

Wichita State University Faculty Ombuds Program Charter

I. INTRODUCTION

The Wichita State University Faculty Ombuds program ("Ombuds Program") was established to

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III. STANDARDS OF PRACTICE

The Ombuds Program adheres to and has adopted the Charter and incorporates by reference this Charter. The Ombuds Program will establish and follow consistent policies for the Ombuds Program which will be posted on the Ombuds Program website. The Ombuds Program will clearly explain each of these Standards of the Ombuds Program services and will be members of IOA and work with other Ombuds Programs worldwide.

A. Independence

The Ombuds Program will be, and will take care to ensure that it is perceived to be, free from conflicts of interest. The Ombuds Program provides ombuds services to visitors and will not interfere with or control the substance of the provision of its services, however, the Ombuds Program will not provide services to visitors who have a conflict of interest.

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μ š šZ u } μš šZ] œ } %œbudsProgram will be voluntary and will not be
a required step in any grievance process or University policy.

IV. AUTHORITY AND LIMITS TO THE OMBUDS ROLE

A. Ombuds Authority

The authority of the Ombuds derives from the establishment of the Ombuds Program by the University. The Ombuds has the authority to receive and respond to concerns from visitors to the University, including students, faculty, staff, and members of the public. The Ombuds is not a part of the University's administrative structure and is not involved in the resolution of disputes between individuals or groups. The Ombuds is an independent and impartial resource for visitors who may have concerns about their experience at the University.

1. Have Discussions with Visitors and Others The Ombuds has the authority to discuss with visitors their concerns, available informal and formal resources, and so forth. The Ombuds also has the authority to invite visitors to the Ombuds' office or to meet with them at another location.
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2. Advise Visitors on University Policies and Procedures The Ombuds may advise visitors on University policies and procedures, including those related to student conduct, academic affairs, and employment. The Ombuds may also provide information on how to file a complaint or grievance with the appropriate university office.
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3. Access to University Records The Ombuds may request access to University records, including those related to student conduct, academic affairs, and employment. The Ombuds may also request access to records held by other university offices, such as the Office of the Provost or the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs.
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B. Limitations on the Authority of the Ombuds

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IX. AMENDMENT AND REVOCATION

This Charter may be amended only with the agreement of the Ombuds and the approval of
the Board of Directors.