



YALE SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

Department of Psychiatry / Psychology Section

## Doctoral Internship Policy & Procedures

# Voluntary Faculty Resource Member Policy

Revised 07-01-14

- 1. Standard Resources Available to Fellows:** There are many members of the full time faculty available to assist with problems or issues that arise for a fellow. These faculty members include the primary advisor, secondary advisor, other placement-based supervisors, the Chief of Psychology in the institution, seminar leaders, and the Director of Clinical Training. Fellows are encouraged to reach out to members of the full time faculty to address problems and issues as they arise. Fellows also frequently turn to assigned supervisors from the voluntary faculty to discuss sensitive issues.
- 2. Voluntary Faculty Resource Members:** At times, fellows may have problems or issues that they are uncomfortable raising, at least initially, with members of the full time faculty or their assigned supervisors from the voluntary faculty. The internship program designates Voluntary Faculty Resource Members who are available to meet with fellows in such situations. The ultimate goal of these meetings is to assist the fellows in taking a next step in addressing the problems and issues that they are currently confronting. Voluntary Faculty Resource Members do not have an evaluative role with the fellows.
- 3. Typical Issues Addressed:** Fellows have sought the counsel of Voluntary Faculty Resource Members on topics such as: accessing personal therapy; managing relationships with full-time faculty advisors, supervisors, or other fellows; and uncertainty regarding career directions. Talking with one of these Voluntary Faculty Resource Members may be sufficient, in and of itself, or the Resource Member might assist the fellow with a referral for therapy. With respect to problems or issues that a fellow is experiencing with the internship, the goal of the Resource Member is almost always to help the fellow find a constructive way to address these within the program with full time faculty.
- 4. Limitations of this Role:** Voluntary Faculty Resource Members do not have administrative authority within the internship and so must work with the fellow or through the full time faculty to address problems or issues. The Voluntary Faculty Resource Members do not provide therapy to fellows.
- 5. Confidentiality:** Communications by fellows to Voluntary Faculty Resource Members are confidential. The only exception is when there is a significant risk to the fellow or others.
- 6. Current Voluntary Faculty Resource Members:** Current members have a principal affiliation with one of the internship's training institutions, but a fellow in any institution and placement can reach out to any Voluntary Faculty Resource Member.

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