

**LSU Faculty Senate Resolution 08-12:  
Proposing an LSU Policy Statement on Comprehensive Whistleblower Protection,  
And Establishing a University Ethics Office at LSU**

Introduced by Charles Delzell,

for the Faculty Senate Ad Hoc Committee on Whistleblower Protection Policy<sup>1</sup>:

*Whereas* on May 8, 2006, the Faculty Senate adopted Resolution 06-08, “Comprehensive Protection of Whistleblowers at LSU,” creating an ad hoc committee that was charged with:

(1) reviewing all LSU policies on misconduct, and on retaliation against whistleblowers, and  
(2) recommending changes to such policies, and/or devising a new comprehensive policy, that (a) would prohibit retaliation against anyone at LSU (whether faculty, student, or staff) who makes a good faith allegation of any form of misconduct at LSU, and (b) would charge one or more appropriate University officials with providing such protection; and

*Whereas* in 2007 the above committee was appointed, and it eventually drafted a proposed policy, entitled:

“PS-115:  
University Ethics Office,  
and Comprehensive Whistleblower Protection at LSU,”

*Therefore be it resolved* that the Faculty Senate, after making its own revisions to the above draft, endorses the draft, and proposes

(a) that the LSU administration adopt it as a policy statement, and  
(b) that the administration create a University Ethics Office as described in the draft (Section VII).

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<sup>1</sup> Committee members:  
Charles Delzell (Math),  
Steven Hand (Biological Sciences),  
Lois Kuyper-Rushing (Library),  
Brenda Macon (Arts & Sciences),  
Joanne McMullen (Extended Learning),  
Jennifer Normand (Human Resource Management),  
Wayne Parent (Political Science), and  
Michael W. Wascom (Environmental Sciences; Committee Chair).

April 27, 2008

**Summary of Proposed Policy Statement (PS)-115:  
University Ethics Office, and  
Comprehensive Whistleblower Protection at LSU**

*Purpose of the policy:*

Various other LSU policies prohibit retaliation against those who report certain forms of misconduct, or against those who exercise certain rights. The purpose of this policy is to provide comprehensive protection from retaliation to all whistleblowers at LSU, regardless of the kind of misconduct (as defined in the policy) that they may report.

*Main elements of the policy:*

1. It guarantees due process to students and employees at LSU who are accused of violations of law, violations of University policy, or other serious misconduct at LSU or involving LSU.
2. It guarantees, to those who make reports of such misconduct in good faith, protection from retaliation by the University or its personnel.
3. It establishes a University Ethics Office and a University Ethics Officer, charged with (a) receiving and, as necessary, coordinating and/or referring the investigation of allegations of misconduct (except in cases where other LSU policies designate a different office to handle the allegation); and (b) protecting whistleblowers from retaliation (except in cases where other LSU policies designate a different office to protect the whistleblower).
4. It establishes a (standing) Whistleblower Protection Committee, charged with (a) evaluating a claim of retaliation, (b) deciding whether the claim is valid based on a preponderance of the evidence, and (c) in case the claim is valid, recommending remedies for the retaliation.