

Abstract of the Honor Council
Case 20, Spring 2010
March 23, 2010

Members Present:

Lindsay Kirton (presiding), Deian Tabakov (clerk), Kaleb Underwood, Hilary Baker-Jennings, Jackie Ammons, Melissa Fwu, Abhishek Nag, Andrew Briggs, Kate Snyder, Emre Coskun (observing), Adam Hartman (observing)

Ombuds: Meghan Binford

Letter of Accusation:

The Honor Council received a letter accusing Students A and B of collaborating together on a test and homework #4 for a lower level Engineering course.

Evidence Submitted:

- Letter of Accusation
- Student A's written statement
- Student B's written statement
- Course Syllabus
- Course Homework Policy
- Assignment Prompt for HW #4
- Student A's HW #4
- Student B's HW #4
- Assignment Prompt for Midterm Exam
- Student A's Midterm Exam
- Student B's Midterm Exam
- Email Correspondence btw Student A and Professor
- Originals of Student A's and B's HW #4
- Solutions to HW #4 by Professor
- Samples of Other Students' HW #4
- Originals of Student A's and B's Midterm Exam
- Solutions to Midterm Exam by Professor
- Photos take by Student B

Plea:

Student A pled "Not In Violation."
Student B withdrew under Article XII.

Testimony:

Student A testified that Student B asked her to turn in Student B's test for her. Student A told Student B that the exam was pledged and therefore she could not help Student B by turning in the exam and signing the timesheet for her.

Student A testified that she left the Blue Book with her partial exam solutions unattended for about 30 minutes in the library. The break period was authorized by the exam rules. After the break, Student A worked on two problems. It was pointed out that there are differences in the solutions of Student B and Student A on these two problems. Student A referenced Student B's email in which Student B admitted to taking pictures of Student A's exam and then copying Student B's solutions within her exam.

When doing HW #4, Student A left her homework solutions unattended in a lounge for about 45 minutes. There were other students in the lounge at the time, but some of them came and left as they finished their homework. Student A and Student B worked together on some previous homework sets in the same class. Student A also referenced Student B's email in which Student B admitted to copying Student A's homework as well.

Time of testimony: 19 minutes.

Verdict Deliberations:

Council members believed that there was clear and convincing evidence that a violation occurred based on the testimony and the other evidence in front of the Student Council.

Straw Poll #1: Is there clear and convincing evidence that a violation occurred?

Yes: 9

No: 0

Abstentions: 0

The Council then discussed whether or not Student A committed the violation. Based on the evidence and the testimony, it was clear that Student A did not know that Student B was cheating off her exam. There was no evidence that Student A gave any unauthorized help to Student B either on the exam or the homework.

Straw Poll #2: Is there clear and convincing evidence that Student B is "In Violation?"

Yes: 0

No: 9

Abstentions: 0

Straw Polls #1 and #2 made binding.

The Honor Council thus finds Student A "Not In Violation."

Time of testimony and deliberations: 25 minutes

Respectfully submitted,
Deian Tabakov
Clerk

