

Abstract of the Honor Council

Case 29-5, Spring 2021

May 26, 2021

Members Present:

Kaitlyn Crowley (presiding), Max Slotnik (clerk), Kamal Tijani, Rodolfo Gutierrez-Garcia, Rapha Onyeka, and Saswat Pati

Ombuds: Eliot Behr

Letter of Accusation:

The Honor Council received a letter accusing Student A of using unauthorized aid for a pledged problem set in an upper level CAAM course. The Chair read the Letter of Accusation aloud in full.

Evidence Submitted:

- Letter of Accusation
- Student A's written statement
- Email between student with professor
- Student's pledged assignment submission
- Random samples (x10)
- Pledged assignment solutions
- Course syllabus
- Chegg solutions
- Asker and Viewer details on Chegg

Plea:

Student A pled "In Violation."

Testimony:

Student A stated that he utilized unauthorized resources on 50% of the homework assignment.

Verdict Deliberations:

Council members believed that a preponderance of the evidence supported that a violation occurred because Student A admitted to violating the Honor Code. Furthermore, there were overwhelming similarities between Student A's submitted assignment and the unauthorized resource he utilized.

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 believed Student A committed the violation.

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

Yes: 6

No: 0

Abstentions: 0

Penalty Deliberations:

The CPS penalty for this case, based on the weight of the assignment, is a 3 letter grade reduction. Council members opened by discussing mitigating circumstances. There were no mitigating factors.

The Council was then made aware that the student had a previous Honor Code violation. With this aggravating factor, the Council believed that the penalty should be raised to an F in the course and 1 semester of suspension. A few Council members believed that the weight of the assignment—and the severity of the violation—did not warrant suspension. However, a supermajority of the panelists believed that the nature of the violation and the prior violation justified aggravation.

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: 4

F in the course: 2

3 letter grade reduction: 0

2 letter grade reduction: 0

1 letter grade reduction: 0

Letter of Reprimand 0

Abstentions: 0

Decision:

The Honor Council thus finds Student A “In Violation” of the Honor Code and recommends that he receive an F in the course and 1 semester suspension.

Time of testimony and deliberations: 56 minutes

Respectfully submitted,

Max Slotnik

Clerk