

Best Practices to Manage Employee Relations

In the event of a potential issue...

TELL IT LIKE IT IS

Give on-going clear direction and feedback and have open lines of communication.

NIP IT IN THE BUD

Intervene early to correct problems when they first occur.

WARN THE EMPLOYEE

Let employee know consequences for poor performance.

WRITE IT DOWN

(And date it) if it is not documented, it's hard to show it happened.

USE THE ANNUAL PERFORMANCE EVALUATIONS SYSTEM

Do timely plans and evaluations with specific expectations and standards.

Be consistent with disciplinary actions.

Do regular interim evaluations on employees with continual problems.

When evaluating a course of action carefully consider...

REMEMBER OUR MISSION AND GOALS

Always assess what the consequences of the behavior are or could be for your employees.

WHAT DID YOU DO BEFORE

Consider the University history and precedents for the treatment of the same problem with employees who have a similar work history.

LET THE PUNISHMENT FIT THE CRIME

Always consider the nature of the offense before determining the appropriate level of discipline.

When you decide to take action...

CALL US EARLY

Consult with Human Resources before situations get out of control.

BE THOROUGH

Be sure to discover all the facts before acting. Get written statements from witnesses (if needed).

DO IT PROMPTLY

Use progressive discipline when appropriate; move through the process quickly if expectations are not met after adequate opportunity to correct behavior has been given.

BE AWARE

Consistently follow up on directive and instructions and monitor behavior of employees