

A background image of yellow iris flowers in a field, with the text overlaid. The flowers are in various stages of bloom, with some fully open and others as buds. The leaves are long and green.

# Consultation on Revised Senate Policy on Academic Honesty

CEAS Report on AH Policy Consultation

Faculty of Health Council

April 7 2021

# Overview

- Brief review of current Academic Honesty process in Faculty of Health (based on existing Senate Policy on Academic Honesty (2005))
- <https://secretariat-policies.info.yorku.ca/policies/academic-honesty-senate-policy-on/>
- Brief review of proposed Academic Honesty process (as per the revised Senate Policy currently under consultation)
- Highlights of report on proposed Policy from FoH Standing Committee on Examinations and Academic Standards (CEAS)

# Clarification of Terms

**Person of Primary Responsibility (PPR)**  
coordinates implementation of  
Policy/activities of PPR delegates

- Associate Dean (AD) of Students

**PPR designate**-delegated authority re  
Academic Conduct matters

- UPD or GPD
- **OSAS** (Office of Student and Academic Services in Faculty of Health)

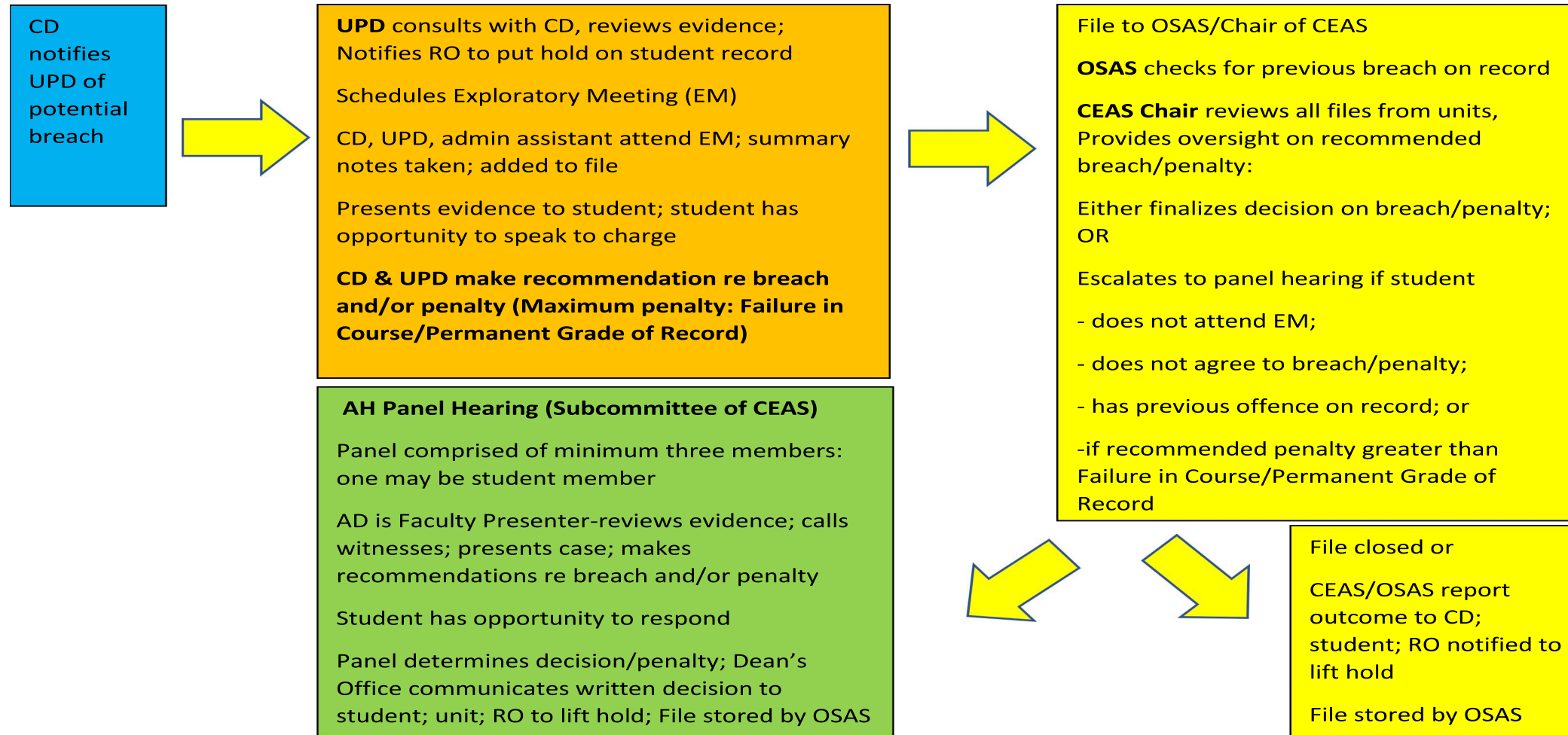
**Committee on Examinations and Academic Standards (CEAS)-Standing Committee reports to Faculty Council**

