

Abstract of the Honor Council
Case 25, Fall 2015
April 25, 2016

Members Present:

Alex Metcalf (presiding), Matt Roorda (clerk), Yash Tarkunde, Sara Meadow, Allie Salter, Ike Arjmand, Dessy Akinfenwa, Jake Hassell, Ellen Diemert

Ombuds: Natalie Danckers

Letter of Accusation:

The Honor Council received a letter accusing Student A of copying a solutions manual for a homework assignment for an upper level psychology course. The Chair read the Letter of Accusation aloud in full.

Evidence Submitted:

- Letter of Accusation
- Student A's written statement
- Solutions manual for textbook
- Student A's homework assignments
- Class syllabus

Plea:

Student A pled "not in violation."

Testimony:

Student A stated that he worked on homework on scratch paper and then typed it up because they were often out of town and could only submit assignments online. Student A stated that their previous assignments were done in a similar format. He claimed that the syntax of his answers and the number of significant figures came primarily from the textbook and example problems in the book. He also reiterated that there was no possible way to get the answer key, as it was never made available to students.

Decision:

Council members started by discussing whether a preponderance of the evidence supported that a violation had occurred. Council members could not come to a decision as to whether or not a violation occurred without more evidence. Therefore, the Council requested the following evidence: solutions from the back of the textbook (a copy of the textbook would be preferable), the grading rubric, past graded homeworks, and feedback from graders on assignments.

Time of testimony and deliberations: 40 minutes

Respectfully submitted,
Matt Roorda
Clerk