

#060285



City of Gainesville

Pegeen Hanrahan, Mayor

February 15, 2007

Dr. Bernie Machen, President
University of Florida
226 Tigert Hall
Gainesville, FL 32611

Dear President Machen:

Bernie

At the January 8, 2007 Gainesville City Commission meeting, the Commission authorized me to request the University of Florida and Santa Fe Community College amend their codes of student conduct as other universities have done, so that students can be held accountable for serious and repeated violations of city ordinances. I believe the role of a university is not only to shape scholars, but also to shape responsible citizens.

Neighborhood leaders, members of your staff and city staff recently worked collectively to agree on over 20 enhancements to our landlord point system. Most of those changes have been implemented or will be implemented this year. We recognize that most students are good citizens and are a positive force in our community. However, we request your help in addressing the problems caused by the few by amending your respective codes of student conduct to address students causing city code violations. Enforcement through student judicial affairs is an approach endorsed by community leaders, as well as the Commission.

Additionally, I would like to acknowledge and express my appreciation for the University's participation with our city staff in planning for the upcoming Best Practices Conference and look forward to future collaborative endeavors toward enhancing our residential neighborhoods near campus.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pegeen".

Pegeen Hanrahan
Mayor

PH/TDS/dsh

cc: City Commissioners
Russ Blackburn, City Manager
Tom Saunders, Community Development Director
Jim Garrett, Code Enforcement Manager



City of Gainesville

Pegeen Hanrahan, Mayor

February 15, 2007

Dr. Jackson Sasser, President
Santa Fe Community College
3000 NW 83rd Street
Gainesville, Florida 32606

Dear President Sasser: *Jackson*

At the January 8, 2007 Gainesville City Commission meeting, the Commission authorized me to request the University of Florida and Santa Fe Community College amend their codes of student conduct as other universities have done, so that students can be held accountable for serious and repeated violations of city ordinances. I believe the role of a college is not only to shape scholars, but also to shape responsible citizens.

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Additionally, I would like to acknowledge and express my appreciation for Santa Fe's participation with our city staff in planning for the upcoming Best Practices Conference, and look forward to future collaborative endeavors toward enhancing our town and gown relationship.

Sincerely,

Pegeen Hanrahan
Mayor

PH/TDS/dsh

cc: City Commissioners
Russ Blackburn, City Manager
Tom Saunders, Community Development Director
Jim Garrett, Code Enforcement Manager



CITY OF GAINESVILLE
CITY COMMISSION

J. Bernard Machen
President

2007 SEP 12 AM 10:46

226 Tigert Hall
PO Box 113150
Gainesville, FL 32611-3150
(352) 392-1311
Fax (352) 392-5275
www.ufl.edu

September 7, 2007

The Honorable Pegeen Hanrahan
City of Gainesville
P O. Box 490, Station 19
Gainesville, Florida 32602-0490

Dear Mayor Hanrahan:

I received your letter requesting that the University of Florida amend its code of student conduct to allow the University to hold students accountable for violations of city ordinances

The maintenance of a positive and productive relationship with our community is a priority for the University of Florida. We have been pleased to learn that the new landlord point system has had a positive impact on code violations in student housing areas. In addition, the UF participants in the Best Practices Conference reported that their time was very well spent and that the conference provided opportunities for new town/gown connections.

The presence of Nora Kilroy on our staff as the Assistant Dean of Students and Director of Off-Campus Life has been well received by the Gainesville Police Department and by student-occupied neighborhoods. In fact, this year she was honored with the Police Service Award at the Gainesville Police Awards Ceremony.

We are optimistic that the efforts by the Office for Off-Campus Life will continue to enhance students' respect for and behavior in the community. We realize, however, that there are a very small number of students for whom a positive approach will not be sufficient. While these students may not be sanctioned through formal judicial procedures, we are informed by GPD and address the repeat offenders. Ms. Kilroy will send them a letter and often requires that they meet with her to discuss their conduct or behavior. This approach appears to be having a positive effect in reducing further unwelcome behavior.

Our current student government officers are making community involvement a priority for their administration. They will also be seeking more involvement with city and county governmental leadership. The result of this focus will be student-to-student communication regarding positive interface with the Gainesville community.

The Foundation for The Gator Nation

An Equal Opportunity Institution

Mayor Hanrahan
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September 7, 2007

While the University addresses student misconduct off-campus and fully supports the efforts of city, county, state, and federal officials to enforce ordinances and laws, University policy does not allow us to enforce city codes through the student judicial process. The University can neither duplicate the efforts nor enforce the regulations of another entity. The University will take action when required to do so by law or when the violation interferes with the educational process or the orderly operation of the University. In addition, action will be taken when the health, safety, or welfare of the campus is at issue, when intimidation of another student occurs, or when the violation is of such a serious nature that the suitability of a student as a member of the campus community is at issue. As you know, through the efforts of the Community Alcohol Coalition, we have agreed to handle any off-campus DUI convictions through the judicial system.

We look forward to continuing our work with you, with the City of Gainesville, and with Alachua County to assure that the interface between UF students and the community is beneficial for all concerned.

Sincerely,



J Bernard Machen

cc: CCOM
C/Mgr.
CDC Liaison

SANTA FE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Jackson N. Sasser
President

CITY OF GAINESVILLE
CITY COMMISSION

2007 MAR -5 AM 11:21

February 27, 2007

The Honorable Pegeen Hanrahan
Mayor, City of Gainesville
Post Office Box 490
Gainesville, Florida 32602-0490

Dear Mayor Hanrahan,

Thank you for your letter of February 15, 2007, in which you asked that Santa Fe Community College amend its Student Conduct Code to hold students accountable for serious and repeated violations of city ordinances. For your convenience, I attach a copy of our current Student Conduct Code, which I am pleased to report already contains the following section:

C Violation of Law and College Discipline

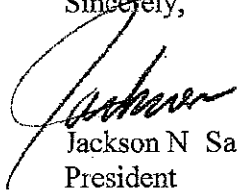
- 1 Notwithstanding anything stated in Section B, above, College disciplinary proceedings may be instituted against a student charged with violation of a law, regardless of where the violation occurred or whether it was a violation of this Code, for example. Proceedings under this Code may be carried out prior to, simultaneously with, or following civil or criminal proceedings
- 2 When a student is charged by federal, state, or local authorities with a violation of law, the College will not request or agree to special consideration for that individual because of his or her status as a student. If the alleged offense is also the subject of a proceeding before a judicial body under the Code, however, the College may advise off-campus authorities of the existence of the Code and of how such matters will be handled internally at the College. The College will cooperate fully with law enforcement and other agencies in the enforcement of criminal law on campus and in the conditions imposed by criminal courts for the rehabilitation of student violators. Individual students and faculty members, acting in their personal capacities, remain free to interact with governmental representatives as they deem appropriate.

In addition, as a reminder, the College has an agreement with the City Attorney for expeditious handling via the student judicial process of violations of Municipal Ordinances that occur on property owned or leased by Santa Fe Community College. I enclose a copy for your review.

The Honorable Pegeen Hanrahan
February 27, 2007
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I trust that this information is helpful in responding to the concerns of the Gainesville City Commission. This is an excellent reminder of the spirit of mutual cooperation of which we are so proud. I look forward to the continuing cooperative relationship between Santa Fe Community College and the City of Gainesville.

Sincerely,



Jackson N. Sasser
President

JNS:pns

Enclosures: Student Conduct Code
Agreement with City Attorney

cc: CCOM

C/Mg w/encl