

The University Ombudsperson:

A Confidential Resource for Faculty

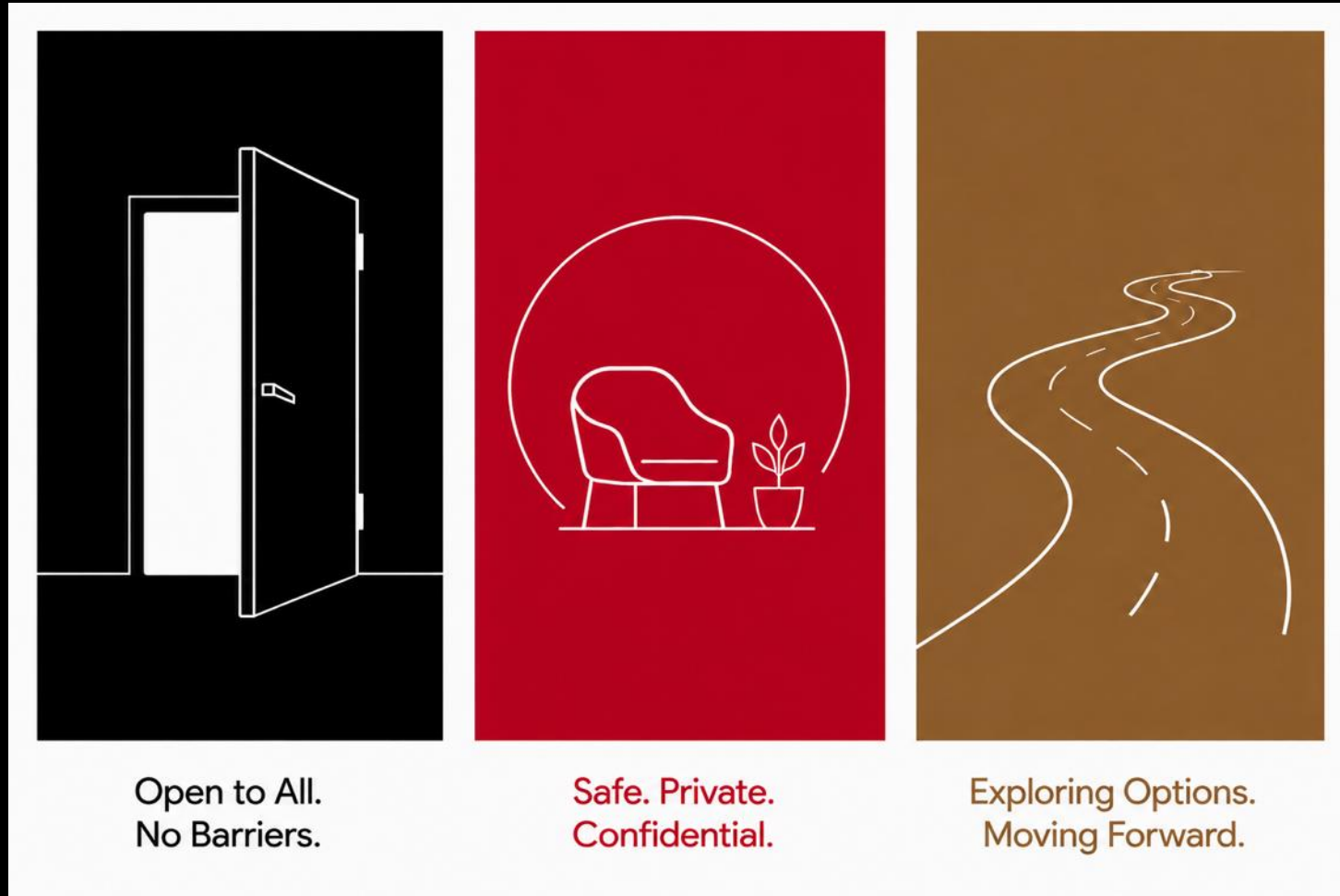
New Faculty Orientation

Presented by Diane J. Levin, J.D.
Certified Organizational Ombuds Practitioner®
University Ombuds for Faculty and Staff

August 18, 2026



A Resource for University Employees Since 2011



Don't Worry Alone

What Makes an Ombuds Conversation Different?

CONFIDENTIALITY

Conversations and identities are kept private except to prevent imminent harm

INDEPENDENCE

The Ombuds acts independently of other offices and functions

IMPARTIALITY

The Ombuds is unaligned and does not take sides

INFORMALITY

The Ombuds Office does not keep identifying records

The Ombuds Office operates under the International Ombuds Association Standards of Practice and Code of Ethics



What Faculty Frequently Come to Discuss

- Tenure, promotion, and other career topics
- Workload, performance, and merit
- Workplace climate and culture
- Academic freedom
- Access to space, equipment, and other resources
- Conflict or tension within working relationships
- Ethical questions
- **Anything else affecting you in your work at the university**



The Ombuds Office: Support for Faculty Everywhere



Confidential consultation to identify goals and solutions



Connection to information, resources, options, and people



Coaching for improved outcomes in critical conversations

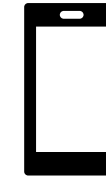


Informal mediation and facilitation services



Trend reporting through anonymized feedback to the university

Contacting the Ombuds Office



Diane Levin, JD (she/her)

University Ombuds for Faculty and Staff



617.373.3362 (office)



351.207.0220 (mobile)



ombuds@northeastern.edu



ombuds.northeastern.edu

