

**Abstract of the Honor Council**  
**Case 42-7, Spring 2017**  
**11/6/17**

**Members Present:**

Reece Rosenthal (presiding), Ryan Carlson (clerk), Grant Wilkinson, Ricky Robinson, Sean Olsen, Hector Chaires

**Ombuds:** Matt Nobles

**Letter of Accusation:**

The Honor Council received a letter accusing Student A of an honor code violation on a final exam for a lower level MECH course. The Chair read the Letter of Accusation aloud in full.

**Evidence Submitted:**

- Letter of Accusation
- Student A's written statement
- Exam Solutions
- Exam Class Samples
- Student Exam
- Course Textbook
- Course Syllabus

**Plea:**

Student A pled "not in violation."

**Testimony:**

Student A described her study habits for the exam in question. Student A stated that she completed the test with the aid of her practice solutions, which she had completed while referencing the course solutions manual. Student A stated that since the exam was open-book and open-notes, the use of her notes did not constitute an honor code violation.

Student A continued to explain that her notes followed the textbook's formatting very specifically. While Student A stated that she did not complete every question in the textbook, she did practice the first 3 questions that were asked on the final exam.

**Verdict Deliberations:**

Council members believed that a preponderance of the evidence supported that a violation occurred because Student A's solutions matched those given in the solutions manual.

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

Yes: 6

No: 0

Abstentions: 0

The Council then discussed whether or not Student A committed the violation. The council saw no reason to argue otherwise.

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

Yes: 6

No: 0

Abstentions: 0

**Penalty Deliberations:**

Council members opened by discussing mitigating circumstances. The Council saw no reason to mitigate.

The Council found no aggravating factors.

The CPS penalty for this case, based on the weight of the assignment, is an F in the course.

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: 6

3 letter grade reduction: 0

2 letter grade reduction: 0

1 letter grade reduction: 0

Letter of Reprimand 0

Abstentions: 0

Given the lack of mitigating and aggravating factors, the Council found no reason to deviate from the Consensus Penalty Structure.

**Decision:**

The Honor Council thus finds Student A “In Violation” of the Honor Code and recommends that she receive an F in the course.

Time of testimony and deliberations: 1 hour

Respectfully submitted,

Ryan Carlson

Clerk