

Virginia Tech Graduate Honor System

Review Panel Order of Events

Review Panel is officiated by Chair of the GHS and attended by the GHS Advisor, referrer, referred, and at least 7 panelists. All attendees receive access to case materials prior to the Review Panel.

1. Chair begins recording of the panel meeting.
2. Introductions.
3. The procedure of the Review Panel hearing is reviewed.
4. A short summary of the case is presented by the Associate Chair or representative of the GHS. All participants have access to case packet in electronic or printed form.
5. Each referred student is asked to enter a plea for each charge (guilty, not guilty or no plea).
6. The referrer(s) is asked to comment on the incident and may present witnesses.
7. The referred student(s) is asked to comment on the incident and may present witnesses.
8. Referred student(s) and referrer(s) are questioned by the Review Panel. The referred student(s) and the referrer(s) may NOT practice cross-examination. Only the Review Panel and GHS personnel may ask questions. Referrer and referred may share their perspective in statements.
9. The referrer(s) is asked to make a final statement.
10. The referred student(s) is asked to make a final statement.
11. The referrer(s) and the referred student(s) are dismissed from the hearing room.
12. Recording is stopped.
13. The Panel goes into closed deliberation.
 - a. Guilt/Innocence:
 - i. The panel must determine guilt or innocence before the choice of a penalty is discussed.
 - ii. At the conclusion of the discussion on guilt vs. innocence, the Chair polls the members of the panel on the question, "Is the student guilty of the alleged violation?" A determination of guilt requires a majority vote by the panel.
 - iii. If a majority vote is not obtained, the panel is deemed to have found the student not guilty.
 - b. Penalty: If a guilty verdict has been reached, the choice of penalty is discussed. A motion is made for a particular penalty. Penalty recommendations also require a majority vote. Penalties are listed in Article VII: Section 1 of the GHS Constitution.
14. The panel is reminded of the strict confidentiality of the case, all confidential material is collected, and the panel is dismissed. Panel recommendation is forwarded to the dean of the Graduate School for review and decision.
15. The accused will be notified of the verdict and his/her right to an appeal, if such is warranted.