Physical Violence

Harvard College strives to maintain a safe and secure environment for all members of the community and thus does not tolerate physical violence used by or against the members of the community. Students are expected to avoid all physical conflicts, confrontations, and altercations unless their own safety or that of another is at extreme jeopardy. Failure to do so will ordinarily result in disciplinary action, including but not limited to requirement to withdraw from the College. (See also Sexual Assault and Other Sexual Misconduct below.)

Honesty

The College expects that all students will be honest and forthcoming in their dealings with the members of this community. Further, the College expects that students will answer truthfully questions put to them by a properly identified officer of the University. Failure to do so ordinarily will result in disciplinary action, including but not limited to requirement to withdraw from the College.

All students are required to respect private and public ownership; instances of theft, misappropriation, or unauthorized use of or damage to property or materials not one's own will ordinarily result in disciplinary action, including but not limited to requirement to withdraw from the College.

Sexual Assault and Other Sexual Misconduct

In May 1993, the Faculty of Arts and Sciences adopted a policy on sexual assault and misconduct. That policy is printed here, in its entirety. In addition, copies are available from the Assistant Dean of Harvard College, from the House Offices and the Freshman Dean’s Office, from the Office of Sexual Assault Prevention and Response, and from the Sexual Assault
and Sexual Harassment (SASH) advisers in each House and Yard.

**FAS Policy Statement on Rape, Sexual Assault, and Other Sexual Misconduct**

**Introduction**

All members of the University community have a right to treatment with dignity and respect and to full participation in the community. These rights extend to classrooms, workplaces, and residences. They include the right to bodily safety and integrity. In recognition of these rights, the Faculty of Arts and Sciences is committed to creating and maintaining an environment at Harvard in which all individuals - faculty, staff, and students - are treated with dignity and feel safe and secure in their persons. These principles are fundamental to the attainment of a community devoted to teaching, learning, and research.

In accordance with these principles, the Faculty of Arts and Sciences will not tolerate sexual misconduct including rape and sexual assault, whether affecting a man or a woman, perpetrated by an acquaintance or a stranger, by someone of the same sex or someone of the opposite sex. Such behavior is unacceptable in our community. A student who commits rape, sexual assault, or other sexual misconduct is subject to severe penalties under the rules of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences. Rape and sexual assault are serious crimes under the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the individuals responsible for such acts are subject to prosecution and legal penalties.

**Application**

This policy and its related disciplinary procedure apply when an allegation of sexual misconduct is made against a student at Harvard College. Within the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, different reporting and disciplinary procedures apply when the individual alleged to have committed an act of sexual misconduct is a graduate student, or member of the faculty or staff.

**Sexual Misconduct**
For the purposes of this policy, sexual misconduct is to be understood as encompassing the following behaviors:

- Rape includes any act of sexual intercourse that takes place against a person's will or that is accompanied by physical coercion or the threat of bodily injury. Unwillingness may be expressed verbally or physically. Rape may also include intercourse with a person who is incapable of expressing unwillingness or is prevented from resisting, as a result of conditions including, but not limited to, those caused by the intake of alcohol or drugs. Rape includes not only unwilling or forced vaginal intercourse, but also the sexual penetration of any bodily orifice with a body part or other object.
- Sexual assault includes any unwanted touching or fondling of a sexual nature that is accompanied by physical force or threat of bodily injury.
- Sexual misconduct may also include other serious or persistent unwanted sexual contact or conduct, such as harassment, threats, intimidations, or unwanted touching or fondling.

*Being intoxicated does not diminish a student's responsibility in perpetrating rape, sexual assault, or other sexual misconduct.*

Remedies

Rape and sexual assault are felonies in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and any student who believes that she or he has suffered a rape or sexual assault is strongly encouraged to pursue legal remedies. Students may also choose to initiate disciplinary or remedial action for sexual misconduct, including rape and sexual assault, through Harvard College in accordance with the procedures for adjudicating peer disputes, as established by the Faculty of Arts and Sciences. Disciplinary or remedial action under those procedures may be pursued whether or not a complainant chooses to prosecute the case. Counseling and consultations regarding emotional, legal, and administrative concerns are available to those students who wish to pursue either College or legal processes, or both.

