

THE ROLE OF AN ADVISOR



WHO IS AN ADVISOR?

Individuals bringing forward allegations (“Complainants”) and individuals responding to allegations (“Respondents”) may have one individual of their choosing accompany them as their Advisor, or person of support, in all stages of EOO proceedings, including the intake meeting, investigation, Alternative Resolution, or formal hearing processes.

Hearing Advisor

During a Formal Hearing under the University’s Sexual Misconduct Policy and Procedures, a Hearing Advisor must be present for the Complainant and Respondent. The Hearing Advisor is responsible for questioning the other party and witnesses on behalf of their party. They may be the same or different person than the Advisor utilized by parties during other meetings in EOO proceedings. The University may select a Hearing Advisor for the parties if they have not identified their own Hearing Advisor.

WHAT CAN AN ADVISOR DO?

An Advisor CAN...

- Go with the party to any meeting or conversation related to EOO proceedings.
- Communicate with the party, either by talking or writing, anytime during the process.
- Ask questions to better understand any part of the procedures.
- Help the party understand and go through all steps of the EOO process.
- Alert the investigator or Title IX Coordinator if someone is being negatively treated due to participating in the EOO process.

An Advisor CANNOT...

- Act as a legal representative.
- Speak, act, or answer questions for a Complainant or Respondent other than in Formal Hearings.
- Present themselves or another as an investigator or hearing panelist.
- Contact a witness or other party participating in the EOO proceeding.
- Intentionally interfere with the investigator, hearing panelist, or EOO representative.
- Disrupt or unduly delay any stage of the EOO proceedings.

HOW TO DESIGNATE AN ADVISOR

If a party wants to assign an Advisor, they must fill out the Advisor Designation Form. Students who participate in the investigation process with an Advisor must also complete a Student Records Release form prior to participating in the interview process with an Advisor. Students may obtain a copy of the waiver by contacting a member of the EOO.

Advisor
Designation Form

