



CSUEB Consensual Relationship Policy

Relationships in which one person supervises and/or evaluates the work of another are inherently unequal. The integrity of such relationships is based upon trust and the ability of the supervisor or evaluator to be objective and unbiased in their deliberations. Consensual romantic or sexual relationships between persons of unequal status, e.g., supervisors and staff or faculty and students may interfere with the perceived or actual ability to be fair and objective.

Faculty or supervisors who put themselves in the position of having to evaluate the work or influence the career of someone with whom they share a romantic or sexual relationship run the risk of being accused of giving undue advantage, restricting opportunities, creating a hostile environment or unobjectivity, especially in situations where circumstances change and previously welcomed behavior is no longer welcomed. These relationships are strongly discouraged. **Anyone finding themselves romantically involved with someone of unequal status over which they have authority should discuss the issue with their supervisor immediately, so that appropriate administrative actions may be taken to protect the rights of all involved persons.**