Harvard and the local community provide many resources to
support, advise, and assist victims of rape and sexual assault. All of the following resources have had training to deal effectively with sexual assault. In addition to HUPD and UHS, Harvard College has administrative officers and counselors available to help. Some resources are as follows:

Harvard resources

Office of Sexual Assault Prevention and Response  
Susan Marine, Director  
Holyoke Center  
(617-495-9100), 24 hours

Harvard University Police Department (HUPD)  
Sensitive Crimes Unit  
(617-495-1796), 9 am–5 pm. After these hours, HUPD,  
(617-495-1212)

UHS Medical After-Hours service  
(nights and weekends)  
Holyoke Center  
(617-495-5711)

UHS Mental Health Service  
Holyoke Center  
(617-495-2042)

Bureau of Study Counsel  
5 Linden Street  
(617-495-2581)

RESPONSE  
(peer counseling for sexual assault, 9 pm–8 am)  
Lowell House Basement E-013  
(617-495-9600)

Assistant Dean Julia Fox  
(to discuss options for pursuing a complaint through informal and formal discipline)  
University Hall, First Floor  
(617-495-4348)

Community Resources

Beth Israel Hospital Emergency Room  
(for medical evidence collection within 5 days of a
sexual assault
One Deaconess Road, Boston
(617-754-2400)

Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center Rape Crisis Center
(617-667-4645)

Boston Area Rape Crisis Center Hotline
99 Bishop Allen Drive (Central Square) Cambridge
(617-492-RAPE) or (617-492-7273)

Cambridge Police Department
(to make a police report)
Sexual Assault Unit
(617-349-3370)

Cambridge Hospital Victims of Violence counseling program
Central Street Health Clinic, Somerville
(617-591-6360)

If a student chooses not to take advantage of these resources, HUPD and the College encourage any student who has been sexually assaulted to identify a trusted friend, family member, counselor, or other source of support to help deal with the emotional trauma he or she may experience, and know that at any time, there are additional resources available. Ideally, a good source of support will allow a survivor of sexual assault or rape to make decisions and take control over the choices they make after the assault.

Complaints of sexual misconduct may be filed with the College according to the procedures of the Administrative Board as outlined on page 311 and in the The Administrative Board Guide for Students. For additional information about University support and resources for sexual violence, see page 351.

Drugs and Alcohol

Harvard expects its students and employees to maintain an environment that is safe and healthy. The unlawful possession,
use, or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol by students and employees on Harvard property or as a part of any Harvard activity are violations of University rules as well as the law. Possession, use, or distribution of certain non-prescription drugs, including marijuana, amphetamines, heroin, cocaine, and non-prescription synthetics; procurement or distribution of alcohol by anyone under 21 years of age; and provision of alcohol to anyone under 21 years of age are violations of the law and of Harvard policy. The University holds its students and employees responsible for the consequences of their decisions to use or distribute illicit drugs or to serve or consume alcohol.

Health Concerns

The use of illicit drugs and the misuse of alcohol are potentially harmful to health. In particular, synthetically produced drugs often have unpredictable emotional and physical side effects that constitute an extreme health hazard. Students should also weigh the seriousness of potential loss of function that may come from ingesting illicit drugs or too much alcohol. Because of the considerable hazards involved in drug and alcohol use, administrative, medical, and psychiatric help for students having alcohol or other drug problems are available on a confidential basis from the Allston Burr Senior Tutor or Assistant Dean of Freshmen, other officers of the University, University Health Services, and the Bureau of Study Counsel. Any member of the University may make use of the Health Services on an emergency basis, day and night.

Illegal Acts

Careful note should be taken that the University is not, and cannot be considered as, a protector or sanctuary from the existing laws of the city, state, or federal government. Massachusetts law prohibits the sale, delivery, or furnishing of alcohol to persons under the age of 21. In addition, a social host may under certain circumstances be held liable for injuries caused by a guest who, having consumed alcohol on the host's premises, does harm to himself or herself or to a third party. If the guest is a minor (i.e. under 21) and the host knew or reasonably should have known that he or she was furnishing alcohol to a minor, the host will be held responsible for injuries or damage to the minor or to third parties caused by the minor's alcohol-influenced actions. Further, even if the guest
was not a minor, a social host will be liable for injuries to third parties if the host knew or should have known that the guest was intoxicated, but nevertheless gave him or her, or permitted him or her to take, an alcoholic drink.