**Faculty Appeals Committee (FAC)**

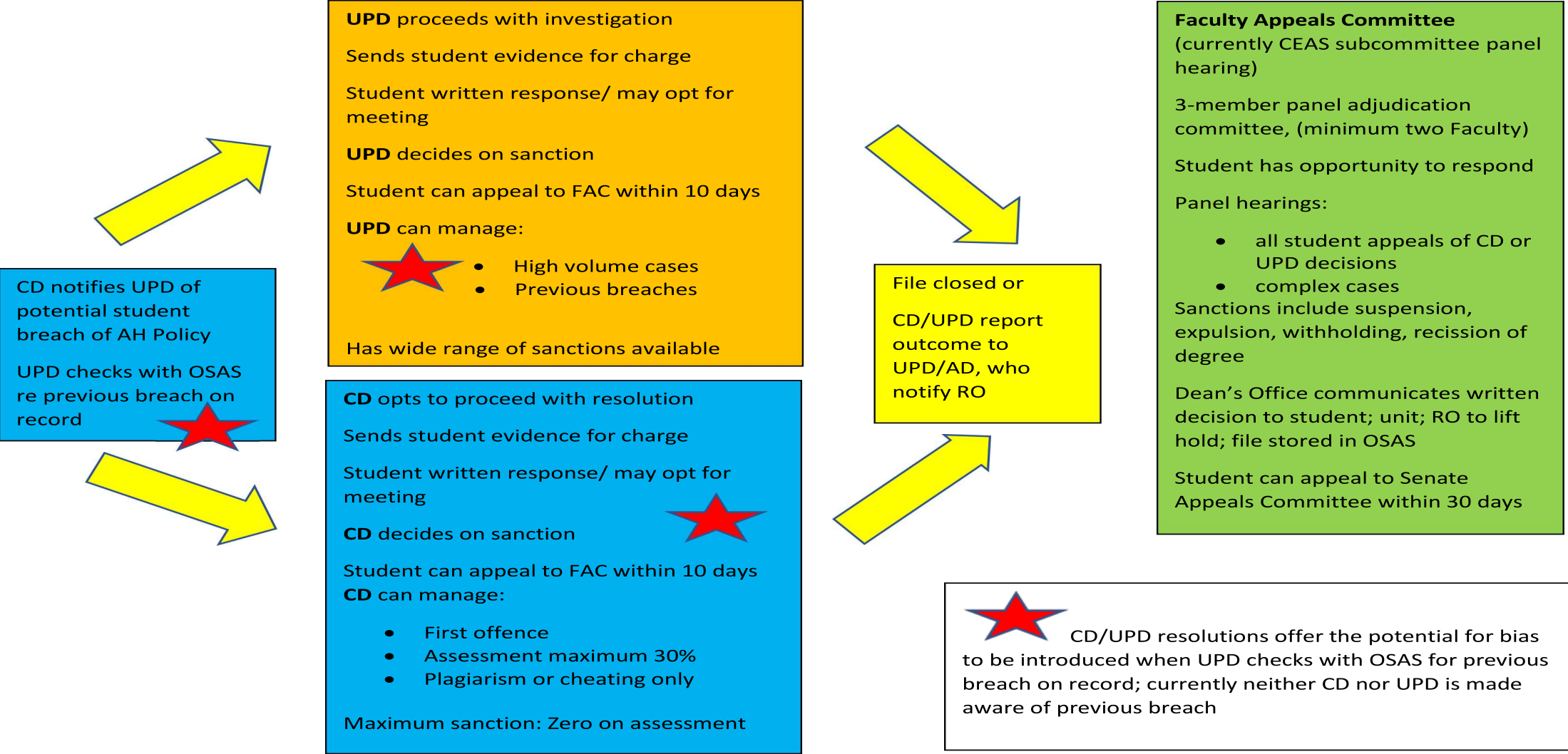
- Responsible for considering appeals for CD, PPR or PPR designate decisions in relation to this policy
- Committee must be recognized by Faculty Council as body responsible for appeals related to Policy
- Structure aligns with current CEAS Subcommittee on Academic Honesty Panel Hearings

