

Abstract of the Honor Council
Case 29, Spring 2018
5/7/18

Members Present:

Reece Rosenthal (presiding), Amy Lin (clerk), Grace Coleman, Siddharth Gorantla, Sara Meadow, Ryan Carlson

Ombuds: Kenton Whitmire

Letter of Accusation:

The Honor Council received a letter accusing Student A of posting exam answers online for a lower level PSYC course. The Chair read the Letter of Accusation aloud in full.

Evidence Submitted:

- Letter of Accusation
- Quizlet Honor Code policy
- Professor clarification
- Course syllabus
- Exam 1 questions and solutions
- Exam 2 questions and solutions
- Exam 3 questions and solutions
- Professor initial statement
- Quizlet study set screenshot
- Quizlet username screenshot

Plea:

Student A pled “not in violation.”

Testimony:

Student A made the Quizlets for future reference for future courses. They were accidentally made public, but he never shared the Quizlets with any students or distributed them in any way to provide unauthorized aid on the exams.

Verdict Deliberations:

Council members believed that a preponderance of the evidence supported that a violation occurred because Student A’s Quizlet had the questions and the solutions of all three exams published online verbatim, which is providing unauthorized aid on the exam.

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. Since she was the publisher of the Quizlets, Council members found no reason why she was not in violation.

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. Council members decided to mitigate for the fact that the student did not gain any course credit from publishing the exams online; her grade in the class did not increase by posting the Quizlets.

The CPS penalty for this case, based on the weight of the assignment, is an F in the course and 2 semester suspension.

Council members found no aggravating circumstances.

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: 0

3 letter grade reduction: 0

2 letter grade reduction: 0

1 letter grade reduction: 4

Letter of Reprimand 2

Abstentions: 0

Decision:

The Honor Council thus finds Student A “In Violation” of the Honor Code and recommends that he receive a 1 letter grade reduction.

Time of testimony and deliberations: 1 hour 5 minutes

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Lin

Clerk