Students are reminded that there are heavy penalties, including imprisonment, for possession or distribution of illicit drugs and for selling or delivering alcohol to, or procuring alcohol for, anyone under 21. There are also serious penalties for anyone under the age of 21 who purchases, attempts to purchase, or arranges to procure alcoholic beverages or to misrepresent his or her age or falsify his or her identification with the intent of purchasing alcohol, as well as for anyone, regardless of age, who operates a motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol or drugs, or with an open container of alcohol. In addition, the City of Cambridge prohibits consumption of alcohol on public property or on property open to the public.

**Disciplinary Action**

The University requires all students to become familiar with the information on drugs and alcohol distributed at registration each year. In addition, the General Counsel to the University has prepared a pamphlet on drug and alcohol laws that is available in the offices of the Allston Burr Senior Tutors, the Dean of Freshmen, and the Dean of Harvard College. When cases involving drugs and alcohol come to the attention of the College, it may take disciplinary action, including requirement to withdraw.

Officers of the College may initially respond to the use of illicit drugs, underage possession or consumption of alcohol, serving alcohol to underage individuals, and overconsumption of alcohol with a warning and/or referral to health or counseling services. A pattern of behavior in violation of these rules will lead to warning by the House Master or Dean of Freshmen, admonition by the Administrative Board, probation, or requirement to withdraw. The Administrative Board will take serious action, ordinarily probation or requirement to withdraw, in any case involving the possession in quantity or the sale or distribution of drugs, or when cases of drug and alcohol use involve danger to individuals or to the community at large. The Administrative Board will also take action in cases in which a student falsifies his or her identification with the intent of obtaining alcohol.
Student Business Activity

Harvard permits undergraduates to undertake modest levels of business activities in their Harvard rooms, subject to regulations that enable the College to ask students to move businesses entirely off-campus should they disrupt residential life, compromise the educational environment, or jeopardize the nonprofit status of the University or any exemption of its income or property from federal, state or local taxation.

Students wishing to operate a business out of their room in a University dormitory must register their intent with the office of the Dean of Harvard College, and must discuss their plans with the appropriate official in that office, who may restrict or prohibit the proposed business activities. When business-related activities are permitted, care must be taken to avoid excessive use of University resources, misuse of University facilities and information provided primarily for Harvard's teaching and research missions, and activities that might jeopardize the tax-exempt status of the University or its property. Students receiving approval to operate businesses will be expected to establish means of communication with customers separate from those provided by the University for educational purposes. No student may list his or her dormitory address, campus mailing address or telephone number, Harvard email or Internet address, or Harvard website in conjunction with any business enterprise, or in any way suggest that Harvard endorses or sponsors the business. Illegal activities, and activities involving foot traffic or movement of goods into or out of University buildings, are prohibited. Other areas of concern involving commercial activities are the following:

- Excessive data traffic on Harvard's computer network.
- Excessive use of Harvard's paper mail system.
- Activity by a student as a corporate agent or commercial solicitor for a business.
- Other activities that compromise the educational collegiality of the Harvard community by coloring with a profit motive the day-to-day interactions among students, faculty, and other College officers.
- Activities that interfere with roommates' rights to use common spaces for their own residential purposes.
- Commitment of time and effort to a commercial activity to an extent that compromises a student's academic or
personal well-being.

In addition to these specific areas of concern, the following general restrictions, mentioned elsewhere in this Handbook, also apply. Use of the Harvard name or logo in conjunction with a business enterprise is prohibited (page 432). All regulations concerning safety and the use of rooms must be observed (for example, pages 345-346). The compilation or redistribution of information from University directories (printed or electronic) is forbidden (page 306). Use of library resources for commercial purposes is prohibited (page 305). General regulations concerning use of computers and networks must be observed (page 305).

