

Abstract of the Honor Council
Case 59-2, Spring 2016
July 23, 2016

Members Present:

Katie Jensen (presiding), Yash Tarkunde (clerk), Allie Salter, Hector Chaires, Alex Metcalf, Bradley Hamilton

Ombuds: Colin Losey

Letter of Accusation:

The Honor Council received a letter accusing Student A of taking too much time for a lower level EMS course. The Chair read the Letter of Accusation aloud in full.

Evidence Submitted:

- Letter of Accusation
- Student A's written statement
- Final Exam Instructions
- Final Exam Front Page
- IT Clarification
- Owlspace Log
- Witness Statement
- Syllabus

Plea:

Student A pled "Not in Violation."

Testimony:

Student A outlined how the in-class lessons can have a big real world impact. He stated how clear the directions are for all of the exams. He said that he did not worked on the exam in more than one sitting. He stated that in OwlSpace, once you go to the next question in this exam, you cannot go backwards to questions you have already seen.

He said that he started the exam at 12:36 and finished in the next few hours. The next day he found out that had not submitted the exam, so he submitted it. He says that though the OwlSpace log shows that he logged out at 12:48 AM. The site also said that Student A was on the EMS OwlSpace workspace until 4 AM (as he was taking his exam).

Though the logs show that he logged into OwlSpace at 2:51 PM, Student A said that he did not actually do this. He stated that his Chrome browser automatically logged into the last website he was on, but that he did not actually access or use OwlSpace.

He brought up his Google search history. He had searched non-related topics until midnight (before his exam started) and then had no Google search activity until the next morning. That morning, he searched for more un-related topics; no searched topics were

related to EMS. He also noted that he had been searching topics throughout that afternoon on his phone (including during the times that he was accused of continuing the exam).

He argued that there were no search entries during the time he was actually taking the exam, from 12:36 AM to around 4 AM.

He said that, based on the OwlSpace records of when he started and ended the other exams in the class, which show that he has taken every other exam in the early morning, there is no reason he would have taken the Final Exam in the afternoon. He stated that he took the exam at the same time of the night that he had taken the other exams, since he is a night owl.

He concluded by saying that the other search terms before 2 pm are logs from his phone (which was logged into Google), and that he only used his laptop at 2:51, which triggered the OwlSpace log in event.

Verdict Deliberations:

The Council began discussing whether a violation occurred. Most of the Council agreed that Student A's testimony and evidence made a lot of sense.

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

Yes: 0

No: 6

Abstentions: 0

Decision:

The Honor Council thus finds Student A "Not in Violation" of the Honor Code.

Time of testimony and deliberations: 51 minutes.

Respectfully submitted,
Yash Tarkunde
Clerk