Title: Standards for Professional Attire

Purpose: To guide students regarding dress standards requirement at the SoDM.

Policy: n/a

Procedure:

The School of Dental Medicine (SoDM) establishes the following dress standards in the spirit of creating a professional atmosphere, which is dignified, conducive to patient care and meets applicable state and federal regulations. It is the responsibility of all students, faculty and staff to maintain these standards of dress, neatness of appearance and cleanliness.

The minimum standards for acceptable attire are:

- For males: A collared shirt (a small insignia is acceptable), tucked in, khaki or similar dress slacks, belt, socks and dress shoes. Athletic shoes may only be worn with scrubs.
- For women: A professional blouse, sweater or top and dress slacks or skirt, or dress, and dress shoes. Skirt lengths should be no more than three inches above the knee. Athletic shoes may only be worn with scrubs.
- For all students: Official SoDM scrubs. Clean athletic shoes and socks may only be worn with scrubs. A scrub top, worn with dress slacks and dress shoes and socks, is an acceptable alternative.
- A clearly displayed ECU identification badge must be worn at all times except where expressly prohibited (e.g., operating room).

Personal grooming must include cleanliness of hair, body, breath and fingernails. Beards and mustaches must be clean, neatly trimmed and well groomed.

In patient treatment areas, including the simulation unit, additional standards include:

- Disposable over-gowns (patient treatment rooms only)
- No open toed shoes
- Minimal jewelry, that does not interfere with clinical asepsis
- Long hair pulled back and clasped/anchored in a ponytail type style.
The Clinic Manual provides additional guidelines specific to the clinical and simulation settings.

Unacceptable attire:
- Denim pants of any color, cargo pants, shorts, sweat pants, leggings, overalls
- Flip flops
- Non-religious or non-surgical head coverings
- Tube tops, halter tops, midriff-baring tops, miniskirts, immodest attire or attire that reveals undergarments
- T-shirts, sweatshirts
- Sunglasses, unless medically required
- Potentially offensive tattoos must be covered.

When questions arise regarding interpretation of these standards, final arbitration rests with the administration.