

Academic Integrity Committee
Annual Report to the Faculty Senate
May 6, 2013

Mission

The Academic Integrity Committee advocates for, and raises awareness of, academic integrity issues at CCSU; the responsibility for acting with integrity remains up to each member of the university. The Committee reports to the senate about the status of the Academic Integrity Policy, and it convenes events designed to highlight current controversies or research in academic integrity. (Academic integrity here is understood to encompass ethical behavior on the part of students and faculty alike.)

Activities

The Academic Integrity Committee began the 2012-2013 with the following goals:

1. Learning more about faculty experiences with the faculty hearing boards.
2. Reviewing data from the faculty survey conducted during spring/summer 2012.
3. Creating and administering a student survey about their perceptions of academic misconduct on campus.

In pursuit of these goals, the committee pursued the following actions:

- Committee members met with Chris Dukes and Joe Paige to discuss the role of student conduct and academic affairs in processing academic misconduct cases.
- Committee members solicited feedback from faculty members who served on the academic hearing boards. This data gathering was crucial because the policy is new and the first rounds of hearing boards have been conducted. The data from the conversations suggested that the process was working well. Some faculty said that they would prefer that an accused student be required to submit written testimony prior to the hearing.
- Conversations with faculty and data from the faculty survey led the committee to begin making revisions to the policy. The committee is still working on revisions and will submit revisions to the Senate in the 2013-2014 academic year.
- The faculty survey indicated that faculty members did not know where to find resources related to academic misconduct. Therefore, the committee agreed to send email reminders to both faculty and students about their rights and responsibilities as well as where to find appropriate information.
- The committee drafted a student survey.
- The committee also contacted department chairpersons and asked that they identify faculty members who will serve on future hearing boards, if needed.

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Academic Misconduct Reporting

Table 1 summarizes the Academic Misconduct Reports that have been submitted to the Office of Student Conduct for the period of May 1, 2012 to April 22, 2013. A total of 42 reports of academic misconduct were submitted. This number represents an increase from 35 reports in 2012 and 25 reports in 2011. Eight of those cases were directed to a faculty hearing board, one case was handled informally before the Office Student Conduct staff, four cases have not yet been resolved, and the remaining cases were handled through faculty consultation with the accused student. Of the 8 cases that went before a hearing board, 6 students received disciplinary probation, 1 student received a deferred suspension, and 1 student received a suspension. During this reporting period, there were 2 student appeals – one in favor of the instructor’s finding and one in favor of the student.

Table 1. Academic Misconduct Reports & Outcomes: May 1, 2012 to April 22, 2013

| Sanction Type | By Faculty | By Board | OSC |
|----------------------|-------------------|-----------------|------------|
| Reduced Grade | 5 | | |
| Assignment Revision | 3 | | |
| “F” for Assignment | 13 | | |
| “F” for course | 9 | 2 | 1 |
| Probation | | 6 | 1 |
| Suspension | | 1 | |
| Academic Integrity | 22 | 8 | 1 |
| Workshop | | | |
| No Sanction | 1 | | |
| Totals | 53 | 17 | 3 |

Note. One case before the board resulted in a deferred suspension.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jason Snyder, Chair, Academic Integrity Committee