**Non-Discrimination Policy**

Equal opportunity and affirmative action are integral to employment and education at Chatham University because we recognize that the University’s present and future strength is based primarily on people and their skills, experience, and potential to develop, no matter what their race, color, religion, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, national origin, age, disability, veteran status, marital status, or any other legally protected status. The University will not tolerate any form of discrimination on these bases (i.e., race, national origin, disability) including different treatment, and prohibits retaliation against those who file complaints about discrimination or who participate in the investigation of such complaints.

The University has a policy of equal opportunity employment and educational opportunities and affirmative action that is broad in scope and supported at all levels of the University.

The University will make good faith efforts, (through responsible managers and officials) in accordance with the law, to recruit, hire, train, and promote persons in all job titles, without regard to race, color, religion, gender, sexual orientation, gender Identity or expression, marital status, familial status, pregnancy, national origin, age, disability, or status as a disabled veteran or veteran of the Vietnam era, except when age or sex are bona fide occupational requirements or when a specific disability constitutes a bona fide occupational disqualification.

University managers and officials shall support affirmative action principles to ensure that members of protected categories are introduced into the work force, the student body, and University community. Students and employees in protected categories are encouraged to apply for and participate in all University provided opportunities including promotional, educational, and training opportunities.

University officials shall make continual efforts to ensure that hiring and promotion decisions are in accordance with equal opportunity principles by imposing only legitimate business requirements for hiring and promotional opportunities. Likewise, student admission and retention decisions will be made with equal opportunity at the forefront of decision making.

All personnel actions, such as compensation, benefits, transfers, layoff, return from layoff, as well as University-sponsored training, education, tuition assistance, and social and recreational programs, will be administered without regard to race, color, religion, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, national origin, age, marital status, familial status, disability, status as a disabled veteran or veteran of the Vietnam era, or any other legally protected status.

University managers and officials shall base all employment and student admission decisions on the equal opportunity principles with the intent to further the University’s commitment to those principles.

The University encourages members of protected groups to participate in its campus-wide social activities and shall post notices of all campus-wide social events for the benefit of all employees and students.

The President’s office, with the assistance of the Human Resources office, will monitor to ensure compliance with the affirmative action policies of the University.

Chatham University has adopted this policy on a strictly voluntary basis. The existence of this policy should not be construed as an admission by the University in whole or in part, that in fact members of protected groups have been or are presently being underutilized, concentrated, or discriminated against in any way by the University in violation of federal, state or local fair employment practice laws.

**Policy Effective Date: May 1, 2016**

**Updated: 4-16-18**