Abstract of the Honor Council  
Case 20, Fall 2014  
January 16, 2015  

Members Present:  
Hurst Williamson (presiding), Emilia Duno (clerk), Billy Rothwell, Luke Van der Spoel,  
Michael Jin, Isaac Batt, Owais Syed, Clark Zha, Destiny Randolph  

Ombuds: Jamey Smith  

Letter of Accusation:  
The Honor Council received a letter accusing Student A of a violation of exam procedures in an UPPER level ECON course.  

Evidence Submitted:  
 Letter of Accusation  
 Student A’s written statement  
 Student A’s roommates statement  
 Professor and Student A’s email correspondence  

Plea:  
Student A pled “Not in Violation.”  

Testimony:  
In her opening statement Student A said she took the exam in the morning then returned to her room and fell asleep. She claimed that she was sleeping until she received a text message from her master advising her to contact her professor as he believed she left the room without turning in her exam. She looked in her bag and found that her exam was in between some pages in a notebook. She immediately tried to turn it in to her professor but he was not available at the time. After unsuccessfully trying to turn it in to her college master and RAs, she then turned in her assignment to the Jones master at around 7 pm.  

In her closing statement Student A said she did bring the exam out of the room but did not change her answers on the exam.  

Verdict Deliberations:  
Council members believed that a preponderance of the evidence supported that a violation occurred because Student A violated exam procedures by removing the exam from the room.  

Straw Poll #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. No one saw anything to the contrary.

Straw Poll #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 and aggravating factors. The discussion concluded with the understanding that there were no mitigating factors and no aggravating factors.

Council members believed a Letter of Reprimand is an appropriate penalty. One member initially expressed concern as it is confusing how a student could have spent an entire session working on the exam and accidentally put it in her bag. But while the removal of an exam from the testing site is a violation, there is no evidence that Student A changed her answers and no indication that she attempted to gain an unfair advantage.

Straw Poll #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: 0
3 letter grade reduction: 0
2 letter grade reduction: 0
1 letter grade reduction: 0
Letter of Reprimand: 9
Abstentions: 0

Decision:
The Honor Council thus finds Student A “In Violation” of the Honor Code and recommends that she receive Letter of Reprimand. A Prior Violation Flag is also attached to her record.

Time of testimony and deliberations: 20 minutes

Respectfully submitted,
Emilia Duno
Clerk