**Other Regulations**

In its effort to foster responsible behavior and ensure a safe environment for the community, Harvard would remind undergraduates of the following:

- **Any student in possession of stolen goods is subject to disciplinary action.**
- Students may not bring into the University or use or transport any radioactive materials within its property without authorization of the University's Department of Environmental Health and Safety.
- Use of the names and insignia of Harvard College and Harvard University or any of its units by any student is permitted only as spelled out in the University Policy on the Use of the Harvard Names and Insignia (available at the Dean's Office or online at [www.provost.edu/useofname/policy.html](http://www.provost.edu/useofname/policy.html)). In particular, reference to "Harvard", "Harvard College", or "Harvard University" or suggestions of affiliation with the College or University in connection with any organization, publication, activity, or third party is allowable only with advance permission of the Dean of Harvard College or the Provost (page 432).
- A student who commits an offense against law and order during a public disturbance or demonstration or who disregards the instructions of a proctor or other University officer at such a time is subject to disciplinary action and may be required to withdraw.
- Students are requested not to engage on College property in any games that might annoy others, cause
damage, or injure passersby.
- Bicycles, roller blades, and skateboards may not be ridden in Harvard Yard or on sidewalks or other walkways and may not be parked on or adjacent to ramps providing access to the disabled. Moreover, violation of any Motor Vehicle Registration and Parking Regulations set forth on can lead to disciplinary action. Pages 357-359 can lead to disciplinary action.
- No student shall be connected with any advertising medium (including the press, the internet, or other public forum) or publication that makes use of the name of Harvard or Radcliffe or implies without permission of the University, through its title or otherwise, a connection with the University.
- No firm, agency, organization, or individual shall solicit in a University dormitory at any time, for any purpose. Exceptions to this rule may be granted only by the Committee on College Life.
- Distribution of printed matter in College buildings is subject to guidelines issued by the Committee on College Life (see page 338). Copies of these guidelines are available in the Office of the Dean of Harvard College, University Hall, First Floor.
- Any student who fails to pay his or her University bills by the prescribed date will be deprived of the privileges of the University and not allowed to graduate.

Regulations Concerning the Use of University Resources

Membership in the University affords students access to a wide array of resources including among others one of the world's greatest libraries, extensive computing and network facilities, laboratories, and works of art and architecture of immeasurable value. Access to these resources makes time at Harvard a special privilege, and students have both rights and responsibilities regarding their use. To safeguard the integrity of such resources, the University relies on its students to use them with care, appropriately, and as authorized; to respect the rights of others who also have access; and to observe the rules granting access to, and use of, those resources. Failure to abide by the rules governing their use ordinarily will result in disciplinary action.
Libraries and Library Books

The heart of the University is its library: the store of knowledge around which its functions are organized. The books in Harvard's libraries constitute some of its most valuable assets, and it is essential that all members of the community have reasonable access to them. A student who violates the use and lending policies of any library may be subject to disciplinary action. In particular, removal of a book from any library without authorization or the mutilation, defacement, or abuse of any library book or library resource will result in disciplinary action, ordinarily a requirement to withdraw from the College. (See also Responsibilities of Library Users on page 377.)

Use of Computers and Networks

Students who are provided access to University computer facilities and to the campus-wide communication network assume responsibility for their appropriate use. The University expects students to be careful, honest, responsible, and civil in the use of computers and networks. Those who use wide-area networks (such as the Internet) to communicate with individuals or to connect to computers at other institutions are expected to abide by the rules for the remote systems and networks as well as those for Harvard's systems.

Be advised that, in addition to violating College rules, certain computer misconduct is prohibited by federal and state law and is, therefore, subject to criminal and civil penalties. Such misconduct includes knowingly gaining unauthorized access to a computer system or database, falsely obtaining electronic services or data without payment of required charges, intentionally intercepting electronic communications, and obtaining, altering or destroying others’ electronic information. Similarly, serious legal penalties may result from the use of Harvard’s computers or network to violate copyright laws, as is possible with the use of peer-to-peer filesharing programs. Moreover, a student may be held responsible for misuse that occurs by allowing a third party access to the student’s own computer, account, or network connection.

The basic rules for the appropriate use of computers and
networks are outlined below. Other policies are published in "Computer Rules and Responsibilities", available from FAS Computing Services in Science Center B-13. Students are expected to abide by these rules and policies and to consult an official of FAS Computer Services prior to any activity that would appear to threaten the security or performance of University computers and networks. Failure to do so may result in disciplinary action.