# Current AH Process: Exploratory Meetings held for all Suspected Breaches

At unit level, all suspected breaches are handled independently from one another; neither CD, nor UPD is made aware of second offence on record



Proposed AH Process with option for CD Direct Resolution (revised Senate Policy)



# High-level Goals of Revised Senate Policy

- Adapting to new realities in the academic conduct landscape
- Streamlining investigation procedures: encouraging formal resolution, aligning with principles of procedural fairness, natural justice
- Providing enhanced flexibility on sanctions
- Clarifying language; minimizing legalistic terminology
- Enhancing University-wide consistency re procedures, documentation, record-keeping protocols.



# Adapting to New Realities

- High-volume misconduct procedures enhance timely response
- Zoom increases convenience/access
- Greater recognition of technological advances have increased methods for committing breaches

# Streamlining Response: CD Resolution

## Potential Benefits

- May improve reporting/timely management of breaches
- Could improve transparency by providing evidence for suspected breach to student in writing, inviting response in 10 days

## • Potential Challenges

- If more CDs opt to report/manage resolution, potential for increased volume of breaches
- Concerns re need for increased administrative support for unit/Faculty levels (e.g., UPD involvement; redacting files; timelines)
- Potential to introduce bias into decision-making at unit level) (notification of previous offence to CD/UPD)
- Question oversight role for CEAS chair



# Flexibility of Sanctions

## Language and Terminology

### **Flexibility of sanctions**

- Expanded options, flexibility of lower-level sanctions
- Shifting categories of breaches (fraudulent conduct)
- Educational remedy vs disciplinary sanctions:

Educational development opportunities (e.g. opportunity to expand current options to module/discussion session)

### **Language**

- Overall language is clear; minimizes legalistic terminology
- Useful definitions

# Consistency re Procedures, Documentation, Record-keeping Protocols

## **CEAS**

- Recommend that CEAS (Standing Committee of Faculty of Health) continues to be involved rather than Petitions (OSAS)
- CEAS focus is academic standards, thus appropriate to manage:
  - 8.4 Disputing result of investigation;
  - 4.5 Imposing suspension/expulsion;
  - 4.9 Waiving transcript notation

## **Petitions Appeals Committee**

- Focus of Petitions (through OSAS):
- Student requests to waive a Faculty regulation or deadline (late withdrawal from course; take courses on overload)
- Existing CEAS subcommittee on academic panel hearings align with Faculty Appeals Committee (FAC)
- Opportunity for CEAS to refine AH procedures (e.g., reporting; AD role; PPR designate)

A background image of pink lilies in a garden, with green leaves and several flowers in various stages of bloom. The image is slightly faded to allow text to be read.

# Questions?

**Your feedback appreciated!**

**Written feedback to Secretary of ASCP at [hbarron@yorku.ca](mailto:hbarron@yorku.ca)  
by April 30, 2021**