

Abstract of the Honor Council
Case 20, Fall 2015
March 23, 2016

Members Present:

Alex Metcalf (presiding), Katie Jensen (clerk), Nick Conard, Owais Syed, Komal Agarwal, Kevin Zhang, Jacob Reinhart, Mario Aragon, Matt Roorda, Sofia Yi (observing)

Ombuds: Matt Nobles

Letter of Accusation:

The Honor Council received a letter accusing Student A of altering a midterm exam before submitting it for a regrade in a lower level math course. The Chair read the Letter of Accusation aloud in full.

Evidence Submitted:

- Letter of Accusation
- Student A's written statement
- Course Syllabus
- Student A's First Midterm Exam
- Student A's Second Midterm Exam

Plea:

Student A pled "In Violation."

Testimony:

Student A stated that they committed the violation. She recounted how she received the test back, made changes, and turned the test back in to the professor in two hours. Student A specifically edited the exam to receive a number of points back that would put them at a B in the course. She acknowledges that this was wrong, and that her actions were unfair to the university and other students in the class.

Verdict Deliberations:

Council members believed that a preponderance of the evidence supported that a violation occurred because the student pled 'In Violation' and evidence supported that a violation occurred.

Vote 1: Does a preponderance of the evidence support that a violation occurred?

Yes: 9

No: 0

Abstentions: 0

The Council then discussed whether or not Student A committed the violation.

Student A was the student that committed the violation.

Vote 2: Does a preponderance of the evidence support that Student A is “In Violation?”

Yes: 9

No: 0

Abstentions: 0

Penalty Deliberations:

Council members opened by discussing mitigating circumstances.

No mitigating factors were considered.

No aggravating factors were considered.

Council members determined that Student A did not deserve any credit in the class for falsifying a regrade of a midterm exam. This violation represents a breach of trust between the student and the faculty and invalidates Student A’s exam.

Vote 3: What is the appropriate penalty for Student A?

F in the course and 3 semesters of suspension: 0

F in the course and 2 semesters of suspension: 0

F in the course and 1 semester of suspension: 0

F in the course: 9

3 letter grade reduction: 0

2 letter grade reduction: 0

1 letter grade reduction: 0

2/3 letter grade reduction: 0

1/3 letter grade reduction: 0

Letter of Reprimand: 0

Abstentions: 0

Decision:

The Honor Council thus finds Student A “In Violation” of the Honor Code and recommends that she receive an F in the course. A Prior Violation Flag is also attached to her record.

Time of testimony and deliberations: 30 minutes

Respectfully submitted,

Katie Jensen

Clerk