**Use of Facilities**

Computer and network facilities are provided to students primarily for their educational use. These facilities have tangible value. Consequently, attempts to circumvent accounting systems or to use the computer accounts of others will be treated as forms of attempted theft.

Students may not attempt to damage or to degrade the performance of Harvard's computers and networks and should not disrupt the work of other users. Students may not attempt to circumvent security systems, or to exploit or probe for security holes in any Harvard network or system, nor may students attempt any such activity against other systems accessed through Harvard's facilities. Execution or compilation of programs designed to breach system security is prohibited unless authorized in advance. Students assume personal responsibility for the use of their accounts. Consequently, students may not disclose their passwords or otherwise make Harvard's facilities available to unauthorized individuals (including family or friends). Moreover, the possession or collection of others' passwords, personal identification numbers (PINs), private digital certificates, or other secure identification information is prohibited. Exclusive use of Harvard's computers and networks for business-related purposes is prohibited.

**Privacy of Information**

Information stored on a computer system or sent electronically over a network is the property of the individual who created it. Examination, collection, or dissemination of that information without authorization from the owner is a violation of the owner's rights to control his or her own property. Systems administrators, however, may gain access to users' data or programs when it is necessary to maintain or prevent damage
Computer systems and networks provide mechanisms for the protection of private information from examination. These mechanisms are necessarily imperfect and any attempt to circumvent them or to gain unauthorized access to private information (including both stored computer files and messages transmitted over a network) will be treated as a violation of privacy and will be cause for disciplinary action.

In general, information that the owner would reasonably regard as private must be treated as private by other users. Examples include the contents of electronic mail boxes, the private file storage areas of individual users, and information stored in other areas that are not public. That measures have not been taken to protect such information does not make it permissible for others to inspect it.

On shared and networked computer systems certain information about users and their activities is visible to others. Users are cautioned that certain accounting and directory information (for example, user names and electronic mail addresses), certain records of file names and executed commands, and information stored in public areas, are not private. Nonetheless, such unsecured information about other users must not be manipulated in ways that they might reasonably find intrusive; for example, eavesdropping by computer and systematic monitoring of the behavior of others are likely to be considered invasions of privacy that would be cause for disciplinary action. The compilation or redistribution of information from University directories (printed or electronic) is forbidden. For further explanation and details, see "Computer Rules and Responsibilities."

**Electronic Communication**

Harvard neither sanctions nor censors individual expression of opinion on its systems. The same standards of behavior, however, are expected in the use of electronic mail as in the use of telephones and written and oral communication. Therefore, electronic mail, like telephone messages, must be neither obscene nor harassing (see Harassment on page 299 and Obscene or Harassing Telephone Calls on page 344). Similarly, messages must not misrepresent the identity of the sender and should not be sent as chain letters or "broadcast"
indiscriminately to large numbers of individuals. This prohibition includes unauthorized mass electronic mailings. For example, email on a given topic that is sent to large numbers of recipients should in general be directed only to those who have indicated a willingness to receive such email.

**Intellectual Property and Copyrighted Materials**

Computer programs written as part of one’s academic work should be regarded as literary creations and subject to the same standards of misrepresentation of copied work (see *Preparation of Papers and Other Work: Plagiarism and Collaboration* on page 61). In addition, attempts to duplicate, use, or distribute software or other data without authorization by the owner is prohibited.

All Harvard users must respect the copyrights in works that are accessible through computers connected to the Harvard network. Federal copyright law prohibits the reproduction, distribution, public display or public performance of copyrighted materials without permission of the copyright owner, unless fair use or another exemption under copyright law applies. In appropriate circumstances, Harvard will terminate the network access of users who are found to have repeatedly infringed the copyrights of others.

Information about the application of copyright law to peer-to-peer file sharing of music, movies and other copyrighted works is available at [www.dmca.harvard.edu](http://www.dmca.harvard.edu). Students with questions about copyright or this policy are invited to raise those questions with an appropriate dean, tutor or academic officer.

**Identification Cards**

First-term students receive a temporary identification card when they pick up their dorm room keys. All first-term students should have their photograph taken for the permanent I.D. at registration. I.D.’s are then distributed on Study Card Day, at which time temporary cards must be surrendered. Continuing students receive their permanent I.D. card from their House Superintendent upon moving in.

