in this case, the student's studies will be suspended for the period of time determined by the Committee. At the end of the period of time determined by the Committee, the student will provide the social worker Committee member with medical certification about his condition, and the social worker will make a recommendation to the Dean of the Graduate School:
- to leave the suspension in effect; or
 - to conclude the suspension without a further committee hearing; or
 - to request that the committee be convened to reexamine the case.

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3. The Student's Rights

3.1. The right to make claims and to be represented

3.1.1. During the entire procedure, the student will be given a fair opportunity to present his claims, including being assisted by the services of a physician, psychologist, social worker or any other representative he chooses on his behalf.

3.1.2. If the student refused to appear before the Committee, or to be examined by a physician on its behalf, or to sign a confidentiality waiver form, or if he did not come to the Committee's hearing, the Committee is entitled to decide in his absence, based on the actions due to which it was convened.

3.2. Reconsideration hearing

The student is entitled to ask the Committee to convene and reconsider its decisions under sections 2.3.2.3 or 2.3.2.4 above within thirty days of the School's notifying the student of its decision. In such a case, the student will present a medical opinion to the social worker, who is authorized to ask the Dean to convene the Committee or to deny the request.

4. Relief in urgent cases

If it was brought to the attention of the Dean of the School that a student's behavior causes intolerable disturbance to students, to people working at the Institute, to dormitory residents, to proper conduct of studies, to academic activities, or to any other activity on the campus of the Institute, and that such behavior persists despite a warning given to the student, and if in the opinion of the Dean of the School it is likely that said behavior is caused by the student's state of health, and that it poses or is liable to pose a danger to the public's safety, the Dean of the School (or someone so authorized by him), is entitled to prohibit the student's entry into the Institute, and to contact the security officials at the Institute so that they will enforce this provision. This regulation is based, among other things, but not exclusively, on the Regulation of Security in Public Bodies Law, 5758-1998, and on the Authorities for Protecting Public Safety Law, 5765-2005, in which the authority of the Institute has been established in cases in which a person has performed an act of violence, or in the case of a real threat that a person is about to commit an act of violence, to prevent that person from entering the grounds and buildings that it is responsible for, or to remove that person from the grounds and buildings that it is responsible for – and even to use reasonable force to do so. This provision will be valid for a month or until an examination of the matter is completed, whichever is earlier. If the Dean of the Graduate School sees a need to extend this prohibition, he may extend the duration of the restraining order by one month, as long as the examination proceedings are conducted without delay. This action includes an automatic suspension of identical length from studies.