November 08,2023

**Information Release Policy**

As Pakistan’s first liberal arts university, Beaconhouse National University (BNU) promotes the free exchange of ideas and debate. This ethos is evident in our classroom and campus conversations, student and faculty-led projects, activities, and initiatives, as well as co-curricular and extra-curricular activities outside the classroom. Our primary goal is to enrich student experiences and instil academic excellence through critical thinking.

**1: Freedom of Expression and Responsibility:**

The university values freedom of expression within our community and advocates for transparency in all forms of communication. However, in today's age of technology-induced communication and widespread public information platforms, the responsible handling of information has become increasingly important. We recognize the delicate balance between open expression and avoiding insensitivity towards colleagues and peers, which could potentially harm them or damage the university's reputation. The misuse of information, whether intentional or unintentional, can lead to unintended consequences.

**2: Impact on University Culture:**

Misrepresentation of information on public platforms can instil fear within the university community, hindering open communication and the exchange of ideas in academic settings. BNU acknowledges the importance of responsible and respectful use of social media and online communication. We expect both students and staff to utilize these platforms in a manner that upholds the university's values and standards.

**3: Confidentiality and Information Sharing:**

As a matter of policy, all conversations and activities at BNU, whether within or beyond the classroom, are academically motivated and intended solely for the involved participants. They are considered confidential beyond that context. No member of the BNU community is permitted to post information or any multimedia product (video, audio, photo, etc.) without explicit written permission from all affected parties. Such actions violate individual privacy, ethical norms, and university rules.

**4: Addressing Grievances:**

Moreover, any member of the BNU community with a concern or grievance is strongly encouraged to use the university's established grievance redressal and disciplinary mechanisms for resolution. Public dissemination of information is not considered an act in good faith and may lead to misinterpretation by outsiders who lack the necessary context, thereby tarnishing the university's image.

**5: Disciplinary Actions:**

Breach of these rules may result in disciplinary actions against the individuals responsible, particularly if those affected negatively due to the release of material without consent file a complaint. The university reserves the right to determine, through due process and investigation, whether the release of information about activities or conversations at BNU has harmed the university's reputation or any student or staff. Disciplinary actions can include:

* **Warning:** A written warning issued to the individual responsible for the violation.
* **Educational Programs:** Mandating educational programs on responsible online behaviour.
* **Probation:** A specified period during which the individual's online behaviour is closely monitored.
* **Suspension:** Temporary suspension from the university for repeated or severe violations.

**Expulsion:** Permanent expulsion from the university