I.D. cards are the property of Harvard University and are intended for University purposes only. I.D. cards are required
for admission to most Harvard activities and facilities including libraries, museums, dining halls, athletic buildings, and student residences. Some facilities may also require a sticker for entry. The front of the card and the magnetic strip on the back, however, must be kept free from stickers.

Every student is responsible for his or her I.D. and the consequences of its misuse. I.D. cards are not transferrable; a student may not allow any other person to use his or her card for any purpose. A student who alters or falsifies his or her University identification card or produces or distributes false I.D.'s of any kind is subject to disciplinary action. Lost cards should be reported immediately to the I.D. Card Office, Holyoke Center 340. There is a replacement fee of $20 for the first and second losses; a fee of $40 is charged for the third and subsequent losses.

Students must hand over their identification card or otherwise identify themselves upon request to any properly identified officer of the University. Surrendered cards will be transmitted immediately to the student's Assistant Dean of Freshmen, Allston Burr Senior Tutor, or other appropriate Dean.

All students taking a leave of absence before the end of the academic year must immediately surrender their registered student identification cards to the Student Data Office, Holyoke Center 550. These cards will be returned to the students after they have registered upon return to the College. Students who fail to turn in their I.D. cards will be subject to the $20 or, if appropriate, $40 replacement fee when they reenroll.

Identification cards for non-registered degree candidates on leave may be obtained for $1 in the I.D. Card Office, Holyoke Center 340. Students who are required to withdraw from the University are not entitled to this non-registered student I.D. card until they have been officially readmitted. (See also Requirement to Withdraw on page 314.)

**Fire Regulations**

Fire alarms, smoke detectors, and fire extinguisher systems have been placed throughout the University for the protection of those who live and work in Harvard's buildings. Misuse of these systems endangers both life and property and can lead to
disciplinary action, including requirement to withdraw. For the same reason, violation of any of the fire safety or fire emergency regulations listed below must be considered a serious offense requiring serious disciplinary action.

- Any abuse of, or tampering with, fire alarm, smoke detector, or extinguisher systems is strictly forbidden. There is a fine, equal to the cost of replacement, for breaking the glass that covers the lock of a fire alarm. Similarly, there is a fine, equal to the cost of replacement, for any damage to a smoke detector.
- Emergency exit doors in the Houses or dormitories between adjoining suites may be opened by special arrangement with the House Superintendent and only with written agreement of all occupants of both suites.
- Emergency exit doors must not be blocked on either side by furniture or obstructions of any kind.
- Fire escapes are intended only for use in a fire; any other uses are prohibited.
- Flammable liquids are not permitted in Houses or dormitories.
- Falsely pulling any alarm or maliciously setting off a smoke detector alarm is illegal and may be punishable by a fine of up to $500 or imprisonment.
- Corridor and stairwell fire doors must be kept shut at all times.
- Use of fireplaces is prohibited.

**Bomb Scares**

The following provision of Massachusetts law concerning bomb scares underscores why such behavior must be treated as an actionable offense:

> Whoever, knowing the same to be false, transmits or causes to be transmitted to any person by telephone or other means a communication falsely reporting the location of any explosive or other dangerous substance or contrivance thereby causing anxiety, unrest, fear, or personal discomfort to any person or group of persons, shall be punished by imprisonment in the state prison for not more than twenty years, or by imprisonment in a jail or house of correction for not more than two and one half years or by a fine
of not more than ten thousand dollars or by both such fine and imprisonment in a jail or house of correction.

[Massachusetts General Laws, c.269 § 14(a)]

**Firearms, Explosives, Combustible Fuels, Firecrackers, and Dangerous Weapons**

Possession and/or use on University property of firearms (as defined below) or ammunition, explosives, combustible fuels, firecrackers, and potential ingredients thereof is forbidden by University policy. It may also constitute a violation of the following Massachusetts statute:

> Whoever, not being a law enforcement officer, and notwithstanding any license obtained by him under the provisions of chapter one hundred and forty, carries on his person a firearm as hereinafter defined, loaded or unloaded or other dangerous weapon in any building or on the grounds of any elementary or secondary school, college or university without the written authorization of the board or officer in charge of such elementary or secondary school, college or university shall be punished by a fine of not more than one thousand dollars or by imprisonment for not more than one year, or both. For the purpose of this paragraph, "firearm" shall mean any pistol, revolver, rifle or smoothbore arm from which a shot, bullet or pellet can be discharged by whatever means.

