POLICY CHANGES (this is the same info from 2020 Annual Report)

- The grievance policy review committee met on August 20, 2019 to complete recommended policy revisions. Proposed changes are primarily to clarify steps in the mediation and grievance process, what the timeline of that process looks like, and more specifically, what kinds of complaints fall within the purview of the grievance process.

- The proposed policy was then sent to administrators, and to date, it is my understanding that the document is still pending at that level. Until that is resolved, the current policy as posted online is still in effect, so complaints continue to be assessed pursuant to that policy.

GRIEVANCES

- There was 1 grievance which reached disposition between August 2020 and August 2021. The case proceeded through the entire formal grievance process, culminating in a closed (virtual) Hearing in February 2021. Five members of the University Grievance Panel were appointed to serve on a Board specifically assembled to review this case. Prior to the Hearing, these Board members reviewed information and documents provided to them by both the Grievant and Respondent, and at the Hearing, testimony from both parties, their witnesses, and advisors was heard. On behalf of the Board, the Board Chairperson subsequently submitted a Summary Report and Findings to the Grievance Panel Chair (Balestrieri). Pursuant to policy, the matter was concluded when the Grievant agreed to the Board's recommended disposition of the case.

Submitted respectfully,

Chair, University Grievance Panel
Blythe Alison Bowman Balestrieri, Ph.D.
Associate Professor & Assistant Chair, Criminal Justice
L. Douglas Wilder School of Gov't & Public Affairs
Virginia Commonwealth University
1001 W Franklin St #2013
Richmond 23284 VA
bbalestrieri@vcu.edu