Any officer in charge of an elementary or secondary school, college or university or any faculty member or administrative officer of an elementary or secondary school, college or university failing to report violations of this paragraph shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and punished by a fine of not more than five hundred dollars.

[Massachusetts General Laws, c.269 § 10(j)]
Students should recognize that even when they are away from the University Massachusetts law requires a permit or firearms identification card or compliance with other, specialized rules (depending upon the type of weapon) for possession of any firearms. The definition of firearms is a broad one and includes pistols or guns operated by air, carbon dioxide, or other gases. Carrying any firearm (even if unloaded) in violation of the law is punishable by imprisonment with a mandatory minimum sentence of one year, which cannot be suspended or reduced. Students should consult the local police department in the city or town in which they reside if they intend to possess firearms on non-University property, in order to assure strict compliance with the applicable statutes.

Under Massachusetts law, the definition of "dangerous weapon" includes items designed to do bodily injury, such as a stiletto, ballistic knife, blackjack, brass knuckles, billy stick, switchblade knife, and martial arts items such as throwing stars, kung fu sticks, and nunchaku (sticks connected by a rope, chain, wire, or leather).

**Betting and Gambling**

Students are advised that many gambling activities are illegal under Massachusetts law. The state may bring a criminal action requiring that the winner of a bet forfeit double the value of the winnings, and anyone who loses money "at cards, dice or other game" may recover the losses from the winner through civil action. Bookmaking is illegal: there are severe penalties, up to a fine of $3,000 and three years in prison, for keeping, occupying, or being found in any place used “for registering bets, or buying or selling [betting] pools, upon the result of a trial contest of skill, speed, or endurance of man, beast, bird, or machine, or upon the result of a game, competition, political nomination, appointment or election.” Use of the telephone or mail for gambling activities is also illegal. Provisions of federal law also govern organized gambling activities. The Cambridge License Commission dictates that under no circumstances are casino nights, Las Vegas nights, or any other type of gambling allowed in the City of Cambridge.

Under NCAA Bylaws, a student athlete who is involved in betting or gambling activities relating to intercollegiate athletics risks loss of eligibility. Students participating in
intercollegiate athletics are expected to be familiar with *The Student Athlete Handbook*, which is distributed by the Department of Athletics.

**Hazing**

Students are advised that Massachusetts law expressly prohibits any form of hazing in connection with initiation into a student organization. The law applies both to officially recognized and unrecognized groups and to practices conducted on and off campus.

The term hazing, as used in this law, is defined as "any conduct or method of initiation... which willfully or recklessly endangers the physical or mental health of any student or other person." The definition specifically includes "whipping, beating, branding, forced calisthenics, exposure to the weather, forced consumption of any food, liquor, beverage, drug or other substance, or any other brutal treatment or forced physical activity which is likely to adversely affect the physical health or safety of any such student or other person, or which subjects such student or other person to extreme mental stress, including extended deprivation of sleep or rest or extended isolation" [Massachusetts General Laws, c.269 § 17].

Hazing is a crime punishable by fine and/or imprisonment. The Administrative Board of the College will consider all reports of hazing in the normal course of its oversight, taking disciplinary action in appropriate cases, and will report confirmed incidents to appropriate law enforcement officials. A memorandum detailing the specifics of this law is available in the Office of the Dean of Harvard College (617-495-1558).

The failure to report hazing is illegal. The statute states:

> Whoever knows that another person is the victim of hazing and is at the scene of such crime shall, to the extent that such a person can do so without danger or peril to himself or others, report such crime to an appropriate law enforcement official as soon as reasonably practicable. Whoever fails to report such crime shall be punished by a fine of not more than one thousand dollars.
Library Books

The books in Harvard's libraries constitute some of its most valuable assets, and it is essential that all members of the community have reasonable access to them. A student who violates the use and lending policies of any library may be subject to disciplinary action. In particular, removal of a book from any library without authorization or mutilation, defacement, or abuse of any library book or library resources will ordinarily lead to formal disciplinary action, including requirement to withdraw. (See also Responsibilities of Library Users on page 379.)